

Ambassador Amano Officially Fielded as Next IAEA Director-General

The Japanese government announced on September 25 that it would nominate Yukiya Amano, permanent representative and ambassador plenipotentiary of Japan to the international organizations in Vienna, as its candidate for the next director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Prime Minister Taro Aso clarified that fact during his address to the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York. The current IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei of Egypt will step down in November 2009.

Ambassador Amano has served as the director-general of the Disarmament, Nonproliferation and Science Department of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), and led the IAEA's Board of Governors for one year starting in 2005. Since April 2007, also, he chaired the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 NPT Review Committee.

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