

Tajikistan National Statement at the GICNT Plenary

5-7 June 2019, Buenos Aires, Argentina

On behalf of the Government of Tajikistan, I would like to thank Government of Argentina for very warm welcome, great hospitality in organizing this plenary. I would like really to emphasize the tremendous work which is carried out by our Co-Chairs Russian Federation and United States as well as Heads of our working groups and Partner Nations to make GICNT very sound and effective platform in ensuring nuclear security worldwide.

Personally, I would like to express my deep appreciation to Ms. Christine Martine for her dedication to GICNT and for very effective cooperation we have established.

The Government of Tajikistan is very supportive to all GICNT activities and very committed to nuclear security. Government of Tajikistan on a regular basis implements in practice the achievements of GICNT. Government of Tajikistan approved Tajikistan's National Action Plan on implementation of UNSCR1540 by its Decree №54 from 9 February 2016.

The Government of Tajikistan was also pleased to host GICNT Nuclear Detection Tabletop Exercise titled "Rood of the World" on October 17-19, 2017. The exercise highlighted work of GICNT and regional partners in promoting the development and strengthening of national nuclear detection architectures. Participants agreed on the importance of regional collaboration on nuclear security and the valuable role of the GICNT in helping Partner Nations strengthen national capabilities.

As a follow-up action to GICNT event, Government of Tajikistan on 20 March 2018 with support of US Government, especially Border Security and Export Control (EXBS) Program commissioned operation of Regional Training Center on WMD Non-Proliferation and Export Control for countries of Central Asia, Caucasus and Afghanistan where capacity building for more than 500 law-enforcement, customs, technical experts and regulatory authority staff from the region is organized annually. Tajikistan Regional Training Center is ready to host GICNT events of Detection Group in 2020.

Mr. Chairman,

Government of Tajikistan, one of the first in the region of Central Asia, approved Nuclear Smuggling Incident Protocol (NSIP) by its Decree №616 from 29 December 2018. While developing, we took as basis NSIP document available in GICNT platform and adjusted it to national legislation specifics.

Recently, Tajikistan hosted high level conference: "International and regional cooperation in struggling terrorism and its funding sources including illicit

trafficking of drugs and organized crime” held in Dushanbe from 16 to 17 May 2019 and was attended by 50 countries.

Tajikistan is a party to major international conventions on nuclear weapons and is committed to remain free of nuclear weapons. Therefore, in order to control illicit trafficking of nuclear and other radioactive materials out of regulatory control, through its borders, Government of Tajikistan continuously equips BCPs by Radiation Portal Monitors (RPM). 10 BCPs are fully equipped by RPMs and currently with support of USA Department of Energy, it is anticipated to commission operation of RPMs in Dushanbe International Airport in October this year.

Government of Tajikistan in order to implement the provisions of NSIP approved in the country by end of 2018, took a decision to allocate 10 million somoni which is equal to 1 million US dollars for construction of modern nuclear forensics laboratory. It is anticipated that nuclear forensics laboratory will serve for the benefit of the region, thus contributing to its nuclear security regime.

Once the construction of nuclear forensics laboratory is finalized, we would be happy to host international and regional events, including GICNT events and contribute to the activity of nuclear forensics working group of GICNT.

Thanks you Mr. Chairman.