



## Foreign Minister

Meeting with Rafael Grossi, Director General, International Atomic Energy Agency 10.30am-11.30am, Monday, 4 July 2022, Commonwealth and Parliamentary Office, Adelaide

IDC			
s33(a)(i) + s33(a)(iii)			

# **Key points**

- Appreciate you have made the time to travel to Australia and our region at this moment, noting the serious challenges the IAEA is seeking to address in nuclear safeguards and security, particularly in Iran and Ukraine
  - at no time in recent memory has the work of the IAEA in contributing to global peace and security been more pressing and urgent
    - » noting the situations in Ukraine, Iran and North Korea.
  - at the same time, I commend your efforts to increase the Agency's effectiveness and continue to seek to share the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, science and technology around the world
    - » of particular interest to Australia have been your efforts to increase women's leadership in nuclear through the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Fellowship Programme and to address pollution in our Pacific region through the Nuclear Technology (NUTEC) marine plastics project
    - » both of which we are pleased to able to support.

### Australian support to IAEA

- Australia is deeply committed to non-proliferation, and we are determined to build and sustain
  a deeper level of engagement with the IAEA.
- So far this year, Australia has provided over \$5m of extrabudgetary support for the work of the IAEA \$33(a)(iii)

Prepared by: s22(1)(a)(ii)

Cleared by Justin Hayhurst , Geostrategic Group

Date cleared: Date of Clearance

Consultation: s22(1)(a)(ii)

#### Iran

- Australia shares the determination of the E3, the United States, our allies and the international community, to ensure that Iran never acquires a nuclear weapon
  - we are deeply concerned by Iran's continued failure to comply with its IAEA safeguards obligations and its unwillingness to return to the JCPOA

s33(a)(iii)

#### Ukraine

- Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine is one of the most reckless and shocking violations of international law in recent memory.
- Australia has joined the international community in swiftly condemning Russia, imposing costs on its actions, and in fully supporting the territorial integrity of Ukraine.
- We firmly support the actions of the IAEA to assist Ukraine and address the nuclear safety, security and safeguards implications of Russia's invasion

s33(a)(i)

- we are pleased to be able to respond to requests from Ukraine to provide radiation
   monitoring equipment through the IAEA Response and Assistance Network
- and to provide \$1m to support the Agency's response to assist the IAEA to carry out essential monitoring, safety and security activities.
- Interested to hear your evaluation of the situation on the ground from your recent visits.

Pacific

s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii)

• I know **you [Grossi] are travelling to Suva** as part of your visit to discuss this issue s33(a)(iii)

• The concerns of our Pacific family are very important to Australia

-I [Minister Wong] have reiterated to Pacific governments that Australia will fully comply with our obligations under the **South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty.** 

## **AUKUS**

- Thank you for the constructive engagement of the Agency with AUKUS partners so far, s33(a)(iii)
- Our impeccable non-proliferation credentials and robust non-proliferation frameworks underpin our approach to AUKUS and the safeguards arrangements we will need.
- We are committed to working with you to set the highest possible non-proliferation standard
  - conscious that the precedent we set for the acquisition of naval nuclear propulsion must deter others, s33(a)(iii) from using naval nuclear propulsion as cover for an illicit nuclear weapons program.
- We intend to continue to provide regular updates to Board members in Vienna and capitals.

#### **Sensitivities**

s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii)

Access to nuclear power technology remains a key priority for developing countries' engagement with the IAEA and commitment to the international non-proliferation regime. s33(a)(iii)

If raised: Is Australia going to sign the Ban Treaty (TPNW)

- Australia shares the vision of the treaty's drafters; a world free of nuclear weapons.
- We attended the First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) as an **observing non-signatory** to the Treaty [Vienna, 21-23 June]
  - a non-executive parliamentarian led our small delegation.
- Australia is not a signatory to the TPNW and our attendance as an observer did not represent a decision to join the TPNW

s33(a)(iii)

# If raised: DPRK

- We welcome the IAEA's continued monitoring of North Korea's nuclear activities and its readiness to return to North Korea and play its essential role in verifying denuclearisation
  - North Korea's pursuit of weapons of mass destruction and delivery systems poses a grave threat to international peace and security and a serious challenge to international nonproliferation efforts.
- We are deeply concerned by reports that North Korea may be ready to conduct a nuclear test, including indications, which you also noted in your introductory statement to the June Board meeting, that North Korea is preparing its Punggye-ri nuclear test site
  - and by North Korea's repeated and destabilising ballistic missile launches, which violate multiple UN Security council resolutions.

If raised: NPT Review Conference

• Australia looks forward to contributing to a successful Review Conference in August 847C

s33(a)(iii)

ľ	f raised: Is	s Australia	considering	developing	a civil nu	ıclear power i	industry?

• Australia has no plans to develop a civil nuclear power industry.

# **Background**

s33(a)(iii)

Australia has publicly stated that verification of the non-diversion of nuclear material in our submarine program will proceed within the framework of our Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement (CSA) and Additional Protocol (AP) with the IAEA. s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(i) + s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii)

Australian Support to IAEA s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii)

We contribute approximately EUR 7.3 million to the IAEA's regular budget and EUR 1.9 million to the (voluntary) Technical Cooperation fund, in addition to providing various forms of in-kind contributions. s33(a)(iii)

So far in 2022, Australia has provided over \$5 million of extrabudgetary funding to support priority IAEA projects. This additional funding reflects our confidence in the IAEA to continue to address issues of global and regional importance.

Australia's extrabudgetary financial support includes contributions towards: \$33(a)(iii)

- Nuclear Technology (NUTEC) marine plastics project, which aims to combat plastic pollution through innovative recycling and marine monitoring research and will help increase the capacity of states in Southeast Asia and the Pacific to address marine pollution (AUD 1,281,655)
- Marie Sklodowska-Curie Fellowship Programme, which supports women's participation in Masters-level nuclear studies, including through earmarking three scholarships for women from the Pacific (AUD 1 million)
- Regional Cooperative Agreement for Asia and the Pacific, which supports nuclear collaboration and projects in our region (AUD 770,000)
- Renovation of the IAEA's nuclear applications laboratories (ReNuAL2), which will boost the Agency's capacity to develop practical technologies in areas such as human and animal health, food and agriculture, and environmental protection and climate change (AUD 623,345)
- Support for the IAEA's work to address nuclear safety, security and safeguards (AUD 1 million), and
- Support for Tonga, as one of the IAEA's new Member States, to participate in regional technical cooperation activities (AUD 100,000).

s47C + s33(a)(iii)

#### Fukushima Treated Water

Japan announced on 13 April 2021 its plan to discharge Advanced Liquid Processing System (ALPS) treated water from the decommissioned Fukushima Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean. Discharge is planned to commence in 2023 and is expected to take up to 40 years. \$\frac{\sample 333(a)(iii)}{2}\$

An IAEA Taskforce is reviewing Japan's plans and activities against IAEA safety standards. The Taskforce includes an Australian expert \*\*47F(1)\* and a Pacific representative from the Marshall Islands.

s33(a)(iii)

## **TPNW**

Australia sent a non-executive parliamentarian (Susan Templeman MP) to attend the First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) as an observing non-state party [Vienna, 21-23 June]. s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(III) + s33(b)

s33(a)(iii)

# Engagement with the IAEA

Australia has a long and proud history of close collaboration with the IAEA and of leadership in the Indo-Pacific region on nuclear issues. The Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office (ASNO) ensures that Australia meets its international obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and its safeguards agreement with the IAEA. ASNO provides Australia's representative on the Director General's safeguards advisory committee and has a long history of close and effective cooperation and collaboration with the IAEA on nuclear safeguards and nuclear security issues. The Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO), in addition to playing a leading role in Australia's nuclear sector and operating the Lucas Heights reactor, has

an active regional outreach program and produces medical isotopes for countries in the Pacific region. Senior ANSTO personnel are pleased to serve in key leadership roles in IAEA advisory bodies and forums, including as Chair of the Standing Advisory Group on Nuclear Applications. The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Authority (ARPANSA) leads Australia's engagement with the IAEA on nuclear safety, and recently has been working closely with the IAEA Incident and Emergency Centre in response to the situation in Ukraine.

## Media

We expect some media interest in the visit, with a particular focus on your joint media conference with Grossi. DFAT's Communications Branch is developing a strategic communications plan for the visit.

# **Biographies**

# Rafael GROSSI

**Director General** 

# INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY





Form of Address: Mr Grossi

English Ability: Fluent

Year of Birth: 1961

Education: PhD International Relations

Nationality: Argentinian

Twitter handle: @rafaelmgrossi @IAEAorg

# Career:

2019-	Director General, IAEA
2013-2019	Ambassador of Argentina to Austria, IAEA and Vienna Int'l Organisations
2010-2013	Assistant Director General for Policy and Chief of Cabinet, IAEA
2007-2009	Political Affairs Director General, Argentinian Foreign Service
2002-2007	Chief of Cabinet, Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
1985-2002	Argentinian Foreign Service, including Head of Mission in Geneva

s33(a)(iii) + s47E(d)

Contact: s33(a)(iii) + s47E(d)

rossi met then-PM Morrison on 2 November 2021 and then-FM Payne on 10 December 2021.