



60 Years

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International Conference on Nuclear Security: Commitments and Actions, 5–9 December 2016

Status Report on Preparations

Report by the Director General

Summary

Operative paragraph 40 of General Conference resolution GC(59)/RES/10 requested the Secretariat to report on the preparation, in close consultation with Member States, of the next International Conference on Nuclear Security to be held in December 2016 in accordance with paragraph 24 of the Ministerial Declaration of the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts adopted in July 2013. This document outlines the status of preparations as of 30 June 2016.

International Conference on Nuclear Security: Commitments and Actions, 5–9 December 2016

Status Report on Preparations

Report by the Director General

A. Introduction

1. The International Conference on Nuclear Security: Commitments and Actions will be convened by the Agency at its Headquarters in Vienna from 5 to 9 December 2016. This will be the second conference of this type convened by the Agency, following the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts that was held in July 2013.

2. The Ministerial Declaration made at the 2013 conference called on the Agency to consider organizing international conferences on nuclear security every three years. Similarly, the resolution on nuclear security (GC(59)/RES/10) adopted at the 59th regular session of the Agency's General Conference in September 2015 called upon the Secretariat to continue organizing such conferences every three years and encouraged all States to participate at a high level. In this regard, the Agency encourages ministerial level participation in the 2016 conference, as well as the involvement of policymakers and legal, regulatory and technical experts.

3. The 2016 conference will have two main parts:

3.1. A ministerial segment, which will provide an opportunity for ministers to deliver messages on achievements, commitments and actions, and adopt a ministerial declaration; and

3.2. A scientific and technical programme comprising high level policy discussions on six broad themes central to nuclear security and parallel technical sessions on specific scientific, technical, legal and regulatory issues concerning nuclear security.

B. Status of Preparations

4. The ministerial segment is being organized through a series of open-ended consultations with the Member States. These consultations are being co-chaired by HE Mr Song Young-wan, Resident Representative of the Republic of Korea, and HE Mr Abel Adalakun Ayoko, Resident Representative of Nigeria. As of 30 June 2016, four open-ended consultations had taken place resulting in a draft Ministerial Declaration (Revision 0) as well as an agreed format for the ministerial segment. Consistent with the 2013 conference, the ministerial segment will comprise national statements and the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration.

5. In addition, there will be an optional lunchtime event for ministers that will include an 'interactive' discussion devoted to selected issues related to the entry into force of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.
6. The conference announcement was published on the Agency's website in December 2015. Following the call for abstracts the Secretariat received 576 abstracts from 74 Member States and 16 organizations.
7. The scientific and technical programme of the conference is being developed by a Programme Committee, comprising representatives of 20 Member States and 16 cooperating organizations. The Programme Committee is chaired by HE Mr Laércio Antonio Vinhas, Resident Representative of Brazil. As of 30 June 2016 the Programme Committee has met on three occasions (April 2015, October 2015, June 2016) and has drafted the scientific and technical programme to include six high level sessions and 30 parallel technical sessions.
8. The Programme Committee has directed the Secretariat to ensure that there is broad representation of all Member States in all areas of the scientific and technical programme as well as appropriate geographic and gender balance in the allocation of roles.
9. The Secretariat has also organized a programme of side events; an exhibition that includes Member States, non-governmental organizations and industry; and an inaugural essay competition for nuclear security early career professionals and students under the age of 35.

C. Next Steps

10. The open-ended consultations for development of the Ministerial Declaration will continue and meetings are planned to be convened in August, October and November 2016.
11. The scientific and technical programme for the conference will be finalized through further consultations with the Programme Committee, including by silence procedures, and a final Programme Committee meeting will be held on 7 October 2016.