

Distinguished Delegates, Esteemed Colleagues, and Guests:

On behalf of the Government of Jordan (GoJ), I stand before you today in (ICONS 2024, Shaping the Future), to express our strong support to the IAEA for its timely convening of this crucial forum and commend Director General Rafael Grossi for his leading role in advancing global nuclear security.

Jordan, as a Member State of the IAEA, reaffirms its commitment to nuclear security, safety, and safeguards in implementing its nuclear energy programme. We view this as both a national imperative and a global responsibility.

H.M. King Abdullah II has exemplified Jordan's commitment by personally participating in all four Nuclear Security Summits, demonstrating Jordan's resolve in collaborating with the international community to push forward the global nuclear security agenda and secure nuclear material.

Jordan upholds the legacy of responsible nuclear security established by fellow Member States, adhering to the highest international standards. Our national security action plan mirrors the significant steps taken by the international community. We support the international call to minimize highly enriched uranium use, strengthen security infrastructure, and deploy advanced detection technologies, as recommended by the IAEA's Nuclear Security Series.

Jordan's commitment extends beyond its borders. We have actively adhered to key international legal instruments including but not limited to:

- The Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its 2005 Amendment, strengthening physical protection

of nuclear facilities and material during international transport, storage, and domestic use.

- The International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT), addressing offenses related to radioactive material and facilities, promoting international cooperation for investigations and extraditions.

Jordan has fulfilled its obligations under these conventions and participated in IAEA initiatives promoting best practices. To mention a few, Jordan hosted an IAEA Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP) mission in 2019 and 2024, and International Nuclear Security Advisory Service (INSServ) mission in 2022. In addition, we have been active in fostering international cooperation and providing valuable security infrastructure assessment, planning, and training for Jordanian personnel.

Jordan nurtures a robust international cooperation program. We have partnered with several Member States, including the USA. In particular, I want to point out the cooperation with the US Department of Energy's Office of International Nuclear Security (INS), to achieve the highest safety and security standards in our nuclear programme. This collaborative effort extends to:

Actively working with the INS to enhance security at the Jordan Research and Training Reactor (JRTR), to ensure continued nuclear material security and mitigating potential risks.

Recognizing digital age challenges, through collaborating with the INS to explore innovative solutions for strengthening cybersecurity, protecting critical infrastructure, and preventing unauthorized access.

Building upon this cooperation, Jordan, with INS's support, is establishing a nuclear security center at JRTR, to serve as a regional hub, for capacity building purposes in nuclear security, knowledge exchange and conducting practical exercises to develop a robust nuclear security culture. Over the past two years, we have attained significant achievements, including the implementation of a new security culture program at the JRTR, fostering continuous improvement in security practices and awareness.

Nuclear energy offers a promising future. Jordan views its first nuclear research reactor as an enabler for scientific research, medical radioisotope production for the ME region, and capacity building for other peaceful applications. The Jordan Atomic Energy Commission (JAEC) is also currently exploring the deployment of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) for electricity generation and water desalination, addressing pressing severe resource constraints in a water-scarce country like Jordan.

With a sense of urgency, we observe a decline in global focus on nuclear security. Nuclear security remains a cornerstone of global security. We must not allow progress on this vital subject to wane. This necessitates intensified international and regional cooperation to build upon the momentum to strengthen global nuclear security.

Jordan's work on its national nuclear energy program and security aligns with global non-proliferation efforts seeking to establish a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction.

In closing, I urge each of the Member States to join in this noble endeavor. Together, let us ensure that nuclear security remains a fundamental pillar of our shared global security architecture through intensified international cooperation, building upon established legacies and sharing best practices.

By working together, we can ensure that nuclear energy will remain an agent of prosperity throughout the world.

Thank you.