

**Panel:** Nuclear Fuel Cycle: Debates on Multilateral Approaches (Grand Ballroom I )

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, February 19, 2013 /15:30-16:45

**Talking Points for:** Kang Jungmin, Visiting Professor, Department of Nuclear and Quantum Engineering, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

Nuclear power contributes energy security and provides environmental benefits by producing little carbon dioxide. For the sustainable nuclear power, nuclear fuel supply assurance and spent fuel management are key factors, which are closely related with uranium enrichment and reprocessing, respectively. However, uranium enrichment provides the means to make highly enriched uranium (HEU), a route to nuclear weapons, while reprocessing provides the means to separate plutonium, another route to nuclear weapons, from the spent fuel discharged from the reactors. If countries of non-nuclear-weapon states to the NPT try to develop domestic capabilities in uranium enrichment and reprocessing, it would increase proliferation risks from those nuclear fuel cycle activities, as done by Japan and Iran. This is the reason why multilateral approaches in nuclear fuel cycle activities are strongly recommended to those countries not only to succeed their nuclear power projects but also to resolve the world concerns on nuclear proliferation.

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\* The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Asan Institute for Policy Studies.