

Germany reaffirms support for India's NSG membership

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

BERLIN, 30 MAY

Germany on Tuesday reaffirmed its support for India's membership in international export control regimes, including the Nuclear Suppliers Group, following the fourth biannual Inter-Governmental Consultations jointly headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and German Chancellor Angela Merkel here.

"Both leaders expressed their commitment to strengthen global non-proliferation efforts," a joint statement issued following the talks said. "Germany welcomed India's accession to the Missile Technology Control Regime," it said.

At the NSG plenary in Seoul in June last year, China had blocked India's membership bid on the ground that for a country to a part of the 48-nation bloc.

Beijing has again indicated this year that it has not changed its stand.

According to the state-



German Chancellor Angela Merkel with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Chancellery in Berlin on Tuesday.

AFP

ment, Modi and Merkel also reaffirmed the urgent need for comprehensive reform of the UN Security Council, "including its expansion in both permanent and non-permanent categories of membership, to make it more effective, efficient and responsive to the existing chal-

lenges to international peace and security and representative of the contemporary geo-political realities".

"Both countries reiterated their full support to each other's candidatures for a permanent seat in a reformed and expanded UN Security Council," it said.