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Communication dated 24 October 2016 received from the Permanent Mission of Canada concerning the Statement of Principles of the Nuclear Security Contact Group

1. The Secretariat has received a communication dated 24 October 2016 from the Permanent Mission of Canada on behalf of the Governments of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and Vietnam, requesting the Secretariat to bring the communication and its attachment to the attention of all IAEA Member States.
2. As requested, the communication and its attachment are hereby circulated for the information of all IAEA Member States.



Statement of Principles of the Nuclear Security Contact Group

The Permanent Mission of Canada to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and on behalf of the Governments of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and Vietnam, has the honour to request that the IAEA Secretariat bring the following note verbale and the attached Statement of Principles to the attention of all IAEA Member States.

As the first Convener of the Nuclear Security Contact Group (the "Contact Group"), Canada is pleased to bring to the attention of the IAEA that the Contact Group welcomes the participation of all countries that subscribe to the goals set out in the Statement of Principles and wish to contribute to the advancement of its work. States wishing to join the Contact Group should approach the Convener to indicate their interest in membership.

The Permanent Mission of Canada avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the IAEA assurances of its highest consideration.

Attachment: Statement of Principles of the Nuclear Security Contact Group

Vienna, 24 October 2016

To the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency

Canada

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Nuclear Security Contact Group

The Nuclear Security Summit process has led to significant achievements in nuclear security at national, regional, and global levels; but the work of building a strengthened, sustained, and comprehensive global nuclear security architecture – consisting of legal instruments, international organizations and initiatives, internationally accepted guidance, and best practices – requires continuous attention.

We need sustained action and ambition on nuclear security after the 2016 Nuclear Security Summit to address continuing and evolving nuclear security challenges, with the objectives of advancing implementation of nuclear security commitments and building a strengthened, sustainable and comprehensive global nuclear security architecture.

The Governments of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States, Vietnam, and the following international organizations: INTERPOL and United Nations, aiming to facilitate cooperation and sustain activity on nuclear security, and commit to designate an appropriately authorized and informed senior official or officials to participate in the Contact Group.

The members of the Contact Group will:

- Convene annually on the margins of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and, as may be useful, in connection with other related meetings;
- Discuss a broad range of nuclear security-related issues, including identifying emerging trends that may require more focused attention;
- Promote and assess implementation of nuclear security commitments, including those made during the Nuclear Security Summit process, reflected in the four Nuclear Security Summit Communiqués, the 2010 Washington Work Plan, the 2016 Action Plans, national commitments and associated joint statements, and gift baskets;
- Develop and maintain linkages to nongovernmental experts and nuclear industry; and,
- Determine any additional steps that may be appropriate to support these goals.

The Contact Group members may also consider and make recommendations to their respective leaders on convening any future Nuclear Security Summits.

We welcome the participation of all countries that subscribe to the goals set out in this Statement of Principles and wish to contribute to the work of the Contact Group.