

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

**David Albright, President
Institute for Science and International Security**

David Albright: Good morning, and welcome to our conference on addressing excess stocks of civil and military plutonium. I am David Albright, the President of the Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS). I am very pleased to welcome you here.

This is the second conference that ISIS has held in the past two years. In March 2000, we held a conference on separated plutonium. That conference addressed a range of questions about excess plutonium stocks, both military and civilian, and what was being done to use those stocks in MOX fuel or to dispose of them through immobilization or other means.

Since that meeting, efforts to reduce separated plutonium stocks have not progressed very far. Unfortunately, I think that we are heading into a period where not much progress will be made on significantly changing the size of unirradiated plutonium inventories. Our purpose today is to take stock of where we are, and to consider some new ideas.

This meeting is on the record. We are making a recording, and we will produce a transcript of the proceedings. Still, we would like this to be an informal conference. We invite participants to ask questions of clarification while a presentation is going on. However, please leave more general questions and comments until the end. □

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