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to the International Organizations in Vienna

NATIONAL STATEMENT
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Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Nuclear terrorism continues to stand as one of the gravest threats to international security. A single act of nuclear or radiological terrorism could have catastrophic consequences, both locally and globally. The illicit trafficking of nuclear and radiological materials underlies this threat, and remains a real concern. Since the 1993, the IAEA has documented more than 2800 incidents of smuggling, unauthorized possession, and theft or loss of such materials.

The threat of nuclear terrorism requires constant vigilance and the need for renewed commitments coupled with concrete action. With the conclusion of the Nuclear Security Summit process, which focussed international cooperation on the nuclear security agenda, we must proactively ensure that the global nuclear security architecture remains robust, and that the relevant international organizations and initiatives maintain their ability to support States in fulfilling their nuclear security responsibilities.

Canada recognizes the central role of the IAEA in supporting Member States in strengthening the global nuclear security architecture, and we will continue to work with the Agency to ensure that it has the support and the resources necessary to maintain this capacity. Today, I am pleased to outline a number of new Canadian commitments in this regard.

First, Canada is honoured to serve as inaugural "Convener" of the Nuclear Security Contact Group, which aims to sustain momentum in building a strong and comprehensive international nuclear security architecture. Expanding the Group's membership to broaden its capacity to enhance nuclear security worldwide is a priority for us. In this regard, I invite those who wish to contribute to the work of the Contact Group to consider endorsing the goals set

out in the Group's Statement of Principles, which was circulated to IAEA Member States as INFCIRC/899, and assure you that Canada looks forward to working with you in the months ahead.

Second, Canada will be seeking broad endorsement of a Joint Statement in support of certified training for managers and personnel involved in nuclear security provided by the Academy of the World Institute for Nuclear Security, which we have asked the Secretariat to share with all Member States as an INFCIRC. We believe that professionals involved in nuclear security should be adequately trained – and certified – in order to foster a sustainable nuclear security culture. Canada encourages the expansion of the Academy's certification program, and we welcome other States to support this important work.

Third, I am pleased to highlight that we are working with the IAEA to finalise new programming aimed at enhancing nuclear security worldwide. We are, indeed, in the final stages of concluding a project with the Agency to help secure disused radioactive sources in five Latin American countries, through the removal of radioactive sources of Canadian and other origins. We will also conclude a project to train technicians in Malaysia to operate a mobile "Hot Cell" in conjunction with the IAEA's Technical Cooperation Department and Nuclear Safety & Security Department. This project will provide more capacity to undertake radioactive source removal activities in the region and around the world. These projects will complement the \$42 million committed by Canada's Prime Minister in the context of this year's NSS and help further reduce the threat of nuclear terrorism by protecting radioactive materials from potential loss, theft and malicious use.

Furthermore, as an example of our strong commitment towards strengthening and enhancing the security of sealed sources, Canada, through the oversight of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, is now tracking Category 3, 4 and 5 sealed sources, in addition to Category 1 and 2 sealed sources. The tracking of all categories of sealed sources in Canada will further reduce the risks to safety and security associated with the loss of regulatory control of radioactive sources.

Finally, Canada is pleased to have provided \$160,500 to support the participation of experts from Latin America and North Africa in this year's Conference, which helps to expand the

number of Member States engaged in improving nuclear security worldwide. We strongly believe that international cooperation and support is key to addressing a threat that has global reach.

These new contributions continue the tradition established by our support to the Agency's Nuclear Security Fund, to which we have voluntarily contributed more than \$31.2 million since 2004, making us the third-largest contributor. Canada also provides significant in-kind support to the IAEA through experts from government, industry and academia.

In closing, I would like to express my thanks to the Republic of Korea and Nigeria for their tremendous efforts in co-Chairing the drafting of the Ministerial Declaration. Though the Declaration has many solid commitments, Canada believes we – the Member States – could have plotted a more ambitious course for the Agency in the next three years. We must work together to ensure the Agency's work on nuclear security remains broad in its scope and relevant to the evolving threat of nuclear terrorism.

Thank you.

