

STATEMENT
of the Head of the Delegation of Ukraine
at the International Conference on Nuclear Security:
Commitments and Actions (5-9 December 2016, Vienna)

Mr. President,

Ukraine acknowledges the central role of the Agency in strengthening the nuclear security framework globally and in coordinating international activities in the field of nuclear security.

We proceed from asserting that the main responsibility for nuclear security rests with each individual state. All states have the responsibility to establish appropriate systems and to take necessary measures to prevent, detect and respond to unauthorized access to nuclear and other radioactive material.

We commend the Secretariat for its work in implementing the Nuclear Security Plan for 2014-2017, which enables member states to determine priorities of the long-term activities in the area of nuclear security, improve relevant national systems and use optimal ways for mobilizing international support and expertise.

We recognize the need to further promote adherence to, and implementation of, the international legal instruments relevant to nuclear security. Ukraine welcomes the entry into force of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) after ratification by two-thirds of the States Parties of the Convention (on 8 May 2016).

Ukraine acceded to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material in 2005 and successfully harmonized national legislation with provisions of this international instrument. This is an important step to strengthening the nuclear security regime of our country.

Ukraine, that currently has 15 operational power units at 4 sites of Ukrainian NPPs, which constitute one of the largest nuclear-energy programmes in Europe, attaches great importance to the world wide implementation and continuous improvement of the highest standards of nuclear security.

Over the past two years Ukraine significantly approved and strengthened the national regime of physical protection of its facilities and material by developing and introducing at all Ukrainian NPPs comprehensive plan of actions in case of sabotage and crisis situation, as well as developing projects for modernization of physical protection systems of nuclear and waste management facilities, which, inter alia, has been incorporated in the Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan of Ukraine for 2016-2018.

Ukraine is taking necessary measures to ensure an appropriate level of physical protection of nuclear facilities and material, fully performs its international obligation in the area of nuclear security, and remains a reliable partner in the nuclear sphere with one of the largest nuclear power programmes in Europe.

Meanwhile, strengthened regime of physical protection of nuclear facilities and material in Ukraine, primarily related to the ongoing aggression of Russian Federation.

Russian-terrorist forces deprived our country of the opportunity to provide the proper control over the radioactive sources in the certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions. It is entirely possible that these sources can be used by terrorists for the malicious purposes or as the object for the illicit trafficking through the uncontrolled parts of Ukrainian border.

The Russian Federation violated the principles of the International law and criminally occupied the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, captured nuclear installations and materials on the Peninsula which are the property of Ukraine and are covered by IAEA Safeguards according to the valid Safeguards Agreement and Additional protocol to it between IAEA and Ukraine. Thereby, aggressor-country made impossible to provide the required regulatory control over these materials and installations, including the **research reactor and** other nuclear installations of the Sevastopol National University of Nuclear Energy and Industry.

The only way to secure against the illicit trafficking, destruction and malicious use of radioactive and nuclear material by Russian-terrorist forces and also the installations, which use such material on the temporarily occupied territories, is to return the control of Ukraine over all the territory within its internationally recognized **borders**.

Despite of such extremely difficult conditions, we continue insistently improving our possibilities in the sphere of nuclear security.

In this context I would like to underline the importance of the IAEA's Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plans for assisting states to establish comprehensive programmes of nuclear security improvements.

The Integrated National Nuclear Security Plan of Ukraine for 2016-2018 was approved on February 2016 and came in force.

Ukraine attaches a big importance to the participation in the Incident and Traffic Database (IAEA) and will support such activity of the Agency in future. Also, we would like other countries to participate more actively in the information exchange.

Ukraine recognizes the importance of Nuclear Security Summit process in strengthening the global regime of nuclear security. We underline the important role of the IAEA in strengthening the international nuclear security architecture and to continue the implementation of the outcomes of summits on nuclear security.

Let me mention an example of successful implementation in 2015 a number of important projects for Ukraine within the framework of the trilateral Initiative (Swedish-Norwegian-Ukrainian), established upon the results of Hague Nuclear Security Summit in 2014. **These projects are aimed, inter alia, at providing technical support to the regulatory body in developing the safety requirements for new type of nuclear fuel and damaged nuclear fuel, improving regulatory capabilities for periodic safety assessment, safety enhancement at Rivne Nuclear Power Plant, security upgrades at the Khmelnytsky Nuclear Power Plant and modernizing**

software for sustainable functioning of the State Register on ionizing radiation sources.

Ukraine supports the Agency's efforts to strengthen coordination among international organizations, processes and initiatives, such as the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, the 1540 Committee, Interpol, the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction and the Nuclear Security Summit process.

Thank you for your attention.