

MINUTA DE INTERVENÇÃO DO BRASIL NA III CONFERÊNCIA
INTERNACIONAL DE SEGURANÇA FÍSICA NUCLEAR (VIENA, 10/2/2020)

MR. CHAIMAN,

It is an honor to speak at this ICONS 2020 and, once again, convey the message that Brazil is fully committed to the highest levels on nuclear safety and security as much as it is to nuclear technology development for peaceful uses. It could hardly be otherwise in a country with a well-developed nuclear sector, designed to provide its population with the many benefits of nuclear technology.

In recent years, Brazil has expanded its nuclear capabilities as a natural consequence of its economic growth and prosperity. Electricity consumption is on the rise, and nuclear power is poised to play a larger role in our energy mesh. Our third nuclear power plant is underway, expected to be concluded shortly.

Brazil is investing in non-energy radiological equipment and supply, in order to offer better healthcare services for its more than two hundred million inhabitants. The Brazilian Multipurpose Nuclear Reactor will not only improve our research capabilities in nuclear techniques but, above all, will provide radioisotopes and radiopharmaceuticals for our domestic consumption at a considerably lower price. This reactor will also benefit Brazilian agricultural sector, with advanced technics already in demand.

All this will be done in line with global practices and lessons learned on nuclear security field. It is Brazil's permanent goal to maintain its nuclear security capabilities strong, robust and sustainable. Brazil is fully committed to ensure the detection, prevention and response to any hostile acts against nuclear facilities or during the transportation of nuclear material. Likewise, Brazil is taking measures to prevent trafficking of radioactive material.

At this point in my speech, I would like to emphasize Brazil's strong track record of nuclear security cooperation with the IAEA. This was the case during major public events hosted by Brazil in recent years, from the Pan American Games in 2007, to the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2016 – and it will continue to be the case in the future.

We are fully aware that it is critical to strengthen our capacity on building and training our work force as our nuclear sector expands. For that matter, we will continue to rely on IAEA's support.

In addition, we are engaged in fostering nuclear security culture in our country. And for that, we value all contributions received from all nuclear countries, on sharing technical skills and best practices to respond against nuclear security threats. We are now particularly interested in further develop Brazilian nuclear forensics for detection and tracing of radioactive materials.

Mr. Chairman,

The Brazilian Nuclear Program Protection System – SIPRON in its Portuguese acronym – ensures integrated planning and coordination among government agencies for continued execution of federal provisions at all levels and across the country. Full-scale emergency exercises are being held on regular basis, ensuring adequate testing of the emergency preparedness and response system. Provisions to improve the security of in-transit nuclear material are also being implemented and tested.

Brazil has made significant progress in enforcing border and export controls along its more than seventeen thousand kilometers of land borders with ten different countries, and along more than eight thousand kilometers of coastal line, in order to prevent trafficking of nuclear materials. Our Integrated Border Protection Program enhances prevention of a wide range of well-known cross-border crimes, through coordinated actions with law enforcement agencies, and authorities from neighboring countries. The Program includes conveyance of nuclear material entering the national jurisdiction waters, under the coordination of our maritime law enforcement agency.

Cybersecurity of the nuclear systems is also a priority for our Government. Growing reliance on advanced technology requires better preparedness and response measures in the face of emerging cyber threats. A legal cybersecurity framework that encourages innovative solutions is key for better protection against data leakage. Under the new National Cybersecurity Strategy, Brazilian Government provides long-needed guidelines for governance, prevention and mitigation of cyber threats, including normative aspects and strategic partnerships. Here, as well, we value our international cooperation with the IAEA.

A high-level interagency advisory body – The Committee for Nuclear Program Development – is working on consolidating principles and guidelines for our nuclear sector. Among its most far-reaching decisions, is the setting up of an independent regulatory authority, which will be charged of implementing the regulations and recommendations to improve the country's culture related to safety, security and safeguards of nuclear technology and materials. Brazilian government is also moving ahead with plans for a National Repository of Low and Medium Radiation Radioactive Waste.

Mr. Chairman,

Public awareness about the benefits of nuclear technologies is a reality all over the world, and the same apply for the risks associate to them. Is therefore

critical to maintain an open dialogue with relevant stakeholders in order to strengthen a combined effort to avoid and prevent these risks. Brazil is fully committed to this.

To conclude my words, let me welcome the opportunity afforded by the ICONS 2020 to take stock of the challenges and our continuous progress in the nuclear security field. Together with this Agency, we reaffirm the collective political commitment that provides the framework and guidance for this crucial area of human activity, as reflected in the nuclear security resolutions adopted annually during the IAEA General Conferences.

THANK YOU!