



European Union

STATEMENT

ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

AT THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE

GLOBAL INITIATIVE TO COMBAT NUCLEAR TERRORISM

Tokyo, 1-2 June 2017

Mr Chairman,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. The following countries align themselves with this statement: the Candidate Countries Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia^{*}, Montenegro^{*}, Serbia^{*} and Albania^{*}, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the EFTA countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine and Georgia.
2. We thank the Government of Japan for its hospitality and appreciate its dedication to the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT). The European Union and its Member States remain committed to this Initiative and its mission to strengthen global capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to nuclear terrorism.
3. The EU strongly condemns the latest ballistic missile launch by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) of 21 May 2017. The EU reiterates its grave concern over the DPRK's illegal activities, which threaten regional stability, and the DPRK's continued serious violations of its international obligations under multiple UN Security Council Resolutions. The EU welcomes the fact that the UN Security Council is actively engaged

^{*} *The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process*

on this threat to peace and security. Once again the EU urges the DPRK to stop all nuclear tests and halt all launches using ballistic missile technology. The DPRK must comply with all its international obligations fully, unconditionally and without delay and thus abandon its nuclear, other weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programmes in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner.

4. The DPRK's nuclear and missile programmes represent a critical and increasing threat to international peace and security and undermine the global non-proliferation regime. A strong and timely international reaction is required. The EU calls on all States to fully implement the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions with regard to the DPRK. The EU calls on the DPRK to engage in a credible and meaningful dialogue with the international community, to return at an early date to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Safeguards, to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), and to refrain from any further action that would only increase regional tensions.

Mr Chairman,

5. The European Union continues to support the objectives of the Global Initiative; our policies reinforce the GICNT set of core nuclear security principles. We endorsed the Action Plan in support of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism adopted by the 2016 Nuclear Security Summit.
6. While recognising that nuclear security remains the responsibility of States, the European Union and its Member States believe that strengthening nuclear security through international cooperation is essential for ensuring the protection of people and the environment and that nuclear security remains a crucial element underpinning technical cooperation projects in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy including Physical Protection of materials and facilities, Cyber and information security, and security of materials out of regulatory control, in line with the 2016 IAEA General Conference Resolution on Nuclear Security (GC(60)/RES/10), and the Ministerial Declaration for the 2016 International Conference on Nuclear Security.
7. The European Union strongly supports the central role of the IAEA in the global nuclear security architecture as widely recognized by international initiatives which have contributed to strengthening nuclear security. In this regard, the entry into force of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, to which all EU Member States, as well as the Euratom Community, are Parties, is a milestone. The EU also reaffirms the importance of the Code of Conduct on the safety and security of radioactive sources and its supplementary guidance.
8. The EU and its Member States are the second largest donors to the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund with EU contributions alone amounting to more than EUR 50 million for the period of 2009-2019. Furthermore, the EU has contributed more than EUR 24 million to the establishment and the secure management of a Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) Bank under the control of the IAEA. The over €4 million contribution will help to ensure that nuclear fuel is supplied in a secure and safe manner. It will also help the IAEA guarantee the security and safety of LEU transport from procurement to supply, and during storage at the Bank's site. Under the Instrument for Stability, the European Commission provided €20 million for the purpose of acquiring the LEU once the project is fully operational.

9. The European Union is gravely concerned about the risk of state or non-state actors acquiring weapons of mass destruction or their delivery systems. UN Security Council Resolution 1540, complemented by Resolution 2325, remains a key part of the international non-proliferation architecture in this regard. We have provided substantial political and financial support to the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540. We share the objectives of assisting States with identifying specific technical assistance, raise awareness of relevant programs of technical assistance, and enhance cooperation with international and regional organizations to help with national capacity building.
10. We also attach high importance to multilateral export control regimes, namely the Zangger Committee, the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the Australia Group, the Wassenaar Arrangement and Missile Technology Control Regime, and invite all States to adhere to their guidelines as well as to the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation.

Mr Chairman,

11. With specific regard to nuclear and radiological security, significant progress has been made in the last decade in the EU through the implementation of an EU-internal plan on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear security. In 2009 the EU adopted a CBRN Action Plan to strengthen CBRN security throughout the EU. Based on an “all-hazard” approach, the Action Plan’s overall goal was to reduce the threat and consequences of CBRN incidents of accidental, natural, and intentional origin, including terrorist acts. This all-hazards approach also has a global component: through the CBRN Centres of Excellence initiative the EU contributes to capacity-building in other countries with eight regional secretariats already covering over 55 States, with some 25 more looking to join.
12. The EU CBRN Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative, launched in 2010 under the Instrument for Stability, aims at implementing a comprehensive strategy for reducing national and international vulnerability to CBRN risks of criminal, accidental or natural origin. The initiative is developed with the technical support from EU Member States and partner countries. The initiative focuses on strengthening institutional capabilities of the partner countries to mitigate CBRN related risks on a regional basis. This is achieved also through the establishment of eight regional secretariats, the building up of CBRN national teams and the implementation of projects proposed by partner countries based on their own needs. CBRN Needs Assessments and National Action Plans have been carried out and respectively finalised in several countries. A wide range of activities including regional projects, as well as high level meetings, technical workshops and trainings are being implemented. Regions cover Eastern Europe and Caucasus, Africa: Atlantic Façade, North Africa and Sahel, Central and Eastern Africa, Middle East, Central Asia and South East Asia, again in close cooperation with the partner countries.
13. The EU P2P (Partner-to-Partner) Dual-Use Programme aims to enhance the effectiveness of export control systems of dual-use items so as to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and related materials, equipment and technologies. The EU's cooperation programme on export control began in 2004 with only four members from South East Europe. Today it has expanded to include 32 countries from 6 regions. The programme's objectives are to reduce the risk of proliferation by strengthening international cooperation in the field of dual-use export controls and strengthening national and regional capacity, taking into account the balance between security and economic considerations.

14. The EU has also developed through the European Commission's Joint Research Centre particular expertise in the field of nuclear detection and forensic analysis of nuclear and radiological materials. This expertise is now complemented by a comprehensive training programme for frontline responders and national experts on detection, forensics and response at EU's own nuclear facility. The European Commission and the EU Member States continued their nuclear forensics activities on the basic characterisation of intercepted nuclear material, using an advanced nuclear forensic investigation at the Joint Research Centre Institute for Trans-uranium Elements. Overall, nuclear materials detected and seized in more than 50 incidents have been examined, thus providing support to competent authorities in EU Member States and beyond.
15. The European Commission through the Joint Research Centre is continuing its support to the IAEA Illicit Trafficking Database. The Agency has acknowledged the improvements in reporting achieved due to the modernisation of the website of the Incident Notification Forms. The European Union support in this respect will continue.
16. We are committed to promoting the highest standards of nuclear safety in Europe and around the world. The European Union continues to implement the Euratom Safeguards system, which for almost sixty years has safeguarded all civil nuclear materials in the EU, ensuring that nuclear materials are not diverted from their declared uses. To this end, the European Commission maintains the database of all civil nuclear materials in the EU and works in close cooperation with the IAEA, performing joint inspections in nuclear installations of the European Union.

Mr. Chairman,

17. The EU and its Member States intend to advance other concrete contributions for the purposes of the Initiative. Some of these contributions are activities closely coordinated with the IAEA.
18. At the end of 2013, the European Union adopted a revised Directive on Basic Safety Standards to be transposed into the national legislation of EU Member States by 2018. The Directive consolidates 5 EU Directives, including the High-Activity Sealed Sources (HASS) Directive and aligned the definition of a high-activity sealed source with the IAEA's definition. We also consider that nuclear security can be advanced by strengthening further the security of high-activity sealed radioactive sources and encourage such an effort.
19. The European Union and its Member States organise and participate in events to help foster international awareness and commitment to nuclear security. Here are a few examples: the Sentinel 2017 Workshop: Best Practices for National Nuclear Security Exercise programs organized by Governments of the United Kingdom and Bulgaria, under the auspices of the GICNT, the Maggic Maggiore Technical Reach-back workshop organized at JRC in Ispra, Italy, the Vigilant Marmot Legal Frameworks workshop organized by Slovakia, and Exercise Olympus: Law Enforcement and Technical Reachback Dialogue, organized by the Government of Romania in cooperation with the GICNT and Interpol.
20. The outlined activities underpin the objectives of the Global Initiative. The EU and its Member States are actively involved in the work of the GICNT Implementation and Assessment Group (IAG), in all areas: nuclear detection, nuclear forensics and response

and mitigation. We have actively contributed to the substance of all reference documents of the IAG working groups.

21. The European Union and its Member States remain strongly committed and well prepared to contribute, in a tangible and constructive way, to the future activities of the GICNT. We will continue to work actively together with partner countries and observers of the GICNT in order to strengthen international co-operation to advance nuclear security worldwide, also by upholding the importance of the UN 2005 International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and its implementation by its signatories and states parties.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.