

STATEMENT
by the Head of the Delegation of Ukraine
at the IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security:
Commitments and Actions
(10-14 February 2020, Vienna)

Mr./Madam President,

Ukraine fully shares the basic principle that the **responsibility for nuclear security rests with each individual State**. In the meantime, we also reaffirm that bilateral, regional and international cooperation can strengthen nuclear security regime.

In this respect, Ukraine acknowledges **the central role of the IAEA** in facilitating international cooperation in supporting the efforts of States to fulfil their responsibilities to ensure the security of civilian nuclear and other radioactive material.

We believe that the Agency's coordination of international efforts in the field of nuclear security is needed to achieve **three basic objectives**:

First. To avoid duplication and overlap.

Second. To promote and facilitate technical exchanges of experience, knowledge and good practices,

and **Third.** To inform Member States, within its mandate, of nuclear and radiation technology options which are technically feasible, economically viable and sustainable.

Being a party to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its the Amendment, Ukraine continues to promote its universalization as well as other international nuclear security instruments. We also look forward to the 2021 Conference of the Parties to the Amendment to the CPPNM to review the implementation of the amended Convention and its adequacy, as foreseen in Article 16.1.

Ukraine recognizes physical protection as a key element in nuclear security, and underlines the importance of information and best practices sharing in relevant areas such as threat assessment and design basis threat, nuclear forensics, regulatory framework, education, response to nuclear security events, including support for major public events, nuclear security detection architecture and

response, information security, transport security, decommissioning and final disposal, and **insider threat mitigation**.

On this particular point, I would like to inform Member States that due to its sustainable policy in the field of nuclear security, in December 2019 Ukraine subscribed to the **Joint Statement on Mitigating Insider Threats** (INFCIRC/908).

Ukraine recognizes the importance of professional development for high level of nuclear security-globally and underlines the positive impact of IAEA International Nuclear Security Educational Network. In this regard, we want to announce the opening of master degree program on Nuclear Security in Ukraine.

Ukraine also supports the IAEA's practical efforts to further develop and strengthen capabilities of **the Illicit Trafficking Database** (ITDB). Since its establishment, the ITDB became a unique respond to an increasing international demand for timely and complete information on illicit trafficking and other related unauthorized activities involving nuclear and other radioactive materials.

Ukraine **continues to enhance own technical capabilities, gain experience and keep abreast of scientific and technological innovations** with a view to confronting current and evolving challenges and risks to nuclear security.

The necessity to strengthen and adapt the regime of physical protection of nuclear facilities and material in Ukraine in recent years is primarily related to the threats emanating from **ongoing aggression of Russia**.

The Russian Federation violated the principles of the International law and illegally occupied the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, captured nuclear installations and materials on the Peninsula which are the property of Ukraine that are covered by the IAEA Safeguards according to the valid Safeguards Agreement and Additional protocol to it between IAEA and Ukraine. Thereby, aggressor country made impossible to provide the required regulatory control over these materials and installations, including the research reactor and other nuclear installations of the Sevastopol National University of Nuclear Energy and Industry.

Since the launch of Russia's aggression, Ukraine has significantly improved and strengthened the national regime of physical protection of its facilities and material by developing and introducing at all Ukrainian NPPs with 15 nuclear units in operation at 4 sites and 2 units in construction comprehensive plans of actions in case of sabotage and crisis situation.

We have high expectations on the outcome of this conference as well. We believe that the nuclear security concerns discussed during the technical programme of the Conference should be taken into account while preparing the IAEA's 2022 – 2025 Nuclear Security Plan as well as national security plans.

In this context, I would like to underline the importance of the IAEA's Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plans for assisting States ~~to~~ in establishing comprehensive programmes of nuclear security improvements.

We highly appreciate active and efficient involvement of our partners, intending to support Ukraine in the field of operational safety enhancements, risk reduction measures, nuclear security and nuclear safety regulation for civil nuclear facilities.

Last but not least, Ukraine supports the Agency's efforts to strengthen coordination among international organizations, processes and initiatives, such as the 1540 Committee, Interpol, the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction and the Nuclear Security Summit process.

Thank you for your attention.