

JOINT STATEMENT

The U.S. and Kazakhstan Cooperate to Eliminate Highly Enriched Uranium

The United States and the Republic of Kazakhstan announced today the permanent disposition of 33 kilograms of highly enriched uranium from the Institute of Nuclear Physics in Alatau. The material was sent from Alatau to the Ulba Metallurgical Plant in Ust-Kamenogorsk, where it was downblended into low enriched uranium. This project was a joint U.S.-Kazakhstani effort, with dozens of scientists, engineers and other specialists from both countries working together. By eliminating this highly enriched uranium, these efforts serve to further our mutual objectives of nuclear security and nonproliferation.

The U.S. and Kazakhstan have worked together closely to prevent the threat of terrorists acquiring nuclear weapons. In 2009, our two countries removed the first batch of highly enriched uranium fuel from Alatau. Last year, the U.S. and Kazakhstan cooperated with international partners to complete a campaign to secure 300 metric tons of spent fuel containing highly enriched uranium and plutonium from the BN-350 Reactor in Aktau. These efforts have been part of a broader U.S. goal to work with its partners around the world to secure vulnerable nuclear material by the end of 2013. Leaders from forty-seven countries and three international organizations reaffirmed this goal at the 2010 Nuclear Security Summit in Washington. President Nazarbayev and the Government of Kazakhstan have been strong partners in this effort.

The United States appreciates the leadership that Kazakhstan has shown in nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation. Both countries will continue to intensify their bilateral partnership to promote nuclear nonproliferation.

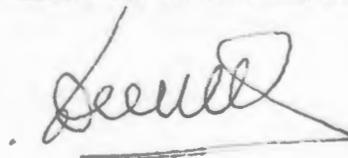
SIGNED at Astana, in duplicate, on October 14, 2011, in the English and Russian languages.

**FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA**



D. PONEMAN

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY
AND NEW TECHNOLOGY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**



B. JAXALIYEV