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Iran envoy declines to commit to nuclear transparency measures

According to Reuters, Iran's envoy to the U.N. nuclear agency declined on Thursday to commit to nuclear transparency measures that were part of a preliminary deal Tehran and world powers reached in April, deflecting U.S. demands to implement such provisions. Laura Kennedy, the U.S. ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, told a session of the IAEA's 35-nation governing board that it "remains critical for Iran to implement the provisions of Modified Code 3.1...without delay." This provision requires from Iran early notification of the construction of any new nuclear facilities. Kennedy also said it was important for Iran to implement the IAEA's Additional Protocol, which allows U.N. inspectors under specific circumstances to visit Iranian sites with as little as two hours' notice. Kennedy further noted that Iran had still not resolved longstanding IAEA questions about the "possible military dimensions" (PMD), mainly before 2003, of its nuclear program.