

IAEA Timeline – Part I

- 1963:
 - 6 June: Syria becomes a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).
- 1969:
 - 24 September: Syria ratifies the NPT. This paves the way for Syria to take part in the IAEA's technical cooperation projects in nuclear research.
- 1983:
 - February: Syria and the Soviet Union sign an agreement for nuclear cooperation and exchange for peaceful purposes.
 - May: Syria and the Soviet Union carry out a joint study on the construction of a nuclear power reactor in Syria. The feasibility reactor study concludes in early 1986, and it determines that such a reactor should be located in Northern Syria.
 - The reactor plans were never realized, probably due to a lack of funds
- 1991:
 - The Der Al-Hadjar Nuclear Research Center is constructed. It houses Syria's only research reactor, the Chinese-supplied Miniature Neutron Source Reactor (MNSR).
- 1996:
 - The IAEA approves a project for the construction of a cyclotron facility for Atomic Energy Commission of Syria's (AECS) Nuclear Medicine Center in Damascus and initiates construction of the facility in 1997.
- 2001:
 - Approximate start date of the Dair Alzour site.
 - US began acquiring information of multiple visits between senior officials at the North Korean Yongbyon nuclear complex and Syria
- 2003:
 - US began to judge that the interactions were nuclear-related.
 - Didn't know the nature of the projects, locations, etc. Very little details.
- 2005:
 - US gained confirmation that the joint activities were taking place in eastern Syria.
 - Were able to gain satellite imagery to reveal a large building in a remote area of the Euphrates River near al Kibar.
- 2006:
 - US acquired evidence of cargo being transferred from North Korea to eastern Syria.
- 2007:
 - Spring; US acquired information that the building was a covert nuclear reactor, clearly not for producing electricity
 - Established a similarity to the Yongbyon reactor in North Korea

IAEA Timeline – Part II

- 2007:
 - September 6, 2007 – reactor destroyed in an Israeli Airstrike
 - Mid-September, Syria began a massive effort to destroy the ruined reactor, mostly working at night or under tarps.
 - October 10 – Syria destroyed the remained of the reactor via controlled demolition
 - October 15 – IAEA press release stating they had no official information about any undeclared activity in Syria and were in contact with Syrian authorities.
- 2008:
 - IAEA Press release states the US provided them with information claiming the destroyed site in Syria was not yet an operational nuclear reactor and no nuclear material had been introduced.
 - Declare the beginning of an investigation; call Israel’s actions as undermining progress
 - June 23 - First IAEA visit to the Dair Alzour site
 - November - environmental samples from the Dair Alzour site revealed a significant number of natural uranium particles, which had been produced as a result of chemical processing. Syria stated that the only explanation was that they were contained in the Israeli missiles used to destroy the building. IAEA called for cooperation and clarification from Israel.
- 2009:
 - February: IAEA assessed that there was a low possibility that Israel was the source of the anthropogenic uranium.
 - Syria stops granting IAEA inspectors access to the Dair Alzour facility.
- 2010:
 - IAEA continued investigating the case
 - Syria will not allow inspectors to enter Dair Alzour.
- 2011:
 - Further problems are detected with the declared reactor in Damascus
 - Syrian president denies any reactor ever existed at Dair Alzour.
 - March 15 : beginning of the Uprising/Civil War in Syria
 - June: IAEA Board of Governors find Syria in non-Compliance and reports them to the UN Security Council
- 2012:
 - March: DG Amano again announces to the Board of Governors that the site was very likely a nuclear reactor and should have been declared.
- 2013:
 - Amano renews his call for increased cooperation.