

Introductory comments by the Chairman on Item 4 (a)

Nuclear Verification:

Implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement in the Islamic Republic of Iran: Report by the Director General

You have before you a draft resolution contained in document GOV/2004/20. As you are aware, this draft has been subject to review and revisions during the past several days. As you are also aware, many divergent views continue to exist as well as possible different interpretations with regard to parts of this resolution. I believe, however, that the time has come for us to take a decision and to leave this matter behind us, therefore I am putting this draft in my capacity as Chairman before you for action. In doing so, I am asking you to waive Rule 31 of the Board's Rules of Procedure since many of you are already familiar with the text and in order to enable us to take action in a timely manner.

Is this proposal acceptable?

It is so agreed.

I would propose that at this stage we proceed to take a decision on the draft resolution before us. After we have done so, I would open the floor for Governors who wish to explain their positions. I trust that this proposal is acceptable.

It is so agreed.