

**National Statement of the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**Addressed to the International Conference on Nuclear Security:  
Sustaining and Strengthening Efforts ICONS 2020**

**Vienna 10-14 February 2020**

**BY**

**H.E. Dr. Sheikha Rana Al Khalifa**

**Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the National  
Committee on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Development, Production, Use and  
Stockpiling and their Destruction**



**Mr President,  
Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished Members and Heads of Delegations**

At the outset, I would like to seize this opportunity to express, on behalf of the Kingdom of Bahrain, my deep appreciation to the *International Atomic Energy Agency* for organizing this International Conference on “Nuclear Security”, where we discuss and exchange views on experiences, achievements and priorities in this field.



This is a matter that constitutes a global challenge. Our gathering here today confirms our shared responsibility in addressing this challenge.

My delegation would also like to extend its wholehearted congratulations to His Excellency, Mr. Rafael Grossi for his designation as the Director General of the IAEA, wishing his Excellency every success in conducting the Agency's affairs.



**Mr President,**

My country's delegation reaffirms its belief in the important role that the *(IAEA)* plays in supporting and assisting the Member States to optimally benefit from the Advanced Science of the Nuclear Energy for peaceful uses, which constitute an essential pillar of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, in addition to providing technical training and capacity building programmes.



Therefore, the Kingdom of Bahrain has taken several steps aiming at strengthening its cooperation frameworks with *the (IAEA)* by building a strategic partnership in all vital areas related to the peaceful use of nuclear energy and technical cooperation.

In this spirit, I am delighted to announce that Bahrain hosted in February of this year a National Workshop on Nuclear Security Detection Architecture for Radioactive and Nuclear Material.



We will also host in June the “Regional Technical Meeting on Enhanced Alarm Assessment and Equipment Maintenance for Nuclear Security Detection System” in collaboration with the IAEA. The overall objective is sharing national expertise and best practices, while echoing the lessons learned in the field of nuclear security.



**Mr President,**

The Kingdom of Bahrain reaffirms that the production, development and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes are an inalienable right for all States under International Law. However, this right must be exercised within the framework of *the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)*.



Furthermore, Bahrain reaffirms that the responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests entirely with that State. Therefore, Bahrain reiterates its commitment to sustain and strengthen effective and comprehensive nuclear security measures of all nuclear and other radioactive materials through the full implementation of its international obligation under the *Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM)* and the *International Convention on the suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism*.





**Mr President,**

In conclusion, my delegation considers the adoption of the ministerial declaration as a strategic road map for a better bilateral, regional and international cooperation and information exchange in order to strengthen the nuclear security and to strengthen risk reduction measures. It is, indeed, an opportunity to act collectively in sustaining efforts and sharing expertise and best practises in this significant field with the valuable support of the IAEA.

**Thank you, Mr President**