

# Information Circular

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## Communication dated 23 March 2020 received from the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning a Joint Statement on Nuclear Security

1. The Secretariat has received a communication dated 23 March 2020 from the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands attaching a Joint Statement on Nuclear Security that was intended to have been delivered under agenda item 8 (“Any Other Business”) during the meetings of the Board of Governors held from 9 to 11 March 2020, endorsed by Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Brazil, Canada, China, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Ghana, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Uruguay, and requesting the Secretariat to bring the communication and its attachment to the attention of all IAEA Member States.

2. As requested, the communication and its attachment are herewith circulated for the information of all Member States.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands

Ref.: WEV/2020/13

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and has the honour to request that the Secretariat bring the following note verbal and the attached Joint Statement on Nuclear Security to the attention of all IAEA Member States. The statement had been intended to be delivered under agenda item 8 (“Any Other Business”) during the meetings of the Board of Governors held from 9 to 11 March 2020 and is endorsed by Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Brazil, Canada, China, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Ghana, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Uruguay.

The Permanent Mission of the Netherlands avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the IAEA the assurances of its highest consideration.

Attachment: Joint Statement on Nuclear Security, Board of Governors March 2020

Vienna, 23 March 2020

To the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency  
Vienna International Centre  
Vienna

## **IAEA Board of Governors Meeting**

**March 9-13, 2020**

### **Any Other Business – Nuclear Security**

Madam Chair,

- I have the honor to speak on behalf of the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Brazil, Canada, China, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Ghana, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Uruguay.
- We would like to thank Director General Grossi, Deputy Director General Lentijo, and the Division of Nuclear Security for organizing the third IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security – or ICONS.
- The conference gave a clear signal of political commitment to sustaining and strengthening nuclear security worldwide. More than 50 ministers and more than 2000 policymakers and experts participated.
- The conference has resulted in increased awareness of the importance of nuclear security. With the ICONS ministerial declaration adopted by consensus, IAEA Member States affirmed their commitment to sustaining and strengthening nuclear security. We would like to thank Romania and Panama for their work in this regard.
- We would also like to thank Egypt and Bulgaria who contributed greatly to facilitating a well-balanced and substantive technical programme for the conference.
- The declaration serves as a good foundation for our future work to strengthen nuclear security and should be taken into account in the discussions regarding the 2020 General Conference resolution on Nuclear Security and the 2022-2025 Nuclear Security Plan, while also considering outcomes of the technical programme.

- As DG Grossi stated in his opening remarks: “Nuclear security is about more than just preventing nuclear terrorism. It is essential for ensuring that countries can enjoy the great benefits of the peaceful use of nuclear science and technology sustainably, and for maintaining public confidence.”
- In this regard we also welcome DG Grossi’s statement noting that “strengthening the Agency’s assistance to countries in the field of nuclear security will be a priority.”
- Following the accomplishments of ICONS, the state Parties to the NPT look ahead to the NPT Review Conference. We also look forward to the Preparatory Committee for the 2021 Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material as modified by its 2005 Amendment. We look forward to making this conference a success as well.

Thank you Chair