ISSUES OF FORMATION OF GHANA'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM

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Ghana's electricity demand has increased dramatically over the years. Before 1985, the average annual generation growth rate was 2% but this has increased in excess of 10% per annum in the years beyond. More significantly the average annual growth rate in electricity since 1991 is 15%.

In February 2015 Ghana is reported to have signed or ratified several IAEA conventions, including the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC). Ghana joined the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP), now the International Framework of Nuclear Energy Cooperation (IFNEC), in September 2007. In 2012 the Ministry of Energy & Petroleum signed a nuclear cooperation agreement with Rosatom, and in mid-2013 further discussion took place on the specifics of joint projects facilitating the implementation of plans by Ghana to develop a nuclear industry with Russian help. In June 2015 a nuclear cooperation agreement with Rosatom was signed by the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, to enable the development of contractual and legal frameworks for cooperation between the two countries in the nuclear sector. Within the Agreement the parties are intended to develop cooperation in design and construction of power and research nuclear reactors; exploration and production of uranium deposits; nuclear fuel cycle services; production of radioisotopes and their application in industry, medicine and agriculture; education, training and retraining of experts for the nuclear energy industry.