

**INTERNATIONAL SECURITY / MIDDLE EAST UPDATE**  
**May 14 -20, 2010**

1. [U.S. Mideast Envoy Begins New Round of Indirect Peace Talks \(05-19-2010\)](#)
2. [Study Urges U.S. to Push Mideast Allies Toward Democracy \(05-19-2010\)](#)
3. [U.S. Officials Call for New START Ratification \(05-18-2010\)](#)
4. [Major Powers Agree on Iran Sanctions \(05-18-2010\)](#)
5. [U.S. Not Convinced by Iranian Nuclear Arrangement \(05-17-2010\)](#)
6. [U.S. Support for Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Power \(05-17-2010\)](#)
7. [Obama Submits Nuclear Treaty to Senate \(05-14-2010\)](#)
8. [Iran Unlikely to Respond to Nuclear Concerns without U.N. Action \(05-14-2010\)](#)
9. [Key Documents: Arms Control, Nonproliferation \(05-19-2010\)](#)

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**1. [U.S. Mideast Envoy Begins New Round of Indirect Peace Talks \(05-19-2010\)](#)**

By VOA News

U.S. Middle East envoy George Mitchell has begun a second round of indirect peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians focused on possible outlines of a future Palestinian state.

Mitchell met May 19 in Ramallah with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas for the first time since indirect talks with Israel were launched earlier this month.

Chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said the new round of indirect talks will focus on borders and security.

Mitchell is expected to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu May 20. The U.S. envoy will continue to shuttle between the two sides for up to four months to try to narrow the differences on the terms of Palestinian statehood.

Abbas has insisted he will not enter direct talks until Israel stops all building of homes for Jews in East Jerusalem and the West Bank — occupied land the Palestinians claim for a state.

Netanyahu has accepted the idea of a Palestinian state, but with conditions and without East Jerusalem.

Israel has frozen new housing starts in the West Bank since last November for a 10-month period as a peace gesture. But it has refused to stop building homes for Jews in East Jerusalem, which it claims as part of its “eternal” capital.

Some information for this report was provided by AP, AFP and Reuters.

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## **2. Study Urges U.S. to Push Mideast Allies Toward Democracy (05-19-2010)** **Report finds U.S. often puts security interests ahead of Mideast democracy**

By Mohamed Elshinnawi  
VOA News

Washington — A new study by a federally funded peace organization urges the United States to step up pressure on its Middle East allies to move their societies toward meaningful democracy. The U.S. Institute of Peace argues that democracy-building would benefit U.S. security interests while strengthening those nations’ standing with their people.

The peace institute’s report says that the United States has often put its security interests ahead of its desire to see democracy spread throughout the Middle East.

The report’s author, Daniel Brumberg, acting director of the institute’s Muslim World Initiative, says supporting democracy is actually crucial to U.S. security.

“The problem in the Middle East and in the Arab world in particular is that regimes that cooperate closely with the U.S. are also regimes that are seen increasingly by their own populace as either illegitimate or repressive or disconnected from the societies they claim to represent,” says Brumberg. “We think that, in the long run, more legitimacy is good for that cooperation rather than less, and that more representation and more good governance and more democracy will give regimes the legitimacy they need to pursue a strategic relationship with the U.S.”

Leaving things as they are in the Arab world, the Institute for Peace study says, will result in cosmetic changes only, allowing autocratic rulers to fend off real democratic change.

The study suggests that the Obama administration work with Middle Eastern allies to repeal laws that restrict citizen freedoms, hinder political activities or suppress freedom of expression and assembly.

Brumberg argues that continuing to ignore abuses harms U.S. interests in the region. “This process is best exemplified by the case of Yemen — a regime whose leaders have been in power for 31 years — that has alienated sectors of the society itself. And as a consequence of its own autocracy, the battle against terrorism and the efforts to confront the local affiliates of al-Qaida have been undermined by a regime that is seen as remote and repressive,” he says. “Our security needs would be greatly enhanced by a clear alternative to the kind of autocracy we have in Yemen and other parts of the Arab world.”

The Institute for Peace study argues that by keeping a tight rein on their people while supporting U.S. security interests in their regions, nations such as Yemen, Egypt, Jordan and Pakistan fan anti-American sentiments.

Brumberg says this paints the United States into a corner. “These regimes then turn to the U.S. and say, ‘Well, the only alternative to us is the Islamists, so you must support us.’ But that kind of dynamic in which the choice is just between regimes and their oppositions is a consequence of policies that have to be changed. And so we need to speak up more forcefully about these politics.”

Brumberg argues that U.S. support for democracy in the Middle East will advance President Obama’s vision of an improved relationship between the United States and Muslim-majority states. He says the promotion of democracy should go hand in hand with efforts to end regional conflicts — in particular, between the Arab world and Israel. But Brumberg urges the Obama administration not to allow Arab regimes to use disputes with Israel as an excuse for evading their own political reforms.

Larry Diamond co-chaired the peace institute’s study. He directs the Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law at Stanford University. Diamond argues that the United States must use more than vague encouragement if it wants to see real democracy in the Middle East.

“I think many of these Arab leaders are deeply, hopelessly corrupt and incapable of being moved by rational persuasive arguments. It does not mean we should not make them, it does not mean that there are not younger and more reformist elements or pragmatic elements in most of these regimes that we can engage,” says Diamond. “But I think this is heavily about power and that we have tools of power that we have not utilized adequately in a more strategic way.”

Diamond says he is not calling for cuts in aid or reduced security cooperation. He urges the Obama administration to promote democracy more loudly and clearly.

Johns Hopkins political economist Francis Fukuyama, who also co-chaired the study, agrees. But he points out that President Obama must walk a fine line: encouraging democratic change without threatening regime change.

“The Iraq war contaminated democracy promotion, so that when you talk about democracy promotion in the region, people think invasion,” says Fukuyama. “Therefore you need a new start, where the same ideas that are valid become part of the American foreign policy but somehow delinked (from) that whole invasion and occupation, so the new administration has the opportunity to do that in a way that democracy is incorporated into U.S. Middle East policy.”

The U.S. Institute of Peace study notes that the United States has little choice but to cooperate with Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Pakistan in diplomatic, military and security matters. But it urges Washington to become far more aggressive in its support of democracy in the Middle East.

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### **3. U.S. Officials Call for New START Ratification (05-18-2010)**

By Merle David Kellerhals Jr.  
Staff Writer

Washington – Senior U.S. officials urged the U.S. Senate to approve a new arms control pact with Russia that will improve relations with the former Cold War foe and enhance national security and diplomatic credibility while not undercutting U.S. nuclear forces.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee began hearings May 18 on a proposed arms reduction treaty that would reduce U.S. and Russian nuclear arsenals to their lowest levels since the 1950s, and advance President Obama's goal of a world free of nuclear weapons.

"We will strengthen our national security more broadly, including by creating greater leverage to tackle a core national security challenge: nuclear proliferation," Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said.

Clinton, Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Joint Chiefs Chairman Admiral Mike Mullen testified May 18 before the committee, which has begun the lengthy Senate process of analyzing and approving or disapproving the proposed New START Treaty.

The treaty, which would replace the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty and the 2002 Moscow Treaty, [was signed by President Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev](#) at Prague Castle in Prague April 8.

Committee Chairman John Kerry said formal submission of the treaty to the Senate begins the constitutional process known as advice and consent to ratification. Approval in the Senate requires the support of 67 of the 100 possible votes, which means the president will have to have considerable support from the Democratic majority in his own political party and some support from Republican senators. A similar process has to be conducted by the Russian parliament before the treaty can enter into force.

"The choice before us is between this treaty and no treaty governing our nuclear security relationship with Russia, between this treaty and no agreed verification mechanisms on Russia's strategic nuclear forces, between this treaty and no legal obligation for Russia to maintain its strategic nuclear forces below an agreed level," Clinton said.

The New START Treaty would reduce the total number of nuclear warheads that are held by the United States and Russia by a third. Each nation's active arsenal would be set at 1,550 warheads and 700 deployed nuclear delivery vehicles, which include ballistic missiles, submarine-launched missiles and strategic bombers.

The treaty gives the United States and Russia seven years to reduce forces and remains in force for 10 years from ratification. It contains detailed definitions and counting rules that will help the countries calculate the number of warheads that count under the treaty limits. The treaty does not prevent the United States from fielding a missile defense system.

Senator Richard Lugar, the senior Republican on the Foreign Relations Committee, said, "The president has declared the New START treaty to be a top legislative objective and has called for Senate approval this year. Failing to deliver these reviews related to the START treaty, in expedited fashion, would diminish perceptions of the priority of the treaty and complicate the Senate debate timetable."

Gates told the senators that the proposed treaty reduces the strategic nuclear forces of both nations in a way that strengthens the strategic stability of the relationship with Russia and protects the security of the American people and America's allies.

"America's nuclear arsenal remains a vital pillar of our national security, deterring potential adversaries and reassuring allies and partners," Gates testified. "As such, the first step of the

yearlong Nuclear Posture Review was an extensive analysis which, among other things, determined how many nuclear delivery vehicles and deployed warheads were needed. This in turn provided the basis for our negotiations of START.”

Gates said he has confidence, based on the extensive studies conducted by the Pentagon, that the United States will be able to maintain an effective nuclear deterrent while modernizing its current weapons to ensure that they are safe, secure and reliable, all within the limits of the new treaty.

“The U.S. strategic nuclear deterrent will continue to be based on the triad of delivery systems — intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine-launched ballistic missiles, and nuclear-capable heavy bombers — within the boundaries negotiated in the New START Treaty,” Gates said.

Mullen told the Senate committee that the proposed treaty has the full support of the U.S. armed forces.

“The conclusion and implementation of the New START Treaty is the right thing for us to do,” Mullen said. “The armed services chiefs and I believe the New START Treaty achieves important and necessary balance between three critical aims.”

“It allows us to retain a strong and flexible American nuclear deterrent. It strengthens openness and transparency in our relationship with Russia. It also demonstrates our national commitment to reducing the worldwide risk of nuclear incidents resulting from the continuing proliferation of nuclear weapons,” Mullen said.

Along with the New START Treaty, Obama submitted a plan to spend \$80 billion over the next decade to maintain and improve the nation’s nuclear weapons complex, which was a concern among Republican senators who have said it is essential for their support for the treaty.

[Clinton’s Remarks at Senate Hearing on New START Treaty \(05-18-2010\)](#)

Also announces agreement on new draft resolution on Iran

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#### **4. Major Powers Agree on Iran Sanctions (05-18-2010)**

By Merle David Kellerhals Jr.  
Staff Writer

Washington — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton says the major powers have agreed on a draft sanctions resolution against Iran’s nuclear weapons program.

“We have reached agreement on a strong draft with the cooperation of both Russia and China,” Clinton said at a U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing May 18. “We have been working closely with our P5+1 partners for several weeks on the draft.”

The draft resolution will be given to the full 15-member Security Council May 18, Clinton said. The P5+1 countries include the five permanent members of the Security Council — China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States — plus Germany.

Specific details of the sanctions resolution were not announced, but it is expected to carry broad economic penalties against Iranian officials and institutions responsible for the nuclear development program.

The United States and its partners in the talks with Iran have been considering a fourth round of political and economic sanctions through the Security Council after Iran did not comply with an October 2009 arrangement on its nuclear materials.

The Iranian regime announced instead on May 17 that it has agreed to a plan negotiated by Turkey and Brazil to ship 1,200 kilograms of low-enriched uranium to Turkey, where it would be stored. After one year, Iran would have the right to receive about 120.2 kilograms of uranium enriched to 20 percent from Russia and France.

But it was clear from the White House that the Tehran announcement was not convincing. "Given Iran's repeated failure to live up to its own commitments and the need to address fundamental issues related to Iran's nuclear program, the United States and international community continue to have serious concerns," White House press secretary Robert [Gibbs said May 17](#).

"There are a number of unanswered questions regarding the announcement coming from Tehran," Clinton told the senators. "I think this announcement is as convincing an answer to the efforts undertaken in Tehran over the last few days as any we could provide."

In the original arrangement reached in Geneva in October 2009, Iranian officials agreed to ship about 1,200 kilograms of uranium to Russia, which represented about two-thirds of its total stockpile of nuclear fuel at the time. The nuclear material would be processed to 20 percent enrichment in Russia and then shipped to Paris where it could be turned into fuel rods for use in the Tehran medical research reactor. However, the Geneva agreement ultimately faltered under intense political pressure from within Iran.

"Although we acknowledge the sincere efforts of both Turkey and Brazil to find a solution regarding Iran's standoff with the international community over its nuclear program, the P5+1 ... are proceeding to rally the international community on behalf of a strong sanctions resolution that will in our view send an unmistakable message about what is expected from Iran," Clinton said.

Clinton told the senators that she had spent the earlier part of the day talking by telephone with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov to complete the resolution.

Clinton, Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Admiral Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, went before the Senate committee to testify about the proposed arms reduction treaty (New START) between the United States and Russia that would reduce both nations' nuclear arsenals to 1,550 active warheads each, the lowest level since the 1950s.

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## **[5. U.S. Not Convinced by Iranian Nuclear Arrangement \(05-17-2010\)](#)**

By Merle David Kellerhals Jr.  
Staff Writer

Washington — The United States will continue to work with its partners and the U.N. Security Council to convince the Iranian regime that it must show its willingness to live up to international

obligations and forgo a nuclear weapons development program, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs says.

The Iranian regime announced May 17 that it has agreed to an arrangement negotiated by Turkey and Brazil to ship 1,200 kilograms (2,640 pounds) of low-enriched uranium to Turkey, where it would be stored. In exchange, after one year, Iran would have the right to receive about 120.2 kilograms (265 pounds) of material enriched to 20 percent from Russia and France.

“Given Iran’s repeated failure to live up to its own commitments and the need to address fundamental issues related to Iran’s nuclear program, the United States and international community continue to have serious concerns,” Gibbs said May 17 [in a written statement](#) to the news media.

Before the international community can consider the Tehran proposal, it must be sent to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna for evaluation, Gibbs said. It is unlikely the IAEA would issue a statement until after it has received a joint declaration from Tehran.

“While it would be a positive step for Iran to transfer low-enriched uranium off of its soil as it agreed to do last October, Iran said today that it would continue its 20 percent enrichment, which is a direct violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions,” Gibbs said.

“Furthermore, the joint declaration issued in Tehran is vague about Iran’s willingness to meet with the P5+1 countries to address international concerns about its nuclear program, as it also agreed to do last October,” Gibbs added. The P5+1 countries include the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States — plus Germany.

Iranian officials have claimed that the enriched uranium would be used for peaceful purposes, including a medical research reactor in Tehran. It is not clear why continuing to enrich uranium in Iran would be necessary under the arrangement agreed to May 17.

The United States and its partners in the six-nation talks with Iran have been considering a fourth set of political and economic sanctions through the Security Council, after Iran did not comply with an October 2009 arrangement that mirrors the agreement announced May 17 in Tehran.

In the original arrangement in October, Iran agreed to ship about 1,200 kilograms of uranium to Russia, which represented about two-thirds of its total stockpile of nuclear fuel at the time. The nuclear material would be processed to 20 percent enrichment in Russia, then shipped to Paris where it could be turned into fuel rods for use in the Tehran medical reactor. That agreement, reached in Geneva, eventually collapsed under intense political pressure from within Iran.

Western officials have said that in the interim, Iran has continued to process uranium and the 1,200 kilograms no longer represents two-thirds of its stockpile, raising new concerns about the motives behind this latest agreement.

“Iran must take the steps necessary to assure the international community that its nuclear program is intended exclusively for peaceful purposes, including by complying with U.N. Security Council resolutions and cooperating fully with the IAEA,” Gibbs said. “We remain committed to a diplomatic solution to the Iranian nuclear program.”

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## **6. U.S. Support for Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Power (05-17-2010)**

This May 17 statement by Glyn T. Davies, permanent representative of the United States to the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Office in Vienna, was taken from the State Department's blog Dipnote.

Today Ambassador Susan Burk, the President's Special Representative for Nuclear Nonproliferation, and I joined Department of Energy Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy Dr. Warren "Pete" Miller and Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Dr. Gregory Jaczko in a discussion on the sidelines of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference (RevCon) about U.S. support for the peaceful use of nuclear energy, one of the three "pillars" of the NPT. We were proud to highlight U.S. leadership in support of making peaceful uses of nuclear energy available, particularly in the developing world; to showcase some highlights of past and present civil nuclear cooperation; and to touch on some of our plans for the future. Our most recent initiative in this area was highlighted during Secretary Clinton's May 3 speech at the NPT General Debate. She announced a Presidential-led campaign to raise \$100 million by the next NPT RevCon in 2015 for activities related to the peaceful use of nuclear energy, including health, cancer treatment, food and water security, and nuclear power infrastructure. The United States is pledging \$50 million in new funding for this campaign and will work with international partners to match that amount. The United States has been, and remains, the largest single contributor to the IAEA's technical cooperation program and to the peaceful application of nuclear technologies. This year, the United States has contributed \$21 million to the IAEA through the Technical Cooperation Fund.

Ambassador Susan Burk set the stage at today's event. She explained that the U.S. commitment to peaceful uses of nuclear energy began with President Eisenhower's 1953 "Atoms for Peace" speech to the U.N. General Assembly. The Atomic Energy Act of 1954, which encouraged international nuclear cooperation and set U.S. standards for nuclear cooperation agreements, allowed the United States to implement the new "Atoms for Peace" policy. Today, the United States has cooperation agreements covering nearly 50 countries, and is engaged in more than 40 bilateral programs in safety, security, and safeguards around the world. Current [International Atomic Energy Agency](#) (IAEA) projections suggest that global nuclear power capacity could more than double by 2030.

Ambassador Burk also emphasized President Obama's commitment to expanding peaceful uses of nuclear energy, as made clear during his [2009 speech in Prague](#), during which he called for a new framework for civil nuclear cooperation that would allow countries to "access peaceful power without increasing the risks of proliferation" and highlighted the role of nuclear energy in combating climate change and advancing peace and opportunity for all.

The U.S. Government is leading the way, be it with cutting-edge technology development or by setting global standards in safety. Through our actions, the United States can assist other nations in harnessing the potential benefits of peaceful nuclear energy. Assistant Secretary Pete Miller, speaking second, highlighted the assistance that the multilateral Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) provides to nations that seek to develop the infrastructure necessary to host a nuclear power program. He also discussed the role that the U.S. Next Generation Safeguards Initiative (NGSI) will play in ensuring that the nonproliferation goals of NPT members remain a top priority.

Chairman Jaczko of the NRC focused on the importance of nuclear safety and discussing how the NRC is strengthening the regulatory regimes of our partners with emerging civil nuclear programs. The Chairman highlighted all the work that the NRC has done to reach out to developing nations and provide them with the assistance they need to ensure the safety of their future nuclear power

plants. As nuclear power programs have evolved over the past few decades, the sharing of safety and security principles has generated global interest in those principles, and benefits the nuclear sector worldwide.

In my remarks, I explained the U.S. role in supporting the IAEA and its Technical Cooperation mission. First and foremost, the U.S. State Department is the source for the U.S. voluntary contribution to the IAEA, through which we provide more than 25 percent of all voluntary contributions to both the regular budget and the agency's Technical Cooperation Fund. Additionally, the [Department of State's Office of Nuclear Energy, Safety, and Security](#) leads negotiations of nuclear cooperation agreements and serves as the overall coordinator for our civil nuclear infrastructure outreach programs. Through support like this, we can demonstrate our commitment to peaceful use of nuclear power to both the IAEA and the world.

Under the grand bargain of the NPT, states agreed to give up the pursuit of nuclear weapons in exchange for access to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy under safeguards, and the United States has been an active and generous partner in cooperation with more than 100 NPT Parties in this effort. As the President said in Prague, nuclear energy is the right of every nation that renounces nuclear weapons, and "we must harness the power of nuclear energy on behalf of our efforts to combat climate change, and to advance peace and opportunity for all people."

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## **7. Obama Submits Nuclear Treaty to Senate (05-14-2010)**

Washington — The U.S. Senate is set to begin hearings May 18 on a proposed arms reduction treaty that would reduce U.S. and Russian nuclear arsenals to their lowest levels since the 1950s, and advance President Obama's goal of a world free of nuclear weapons.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will be the first witnesses at a Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on the New START Treaty. The treaty, which would replace the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty and the 2002 Moscow Treaty, was [signed by Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev](#) in Prague, Czech Republic, April 8.

"We believe that the newly agreed reductions in strategic offensive armaments will strengthen the security of both Russia and the U.S. and will make relations between our countries more stable, transparent and predictable," the U.S. and Russian delegations said in a [joint statement](#) released in Washington and Moscow May 13. "They will thus have a beneficial effect on international stability and security."

"The treaty, therefore, is not only in the interests of our two countries, but of the entire world community. Everyone will win as a result of its implementation," the joint statement said.

Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman John Kerry said formal submission of the treaty to the Senate begins the constitutional process known as [advice and consent](#) to ratification. Approval in the Senate requires the support of 67 of the 100 possible votes, which means the president will have to have considerable support from the Democratic majority in his own political party and some support from Republican senators. A similar process has to be conducted by the Russian parliament before the treaty can enter into force.

“Ratifying New START is an essential step toward making America safer,” Kerry said in a statement May 13. “This treaty will maintain our flexibility to protect our national security interests and restore hard-won visibility into the strategic nuclear forces of Russia’s still formidable arsenal.”

Kerry and Senator Richard Lugar, the senior Republican on the Foreign Relations Committee and a staunch arms control advocate, issued a joint statement, saying that in the coming weeks a series of hearings are planned to examine the arms reduction treaty with administration witnesses and outside experts “from across the political spectrum to ensure the treaty is rigorously vetted.”

Lugar said this process will give Democrats and Republicans ample opportunity to review New START and its annexes to make sure the treaty is judged on its merits.

At a White House briefing on the new treaty, Clinton said she believes the Senate will support the treaty, noting that the last three arms-reduction treaties approved by the Senate received 90 or more favorable votes. “I believe that a vast majority of the Senate at the end of the day will see that this is in America’s interest and it goes way beyond politics,” she said.

In April, Kerry and Lugar held a hearing with former defense secretaries James Schlesinger and William Perry on the history of arms control and its implications for the New START Treaty. The hearing was designed to provide a sense of where this treaty fits into efforts since the Cold War years to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons. They are planning similar hearings over the next several weeks.

According to a recent U.S. Congressional Research Service report, the treaty gives the United States and Russia seven years to reduce forces and remains in force for 10 years from ratification, and it contains detailed definitions and counting rules that will help the parties calculate the number of warheads that count under the treaty limits.

“New START does not limit current or planned U.S. missile defense programs,” the report said.

Along with the New START Treaty, Obama also submitted a plan to spend \$80 billion over the next decade to maintain and improve the nation’s nuclear weapons complex, a requirement Republican senators have said is essential for their support for the New START Treaty.

Kerry said Gates, Mullen and other senior military leaders have expressed support for the treaty, which reduces the legal ceiling on the number of warheads that the United States and Russia can deploy to 1,550 warheads. The treaty also limits launchers and the means for deploying nuclear weapons, which include ballistic missiles, nuclear submarines and strategic bombers.

Obama told Medvedev in a telephone conference call he was sending the treaty to the Senate to launch the ratification process, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said. “The presidents stressed the importance of completing the ratification process in both countries as soon as possible.”

## **8. Iran Unlikely to Respond to Nuclear Concerns Without U.N. Action (05-14-2010)**

By Stephen Kaufman  
Staff Writer

Washington — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton says she does not expect a serious Iranian response to the international community’s concerns over its nuclear activities until the

United Nations Security Council takes action in the form of increased economic sanctions against the country.

Speaking alongside British Foreign Secretary William Hague at the State Department May 14, Clinton said progress toward a sanctions resolution is being made “every day,” and the members of the Security Council are moving “in the direction of reaffirming the authority of the Security Council, of putting some real teeth into the sanctions, of uniting the world in a way that will send an unequivocal message to the Iranian leadership.”

The case for U.N. action “is being made perhaps most effectively by the Iranians themselves,” Clinton said, citing Iran’s continued failure to respond to U.S. offers of engagement and a proposed deal that would provide its medical research reactor with uranium that was enriched in a third country.

In addition, the world learned of Iran’s [undisclosed nuclear facility near Qom](#), and Iran announced it will unilaterally increase its level of uranium enrichment, she said.

The United States and other countries have voiced a long-standing concern that Iran is seeking to acquire nuclear weapons under the guise of a civilian program.

So far, “every step along the way has demonstrated clearly to the world that Iran is not participating in the international arena in the way that we had asked them to do, and that they continue to pursue their nuclear program,” Clinton said.

“I have told my counterparts in many capitals around the world that I believe that we will not get any serious response out of the Iranians until after the Security Council acts,” she said.

Hague said his government “will work solidly alongside the United States to secure the Security Council resolution,” including persuading its partners in the European Union to adopt their own set of financial sanctions against Iran.

“It is precisely because we want to see this matter settled peacefully and rapidly that we call for the sanctions, that we support the idea of a Security Council resolution,” Hague said.

“There is no magic to this approach. It requires persistence and determination and united strength in the international community to tackle this problem,” he said.

Hague’s visit to Washington was his first overseas as foreign secretary. The new British government, led by Prime Minister David Cameron, took power May 11 after the Conservative and Liberal Democrats parties agreed to form a governing coalition. [President Obama telephoned Cameron](#) May 11 to offer his congratulations, and Vice President Biden spoke with Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg May 13.

During their meeting, Clinton and Hague also discussed developments in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Europe and the Middle East peace process.

Hague said the United States “is without doubt the most important ally of the United Kingdom,” and the two nations enjoy an unparalleled scope of cooperation. “It’s not a backward-looking or nostalgic relationship. It is one looking to the future, from combating violent extremism to addressing poverty and conflict around the world,” he said.

## **9. Key Documents: Arms Control, Nonproliferation**

### **List of resources related to U.S. policy**

#### **Arms Control (05-19-2010)**

The Obama administration has declared its goal of working toward a nuclear-free world. To this end, the United States has committed itself to destroying and dismantling the tools of nuclear war, in concert with other states with nuclear arsenals. Nuclear weapons play a decreasing role in U.S. national security strategy. The materials on this website outline various aspects of American policy on disarmament, and show U.S. commitment to ending the threat of nuclear war while ensuring world security and strategic stability. Following is a list of statements, transcripts, fact sheets and articles related to U.S. policy on nuclear arms control:

- 05/18/2010 Article: U.S. Officials Call for New START Ratification
  - 05/18/2010 Clinton Remarks on START Ratification
  - 05/14/2010 Article: Obama Submits Nuclear Treaty to Senate
  - 05/13/2010 U.S., Russian Perspectives on New START
  - 05/05/2010 Obama Hails Indonesia's Decision to Seek Ratification of the Test Ban Treaty
  - 05/04/2010 Article: United States Reveals Size of Nuclear Arsenal
  - 04/30/2010 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty: Promoting Disarmament
  - 04/30/2010 State's Gottemoeller Speech at Arms Control Association's Meeting
  - 04/21/2010 Article: Arms Treaty Would Enhance Security and Encourage Peace
  - 04/19/2010 Remarks by Ambassador Rice on Disarmament, Global Security
  - 04/12/2010 Article: Clinton, Gates Discuss U.S. Nuclear Strategy
  - 04/12/2010 Article: South Africa, Kazakhstan Offer Examples for Nuclear Disarmament
  - 04/12/2010 Article: New Nuclear Arms Reduction Pact Requires U.S. Senate Approval
  - 04/09/2010 Article: Nuclear Arms Reduction Group Hails New U.S.-Russia Pact
  - 04/09/2010 Briefing on Obama's April 8 Trip to Prague
  - 04/08/2010 Article: With New START, U.S., Russia Commit to Disarmament
  - 04/08/2010 Secretary Clinton on Nuclear Security Strategy
  - 04/08/2010 President Obama's Toast Remarks in Prague
  - 04/08/2010 President Obama at New START Signing Ceremony
  - 04/08/2010 President Obama's Dinner with Central, Eastern European Leaders
  - 04/08/2010 New START Protects U.S. Ability to Develop, Deploy Conventional Capabilities
  - 04/08/2010 White House Blog: A New START in Prague
  - 04/07/2010 Article: U.S. Nuclear Strategy Redefines Deterrence
  - 04/06/2010 President Obama on Nuclear Posture Review
  - 04/06/2010 Nuclear Posture Review Report: Executive Summary
  - 03/29/2010 Under Secretary Tauscher on New START Treaty and Nonproliferation
  - 03/29/2010 Obama's Call with Russian President Medvedev on START
  - 03/26/2010 Article: START Reflects U.S. Intent to Create Nuclear-Free World
  - 03/26/2010 Obama on New Arms Control Treaty with Russia
  - 03/26/2010 Key Facts About New START Treaty
  - 03/26/2010 White House Briefing on New START Treaty
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#### **Nonproliferation (05-18-2010)**

The United States is committed to halting the spread of nuclear weapons around the globe, and to reverse the expectation that we are destined to live in a world with many nuclear-armed states. It actively discourages non-nuclear states from acquiring or testing nuclear weapons, and promotes the reduction of existing weapons programs. The materials on this website will show the U.S.

commitment towards improving transparency, verification, compliance and mutual confidence between world powers, as well as the U.S. condemnation of dangerous rogue nations with nuclear ambitions. Following is a list of statements, transcripts, fact sheets and articles related to U.S. policy on nuclear nonproliferation:

05/14/2010 Article: Iran Unlikely to Respond to Nuclear Concerns Without U.N. Action  
05/06/2010 Article: U.S. Reaffirms Its Support for WMD-Free Middle East  
05/06/2010 UN Security Council's Five Permanent Members Express Support for NPT  
05/04/2010 Article: Iran, North Korea Criticized for Violating Nuclear Commitments  
05/04/2010 Article: United States Reveals Size of Nuclear Arsenal  
05/03/2010 Article: New U.S. Support for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones and Energy Use  
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