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AUSTRAL SECURITY: US asked to ratify nuclear-free Pacific, Sky News, 03-05-2011

US President Barak Obama has submitted the Rarotonga Treaty for a South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone (SPNFZ) to the U.S. Senate for ratification. This comes 25 years after the treaty first came into force. While it signed the treaty in 1996, the United States is the only country not to have ratified the treaty.

- Message on South Pacific Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty, Barack Obama, Office of the Press Secretary, White House, 02-05-2011 [PDF, 6.69KB]
- South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Rarotonga), Treaty text [PDF, 76KB]
- US moves to support nuclear free zone treaty, Nic Maclellan, Island Business, June 2010

DETERRENCE: Regional responses to extra-territoriality and non-state

nuclear actors: a perspective from Southeast Asia, Raymund Quilop, NAPSNet Special Report, Nautilus Institute, 2011-05-05

To support their 1540 obligations, Quilop suggests that all ASEAN states sign bilateral extradition treaties, upgrade intelligence exchanges, especially to control border-crossings, and incorporate non-state WMD proliferation into the Southeast Asian Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty.

- Extradition and jurisdiction, Arvinder Sambei, Nautilus Institute workshop on cooperation to control non-state nuclear proliferation, 2011-04-05 [PDF, 0.3MB]
- Facilitating implementation of Resolution 1540 in South-East Asia and the South Pacific, T. Ogilvie-White in Implementing Resolution 1540: The role of regional organizations, L. Scheinmann, ed, UNIDIR, Geneva, 2008 [0.91 MB PDF]
- Raising awareness of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy among civil society in Southeast Asia conference, Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation and Nahdatul Ulama, Jakarta, Indonesia, 18-11-2009 [0.17MB PDF]

DPRK: KCNA commentary slashes at US invariable ambition for preemptive nuclear attack, KCNA, 2011-12-04

North Korea's KCNA used particularly harsh language to condemn a recent US-ROK meeting of the US-ROK extended deterrence policy committee. The article noted that US extended deterrence necessitated that the DPRK build its own war deterrence to protect the "supreme interests" of the state. The article alleges that the US and ROK are using the US nuclear umbrella to threaten the DPRK and links extended deterrence to the US reaction to the 2009 DPRK missile launch.

- North Korean nuclear nationalism and the threat of nuclear war in Korea, Peter Hayes and Scott Bruce, Nautilus Institute, 2011-21-04
- S. Korea, U.S. to discuss joint exercise to deter N. Korea's nuclear threats, Yonhap news, 2011-2--03
- Extended deterrence policy committee, Jeffrey Lewis, Arms Control Wonk, 2010-19-10

GOVERNANCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY: North Korea 'behind South Korean bank cyber hack', BBC NEWS 2011-05-03

Seoul's Central Prosecutors' office concluded that North Korea caused the crash of Nonghyup Bank's computer system. This conclusion is reminiscent of the response to the Cheonan warship attack which also focused on the problematical relationship between South-North Korea. Meanwhile, the South Korean government is set to receive a massive database from Berlin on the 1990 reunification of Germany for use in understanding issues associated with Korean unification, which is still a critical issue in North Korea as well.

- Seoul to receive German records on reunification, Kim So-hyun, Korea Herald, 2010-04-26
- Reunification of Korea is a major security issue on the Korean Peninsula: The North Korean perspective, Ma Tong Hui, Asian Paper, Institute for Security and Development Policy, October 2010 [PDF, 513KB]

ENERGY SECURITY: The path from Fukushima: short and medium-term impacts of the reactor damage caused by the Japan earthquake and tsunami on Japan's electricity systems, David von Hippel, and Kae Takase, Nautilus Institute, 2011-04-11

The March 11 earthquake and its aftermath left the electricity systems in northern Honshu short of generating capacity, likely for many years. How short will depend on the extent of damage to the system, public opinion about nuclear power, energy conservation efforts, and other factors. Reconstruction of the Japanese energy sector using renewable energy and energy efficiency technology will be cheaper, faster, cleaner, and more resilient than using traditional central power plants.

- The road to recovery: demand-side and renewable energy approaches to meeting TEPCO/Tohoku electricity shortages, Japanese Center for Low Carbon Society Strategy, 2011-3-29 [Japanese language]
- Estimating the costs and benefits of the smart, grid: a preliminary estimate of the investment requirements and the resultant benefits of a fully functioning smart grid, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), 29-03-2011
- Japan's two incompatible power grids make disaster recovery harder, Mark Fischetti, Scientific American, 2011-03-25

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: The use of scenarios in adaptation planning - managing risks in simple to complex settings, Roger Jones, VCCCAR Scenarios for Climate Adaptation Working Paper, Victorian Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Research, Melbourne, Australia, 2010-11 [314 KB, PDF]

Scenarios have three main roles within the risk assessment process: in scoping risk; risk analysis and evaluation; and risk management. This paper investigates how scenarios applied within a risk-based context can assist in climate adaptation planning and implementation. It addresses scenarios in a range of settings designed to manage risk, ranging from simple to complex. The paper finds that the use of scenarios changes according to the complexity of the system or issues being faced.

- Scenario praxis for systemic and adaptive governance: a critical review, Ray Ison, Andrea Grant & Richard Bawden, Monash University, Australia, 2011 [PDF, 3MB]
- Climate change adaptation: approaches to governing the future, Lauren Rickards, University of Melbourne, Australia, 2010-12-14 [PDF, 1.8MB]

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