



**11<sup>th</sup> Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT)  
Plenary Meeting**  
6-7 June 2019, Buenos Aires, Argentina

**NATIONAL STATEMENT OF CANADA**

On behalf of Canada, I wish to thank the co-chairs for their efforts to sustain the GICNT on an action-oriented footing, and for Argentina's kind hosting of this meeting in Buenos Aires.

Canada is pleased to be an active and engaged supporter of the GICNT's critical work on mitigating the threat of nuclear terrorism.

In particular, Canada is proud to Chair the Nuclear Forensics Working Group (NFWG) over the past two years, and to have played a key role in advancing the Initiative's nuclear forensics objectives.

In particular, we are pleased to have led the development and delivery of exercises and production of tools that focus on demonstrating how nuclear forensics can effectively support law enforcement and national security organizations in their counter-nuclear terrorism mission.

Through our role as NFWG Chair, Canada has also helped enhance the interactions with other GICNT Working Groups, especially with the Nuclear Detection Working Group.

Hosting exercises that cut across thematic silos – such as our successful “Resolute Sentry” exercise in Montreal in January this year – has helped underline the GICNT's unique ability to ensure that technical experts, policy makers, and other stakeholders clearly understand their roles and responsibilities.

Resolute Sentry was co-organized by Canada and the United Kingdom, and focused on an expert-level examination of the intersection of best practices related to nuclear forensics and nuclear detection.

It also underscored the importance of acceding to international instruments for nuclear security – namely the *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism* – and how the incorporation of its

provisions into robust domestic legal frameworks can help us better collectively combat the threat of nuclear terrorism.

We hope that Resolute Sentry serves as a model for future cross-cutting exercises in the GICNT context.

Taking stock of developments in the GICNT, Canada also thanks Finland for their tireless effort as the IAG Coordinator over the past two years to ensure that the Initiative has remained action-oriented, and delivering on its work plans.

In closing, Canada affirms our commitment to the three Working Groups and their corresponding Work Plans, and welcomes the strategic and comprehensive vision they outline in order to elevate the GICNT's important work to advance nuclear detection, forensics, and response and mitigation efforts from now until 2021.

Canada proudly remains an active GICNT supporter, and looks forward to continuing to provide additional technical expertise and leadership towards GICNT activities.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Ms. Christine Martin for her tireless effort in ensuring the GICNT has remained action-oriented, and to Ambassador Jari Luoto for his excellent work as IAG chair.

Both have made invaluable contributions to the GICNT and have positioned the Initiative on a positive and sustainable course, and I wish to thank them on behalf of Canada.