

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**



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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Meeting in Berlin of the Foreign Ministers of Russia, China, the US and the European Trio on the Iranian Nuclear Program**

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A meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Russia, Britain, Germany, China, the United States and the High Representative of the European Union took place in Berlin, during which the situation around the Iranian nuclear program was discussed.

At the end of the meeting, a joint statement (available on the Russian MFA's website) was adopted setting forth common assessments and approaches to dealing with this problem. The ministers welcomed the adoption on March 29 of the UN Security Council Presidential Statement on the Iranian nuclear program with the aim of supporting the IAEA process in solving the problems still outstanding. They stressed that this statement was a strong signal to Teheran about the need for it to take the steps which were formulated by the IAEA Board of Governors in its February resolution, including suspension of all the work related to enrichment and chemical processing as well as of the appropriate research and development.

It is also important that a commitment to a diplomatic, negotiated solution to the problem was reaffirmed during the meeting.

The ministers once again confirmed Iran's lawful right under the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) to develop a peaceful nuclear program noting that it would take a considerable period of time to restore the trust of the international community in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear activities. In this connection an insistent call was issued that Iran heed the concerns of the international community and take necessary steps to rectify the situation.

In the course of the meeting Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov once again emphasized that in the further work on resolving the Iranian nuclear problem it was necessary to continue relying on the professional work of the IAEA as the only authoritative body empowered to monitor compliance by states with their NPT commitments. As before, the principal and only task of that work must be tackling nonproliferation issues and preventing a violation of the nuclear nonproliferation regime. The minister again noted that any attempts at a coercive, force-based solution to the Iranian problem were counterproductive, fraught with a crisis development of the situation and could not be

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