



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 5 October 2012

14660/12

**ATO 136
SAN 223**

NOTE

from :	General Secretariat of the Council
to:	Delegations
Subject :	Towards the Secure Supply of Radioisotopes for Medical Use in the European Union - Draft Council Conclusions

Following adoption of the Council Conclusions of 6 December 2010 and in view of continuing interest of some delegations to make progress on the conversion from HEU to LEU subject, the Presidency is tabling the attached draft Council Conclusions.

Council Conclusions
**"Towards the Secure Supply of Radioisotopes for Medical Use
in the European Union"**

The Council of the European Union,

ACKNOWLEDGING that various initiatives have become available since the Council Conclusions of 6 December 2010 on the secure supply of radioisotopes for medical use in the European Union,

AGREEING that the Observatory on the Supply of Medical Radioisotopes in the Union is a valuable instrument to support the secure Mo-99/Tc-99m supply for the medium and long term across the EU, taking into account the worldwide need and supply,

CONSIDERING that production of radioisotopes for medical use in nuclear reactors is a robust and reliable method,

CONSIDERING that the facilities able to produce Mo-99 at the levels required for the medium-term needs of the European Union should remain located in the Union, with a view to ensuring self-sufficiency, as well as guaranteeing an appropriate price level,

STRESSING the need to work cooperatively together with the radioisotopes processing facilities to enable the future conversion from High Enriched Uranium (HEU) to Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) targets in an efficient, timely, economically sound and sustainable way,

1. NOTES that the OECD/ NEA excludes the conversion from HEU to LEU from the full cost recovery model,
2. SHARES the Commission's analysis that the conversion from HEU to LEU targets in an efficient, timely and economically sound and sustainable way is a very important task and needs to be covered by the Observatory,

3. STRESSES that, given its contribution to a secure supply of radioisotopes, the conversion from HEU to LEU should be supported by the Member States,
 4. CONSIDERS that in particular in this respect research on the conversion from HEU to LEU targets should be supported by the Euratom Framework Programme,
 5. INVITES the Commission to prepare recommendations on the conversion issue, to be addressed to the main decision makers in the Union, national governments, national and international official bodies, the medical community, and the European industry and to define a solution to the Conversion issue.
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