Remarks by Chinese Delegation
at the 10th Plenary Meeting of GICNT
(Tokyo, June 1st, 2017)

Mr. Chairman and dear colleagues,

I am delighted to attend the 10th Plenary Meeting of GICNT on behalf of the Chinese government. The Chinese delegation appreciates the work done by the U.S. and Russia as co-chairs, the Netherlands as IAG coordinator and Finland, Australia and Morocco as chairs of the three working groups. Our gratitude also goes to Japan for hosting this important meeting.

Mr. Chairman,

The current international situation is undergoing profound and complex evolutions. Terrorist activities hit a new high. Nuclear terrorism is increasingly becoming a real threat to the international community. At the threshold of a new decade since its inception, the Initiative should continue to uphold the principles of pragmatism, voluntariness, flexibility and openness, and provide useful supplement to the work of the UN and IAEA, so as to forge a global united front to combat nuclear terrorism and create a nuclear security community of shared destiny.

We support the Work Plans 2017-2019 to maintain the fundamental themes identified in the recent years, and focus on developing practical tools by promoting the use of the guidance documents and exercise playbooks, engaging partner nations in sharing best practices, expertise and experiences at the national, regional and international level. We support the GICNT to facilitate cross-disciplinary dialogues to achieve tangible results in the following three areas:

Firstly, improve legal frameworks. GICNT activities should consciously promote IAEA guidelines to assist partner nations for better integration of domestic laws and international conventions, with a view to bringing more accessions to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and its Amendments, and the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism.

Secondly, promote capacity building. We support the GICNT to make sustainability as a thematic focus for future work. Through workshops, training courses and tabletop exercises, the GICNT should continuously strive to help partner nations enhance their capacity to
prevent, detect and respond to threats of nuclear terrorism, and to foster a robust nuclear security culture.

Thirdly, strengthen emergency preparedness and response. The GINCT should continue to serve as a platform for government officials and policy, operational and technical experts to work together to strengthen inter-agency and international coordination, identify weak links or loopholes in the chain of emergency response.

Mr. Chairman,

China has always opposed to all forms of terrorism, including nuclear terrorism. We have already incorporated nuclear security into our national security system, and are speeding up the legislative work on Atomic Energy Law and Nuclear Safety Law. We established a national nuclear emergency response mechanism with stand-by national nuclear emergency rescue teams. We published a white paper on nuclear emergency and preparedness in January 2016.

At the forth Nuclear Security Summit in Washington last year, Chinese President Xi Jingping raised five proposals, including building a network for capacity building on nuclear security, implementing the action plan on strengthening security of radioactive sources, and launching the technological support initiative against crisis of nuclear terrorism. In implementation of these proposals, we will make full use of China's National Center of Excellence on Nuclear Security and the China Customs Radiation Detection Training Center, while referring to the GICNT as a resource of expertise and support, with a view to providing public goods for nuclear security governance in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

China will continue to support GICNT and promote its objectives. We will continue to take an active part in the IAG and its three working groups. China is positively considering to host a Regional Seminar on Nuclear Emergency Response and a Regional Workshop on the Safety of Radioactive Source in the coming 2 years. We will keep in touch with the GICNT co-chairs and the chair of the Response and Mitigation Working Group, as well as all interested parties in the course of preparations.

Thank you.