

STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE ANGOLAN DELEGATION

AT

THE MINISTERIAL SEGMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR SECURITY: SUSTAINING AND STRENGTHENING EFFORTS

DELIVERED BY

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VIENNA, 11 FEBRUARY 2020

Distinguished Co-Presidents,

On behalf of the Government of Angola, allow me to congratulate you on your appointment as Co-Presidents of the Third (3rd) International Conference on Nuclear Security. I would also like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the Director General **Mariano Grossi** and the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for their dedicated efforts in organizing this important event.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Nuclear security remains an issue that deserves the attention of the international community.

Although nuclear security is under the responsibility of States, existing and emerging threats from non-state actors, especially terrorists, require concerted efforts and responses at the international level, whose approach is relevant given the need to seek synergies between countries, international organizations and multilateral initiatives, aiming at creating a safe national, regional and global environment that facilitates and strengthens the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

It is in this sense that Angola recognizes the central role of the IAEA in assisting Member States and in facilitating and coordinating international cooperation.

Angola is a signatory to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the Pelindaba Treaty, the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement in connection with the NPT and the Additional Protocol to the Safeguards Agreement, and established the Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority (AREA) in November 2007.

Since the creation of AREA and the entry into force of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) in May 2016,

Angola has started an intense effort to adapt its legislation on nuclear security to international standards.

Thus, in July 2014, Angola adapted the Organic Statute of its Regulatory Authority and has participated in several projects in the areas of radiation protection and nuclear security, as well as the peaceful use of ionizing radiation, contributing to the improvement of regulatory aspects in the country.

In February 2019, Angola hosted the "National Workshop on the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and its 2005 Amendment", organized by the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and sponsored by the Government of Canada, with participation of experts from the IAEA, the Group of Experts of the 1540 Committee, Cameroon and the Ivory Coast. The event served to promote the abovementioned Conventions in Angola and was followed by high-level bilateral meetings between Angolan entities and UNODC experts.

As a result of these efforts, last year, the Angolan Government and Parliament ratified a set of international legal instruments listed below, which will soon be deposited with the IAEA, namely:

- Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its 2005 Amendment;
- Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency;
- Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage;
- Code of Conduct on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources.

Furthermore, in the chapter of the capacity building and the institutional structure, Angola is currently identifying with the IAEA the best period this year to receive the Second (2nd) IAEA Experts Mission within the scope of the Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP).

Distinguished Co-Presidents,

Finally, I would like to reaffirm that Angola recognizes the importance of Nuclear Security and the significance of holding this Conference, and is convinced that its results would contribute to further strengthening the Global Nuclear Security structure and in each IAEA Member State.

Thank you for your attention.