



Statement of the 2016 Nuclear Knowledge Summit: Solutions for a Secure Nuclear Future

Nuclear and radiological terrorism remain real and serious threats to the global community. Any nuclear terrorist event anywhere in the world will have profoundly negative consequences for the economies, societies, and security of all nations. The Nuclear Security Summit process has resulted in substantial progress in improving nuclear and radiological security and strengthened barriers against nuclear terrorism. But there is much more to be done, building on the value created by the nuclear security summits, and international institutions such as the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The organizers of the 2016 Nuclear Knowledge Summit believe that the continuing global effort to strengthen nuclear security must be:

- **Comprehensive.** All nuclear weapons and nuclear materials that could be used to make a nuclear bomb, whether military or civilian, must be effectively and sustainably protected against the full range of plausible threats. States should confirm the effectiveness of their security – including by carrying out realistic tests of their security systems. Nuclear facilities whose sabotage could cause a major catastrophe, must also be well protected. Vulnerable radiological sources must be secured and tracked or replaced with alternate technologies, where applicable.
- **Sustainable.** Nuclear security efforts must focus on continuous improvement and a never-ending quest for excellence. Governments, international organizations, the nuclear industry, and civil society must work together to ensure that effective collaboration among them continues after the summit process ends, and that opportunities are created for making and implementing decisions, garnering high-level political attention, and targeting resources where they are most needed.
- **Focused on Minimization.** States should work to consolidate nuclear weapons and fissile materials to the smallest possible number of locations and reduce these stockpiles. A time-bound road map is needed for eliminating the civil use of HEU and minimizing the stocks, use, and processing of separated plutonium. Stronger nuclear security can be achieved at lower cost by protecting fewer locations and a reduced volume of materials.
- **Rigorous.** Every nation should commit to stringent, common international nuclear security performance objectives and principles that go well beyond current requirements and recommendations. They should share and implement nuclear security best practices, strengthen nuclear security culture, and assess where further improvements are needed. All security-relevant staff should have professional training and certification.
- **Confidence-building.** All states should accept regular peer reviews and provide non-sensitive information on their nuclear security practices and standards to build international confidence in the effectiveness of nuclear security in every nation.

Civil society has a crucial role to play in this vital ongoing process. It must generate ideas, track progress, build dialogues, provide education and training, and work together with all stakeholders to ensure that the essential contributions of each are mutually reinforcing and that they collectively drive forward a continuously improving global nuclear security system.