



STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

AT

**THE MINISTERIAL SEGMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR SECURITY**

DELIVERED BY

AMB. MICHAEL OYUGI, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KENYA

ON

MONDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2016



Mr. President,

Mr. Yukiya Amano, Director General of the IAEA,

Honourable Ministers and other Heads of Delegations,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Kenya, to address you at this Second International Conference on Nuclear Security.

I assure you of the full support of my delegation and I am confident that this Conference shall produce a successful outcome under your distinguished leadership.

Kenya attaches great importance to the mandate and functions of the IAEA. In this regard, my delegation commends the Director General in convening this Second International Conference on Nuclear Security.

Mr. President,

We reiterate our unequivocal condemnation and grave concern on the increase of terrorist acts and the resultant indiscriminate loss of lives and livelihoods around the world. Terrorist acts cause untold suffering to many. Kenya therefore applauds measures taken by the international community in combating the threat posed by terrorist groups and their links with transnational organized criminal groups.

Kenya considers the threat of nuclear material falling into the hands of terrorists and organized criminal groups as real and immediate, requiring increased vigilance and collective action. We thus regard international cooperation in this respect as vital. States need to share information and collectively address measures to protect and secure nuclear material and nuclear facilities whether in international transport or in domestic use, storage and transport. This Conference is thus timely. We hope that the discussions that will take place this week will increase our resolve and commitment to ensure the security of all nuclear and radioactive material and nuclear facilities from falling into the wrong hands.

Mr. President,

Kenya is a state party to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its Amendment. Kenya is also a state party to other counter-terrorism instruments such as the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism.

Kenya welcomes the entry into force of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection on Nuclear Material. This is an important milestone in international efforts to improve the physical protection of nuclear and radioactive material and nuclear facilities used for peaceful purposes and to enhance international cooperation in this regard.

Mr. President,

The need to universalize and implement the Amended Convention is more urgent today than ever because radioactive material is on the move across national borders and is at times not properly secured. The Amended Convention is the international legal framework we have that strengthens nuclear security and provides a framework for international cooperation. It is, therefore, important to bring on board all states in the international nuclear security regime.

Nuclear security should be pursued in a comprehensive manner within the context of the international community's broader efforts to promote nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation, and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The efforts should be in compliance with relevant international nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation obligations given the catastrophic

humanitarian consequences and risks associated with nuclear weapon detonation.

Mr. President,

The responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests with that State. This is an important principle that should govern all activities, either collectively through the IAEA or any other individual or regional initiatives.

Kenya supports the inalienable right of all Member States to pursue the peaceful uses of atomic energy in accordance with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). Kenya reaffirms that, in accordance with the NPT, there should be no interference in the choice of nuclear technologies by Member States for the peaceful use of atomic energy. Furthermore, nuclear security considerations shall not hamper the inalienable right of Member States to pursue the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Kenya recognizes the central role of the IAEA in nuclear security matters, as the only widely recognized intergovernmental organization concerned with all nuclear material and facilities. The role of the IAEA in nuclear security matters should be governed by relevant resolutions and decisions of the IAEA's policy making organs.

Mr. President,

My delegation commends the Agency for its continued measures to strengthen nuclear security in all regions of the world. My delegation particularly appreciates the Agency's efforts in providing training, technical advice, peer reviews and other advisory services to Member States, based on requests from Member States, in their efforts to strengthen nuclear security.

Kenya, in collaboration with the Agency, has hosted national and regional training courses on nuclear security. We are continuously improving our detection capability for illicitly trafficked radioactive and nuclear material by

training our border and other security personnel and the provision of radiation detection equipment with the support of our development partners.

We encourage the Agency to continue providing training to competent authorities and points of contacts of States Parties to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the Amendment so as to enable them establish, implement and maintain their physical protection regime.

Furthermore, my delegation encourages the Agency to continue assisting Member States in drafting national implementing legislation incorporating the provisions of the international nuclear security instruments including the development and implementation of nuclear security regulations and guidance documents.

We urge the State Parties to the international nuclear security instruments, in collaboration with the Agency, to promote the nuclear security instruments in all the regions of the world through bilateral, regional and international awareness creation and educational fora highlighting the benefits of the instruments.

Mr. President,

Let me highlight some of the domestic measures the Government of Kenya has taken on nuclear security. With the assistance of the IAEA and stakeholders, we have established the National Nuclear Security Coordination Centre (NSCC). The Centre brings together eighteen (18) key Government agencies to assess nuclear security threats in the country, coordinate nuclear security activities and sustain the nuclear security regime.

We are working towards strengthening of our human resource capacity to deal with nuclear security and look forward to continued cooperation with the IAEA and other development partners to roll out threat awareness programs on radioactive source holders and users. Our other priorities include enhancing search, recover and secure programs and inspection and inventory verification of disused and orphan sources and radioactive waste. We are also seeking to establish a system of control in the scrap metal and recycling industries.

One of the key achievements of the National Nuclear Security Coordination Centre is the finalization of the Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP) for Kenya, with the support of the IAEA. The INSSP provides in one place a summary of information regarding activities undertaken or planned to be undertaken by Kenya with the specific objective of enhancing nuclear security. A number of training activities identified in the INSSP have been conducted such as national workshops on Threat Assessment/Design Base Threat for radioactive facilities; and assessment and updating of the National Nuclear Security Detection Architecture (NSDA). Plans are underway to review the INSSP in 2017.

Mr. President,

Kenya voluntarily shares incidences involving radioactive material on the Agency's Incident and Trafficking Database (ITDB). We encourage Member States to voluntarily share information on incidences through the mechanisms available at the Agency with the objective of addressing nuclear security threats as they arise and also to discern the emerging trends.

Kenya has developed a National Nuclear and Radiological Emergency Preparedness and Response Action Plan. The Plan was developed following the Emergency Preparedness and Review Mission (EPREV) to Kenya by the IAEA in March 2015 which Mission conducted a comprehensive appraisal on Kenya's preparedness for responding to radiation emergencies. The Plan has assigned specific roles and duties to relevant stakeholders. We are also training our competent authorities to enhance their knowledge, skills and expertise to respond to nuclear and radiological emergencies.

Mr. President,

As I conclude, let me once again reassure you of my delegations full support for a successful Conference.

I thank you.