

JOINT DECLARATION
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC
CONCERNING INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION IN THE
NUCLEAR ENERGY SECTOR

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Italian Republic, hereinafter the “Participants,”

ACKNOWLEDGING the need to consider an appropriate mix of environmentally sustainable, safe, and secure sources of energy, including nuclear power, to meet the needs of their respective countries’ populations;

RECOGNIZING the need to address challenges of growing energy needs facing both Participants’ countries, as well as the broader international community, in a manner that contributes to reducing the harmful effects of greenhouse gases on climate;

OBSERVING that both Participants are parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of July 1, 1968, and strongly support the safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), including the Additional Protocol;

NOTING that both Participants are signatories to the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC);

HAVING REGARD to the Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy between the United States of America and the European Atomic Energy Community of November 7, 1995, and in particular to the scope of cooperation set out in Article 1 of that Agreement; and

RECOGNIZING both countries' role in the development of nuclear power,

HAVE REACHED THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING:

The Participants intend to cooperate, subject to their respective national laws and regulations, to:

- encourage nuclear industry to seek contractual opportunities for the construction of nuclear power plants, and the provision of related supporting infrastructures and services;
- seek the elimination of obstacles to the development of such bilateral industrial and commercial cooperation;
- promote fair, open, and transparent contract bid and award processes for nuclear energy industrial entities in their respective countries;
- advance the principle that contractual awards for the construction of nuclear power plants, and the provision of related parts and services, should be based on the commercial and technical merits of the different proposals and industrial partnerships;
- encourage the establishment of the CSC as a global nuclear liability treaty regime to which both countries are parties;
- promote the establishment of international arrangements that would help future civilian light water reactors deployed in Italy obtain access to reliable nuclear fuel supply and services; and
- encourage the development of civilian nuclear energy infrastructure, including training and human resource development, as well as appropriate application of civilian nuclear energy and related energy technology, in accordance with evolving IAEA guidance and standards on infrastructure development.

Either Participant may cease cooperation under this Joint Declaration, but should endeavor to provide at least 30 days advance written notice to the other Participant.

Signed at Washington, in duplicate, on the twenty-ninth day of September, 2009, in the English and Italian languages.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

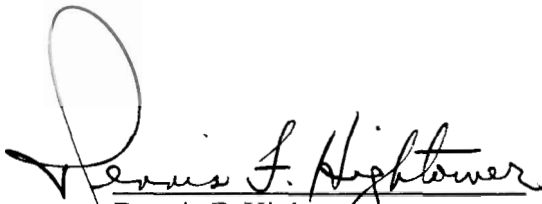


Steven Chu
Secretary of Energy

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
ITALIAN REPUBLIC:**



Claudio Scajola
Minister of Economic Development



Dennis F. Hightower
Deputy Secretary of Commerce