

## THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 AL QAEDA ATTACKS HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPORTANCE OF REDUCING STOCKS OF SEPARATED PLUTONIUM, DESPITE THE GREAT DIFFICULTY OF DOING SO...

As part of a long-term commitment, the Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS) sponsors international conferences to consider plutonium-use and disposition alternatives, and to mark progress in international efforts to reduce the risks posed by excess stocks of civil and military plutonium. In December 2001 ISIS sponsored a conference, titled "Addressing Excess Stocks of Civil and Military Plutonium," which took stock of these issues in light of both a new U.S. administration and the attacks of September 11. It was also a follow-up to a larger conference held by ISIS in March 2000.

Featured presentations at the December 2001 conference were made by French, Japanese, and Russian government officials, by nongovernmental nuclear experts, and by former U.S. government officials who have made first-hand contributions to the international nuclear non-proliferation regime. On behalf of U.S. Senator Pete V. Domenici, the ranking member of the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee, Peter Lyons, the Senator's Science Advisor, delivered a keynote address.

This volume contains the proceedings of that conference. It is intended for governmental and nongovernmental experts, nuclear industry representatives, members of the academic community, and others concerned with nuclear energy policy and nuclear nonproliferation.

The Institute for Science and International Security is a non-profit, non-partisan research institution dedicated to informing the public about science and policy issues affecting international security. Since its creation in 1993, ISIS has been at the forefront of efforts to solve complex security problems, and has worked to unite government officials, independent experts, and scientists in the search for credible strategies to make the world safer from the risks posed by nuclear-explosive materials and nuclear weapons.

