<u>Press Releases: U.S. Congratulates</u> <u>India on Joining the Australia Group</u>

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The United States congratulates India on becoming the newest member of the Australia Group, an informal forum that seeks to prevent the proliferation of chemical and biological weapons, and which now counts 43 members.

This latest accomplishment underscores the Indian government's excellent nonproliferation credentials and commitment to preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including by regulating the trade of sensitive goods and technologies. Its accession bolsters the effectiveness of the regime's nonproliferation efforts.

India is a valued nonproliferation partner. We look forward to continuing our work with India in the Australia Group in furtherance of our shared nonproliferation goals.

More information about the Australia Group, its work, and membership can be found at: <u>http://www.australiagroup.net/</u>.

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