

Race for UN nuclear watchdog's top job



Five contenders to succeed Mohamed ElBaradei as Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency will present their credentials to the 35-member board on May 26. A straw poll will reduce the field to two candidates before a formal election in June in which a two-thirds majority is needed to win



Yukiya Amano, 62:

Japanese envoy to IAEA and veteran of nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty negotiations. Reserved technocrat supported by U.S. and Europe. Stood in April ballot but failed to win majority by one vote



Abdul Samad Minty, 69:

Politically outspoken South African IAEA envoy. Non-proliferation and disarmament expert has core support among developing nations who see him as peacemaker. Stood in April election



Luis Echavarri, 60:

Former Spanish nuclear regulatory chief. OECD's nuclear energy head for past 12 years. Would keep pressure on Iran but allow developing world access to peaceful nuclear technologies



Jean-Pol Poncelet, 59:

Former Belgian defence and energy minister. Senior vice president at French nuclear giant Areva is seen by some as too close to industry

Ernest Petric, 72:

Former IAEA envoy is currently serving as judge on Slovenia's Constitutional Court

