



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and International Cooperation

**Statement delivered by H. E. Marina Sereni,
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy
on the occasion of the Third IAEA
International Conference on Nuclear Security:
Sustaining and Strengthening Efforts
Vienna, 10-14 February 2020**

Distinguished Co-presidents,
Ministers,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

Italy aligns itself with the statement delivered by Sweden on behalf of the European Union. I will add some comments in my national capacity.

Let me first of all express my pleasure in attending this Conference. This meeting gives us an important and timely opportunity to build on experiences and achievements and devise future directions, approaches and priorities in the field of nuclear security. The outcome of this working week will also provide an important input in the preparation of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)'s Nuclear Security plan for 2022-2025.

Nuclear security is, primarily, a responsibility of each single State. However, ensuring the highest levels of nuclear security is a

Group, in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism and in other relevant international and European initiatives.

We are committed to making further advances in the fields of nuclear forensics, information security, nuclear security detection architecture and response, transport security and insider threat mitigation. We also believe it is a shared priority to enforce and enhance effective security measures concerning radioactive sources throughout their life cycle, in line with the provisions of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources.

Italy is implementing a comprehensive decommissioning programme of its nuclear installations and - in this context - the largest part of highly enriched uranium and plutonium has been removed, with a view to their minimization. We renew our commitment to further reducing the remaining materials and to making headway in the global goals of highly enriched uranium and plutonium minimization, nuclear security and strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime. To this end, we will continue to seek the cooperation of academics and international experts in exploring technological solutions to reduce reliance on highly enriched uranium worldwide.

In addition, Italy recognizes the need for an integrated and coherent approach concerning nuclear security and nuclear safety; we therefore encourage the IAEA to take further advantage of the

We celebrated today the tenth anniversary of the Trieste International School on Nuclear Security with a dedicated side event co-organized by Italy and the IAEA in the margins of the Conference. I would like to thank all those who were able to join us.

Distinguished Co-presidents,

Consistent with our national approach, we welcome the Ministerial Declaration that we adopted this morning. It will provide a useful guidance for our common work to strengthen nuclear security worldwide in the next few years.

Italy supports the IAEA in continuing to convene regular ministerial meetings on nuclear security, with the aim of promoting political commitment, enhancing awareness and keeping momentum in pushing forward the international nuclear security agenda. We remain ready to offer our full cooperation towards the attainment of these goals.