

Russia Will Rebuild Nuclear Industrial Complex

A report by a journalist with little knowledge of Russian nuclear work.

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Russia plans to rebuild the atomic industrial complex of the former Soviet Union in conjunction with Ukraine and Kazakhstan, Sergey Kirivenko, chief of the Russian Nuclear Energy Agency, said in this capital on Thursday.

The territories of Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan have resources that make up a whole complex that has to be rebuilt, pointed out Kirivenko.

The scientist said that it is more rational to use the already existing components, adding that it would be more beneficial to join efforts to complete the complex rather than act separately.

The director of Russia's nuclear program explained that the nucleus of that industry in the territory of the Community of Independent States is in the Russian Federation, but some elements are outside the country.

Kazakhstan produces uranium, while Ukraine makes turbines, said the expert, who was quoted by RIA Novosti.

Russian President Vladimir Putin discussed the issue this week in Astana, Kazakhstan, where he met with his Ukrainian counterpart, Victor Yushchenko, and Kazak leader Nursultan Nazarbayev.

We are interested in fostering cooperation in the use of nuclear energy with peaceful ends, said the Russian president during his meeting with Nazarbayev.

The first electronuclear plant in history was designed and built by Soviet experts in Dubna, Russia, in 1954. The plant was based on the chain reaction of nuclei of uranium divided by bombarded neutrons.

Scientists from the extinct Soviet Union also designed the first reactor of controlled thermonuclear fusion, which was named with the Russian word Tokomak, which is the foundation for the current project ITER.