NUCLEAR SECURITY SUMMIT 2014

NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT

UNITED NATIONS

MARCH 2014

STRENGTHENING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR COUNTERING NUCLEAR TERRORISM.

In September 2012, the Secretary-General convened the United Nations High-Level Meeting on Countering Nuclear Terrorism with a Specific Focus on Strengthening the Legal Framework. Its objectives were to strengthen the legal framework to prevent nuclear terrorism and to enhance capacity-building efforts to assist States in the implementation of the international obligations as well as to promote international cooperation. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has continued to provide legal and technical assistance and tailored capacity-building on the ratification and full implementation of the international instruments against nuclear terrorism, including through regional workshops convened or co-organized with a variety of international partners, including the International Atomic Energy Agency.

PREVENTING NON-STATE ACTORS FROM ACQUIRING NUCLEAR OR RELATED MATERIAL.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the adoption of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004). In line with the programme of work of the 1540 Committee, the activities of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) have focused on three key areas: facilitating national implementation activities; enhancing cooperation between international, regional and sub-regional organizations; and building effective partnerships with key stakeholders including civil society and industry.

UNODA continues, as its top priority, to assist interested Member States in their national implementation efforts, including through country-specific visits/dialogues, national round tables and peer reviews, with the objectives of capacity-building, facilitation of technical assistance provision as well as the identification and dissemination of effective 1540 implementation practices. Since 2012, UNODA has also organized 12 regional or thematic workshops on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

UNODA also promotes cooperation with relevant international, regional and sub-regional organizations to identify synergies that can enhance the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) for the benefit of their respective Member States. UNODA is committed to build productive and effective cooperation and partnerships with civil society, industry, scientific, other expert and professional communities in support of the national and international efforts to implement key requirements of the resolution.

IMPROVING THE CAPACITY OF STATES TO DETECT ILLICIT TRAFFICKING.

Through the Container Control Programme, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Customs Organization have worked to assist Governments in improving security in the containerized trade supply chain. Under this programme, the organizations have focused on building local capacity through various training activities to systematically profile and inspect high risk containers, including, inter alia, the detection and response to illicit trafficking of nuclear and radiological material.
ACHIEVING THE UNIVERSALITY OF INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS.

The Secretary-General and the Office for Legal Affairs have continued their outreach to encourage additional ratifications to all the international conventions addressing nuclear security, especially the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. Since the 2012 Seoul Nuclear Security Summit, a total of 13 States have joined the Convention, bringing the total number of parties to 92. Of those, three States – Malta, Nigeria and Turkey – availed themselves of the opportunity to deposit their instrument of accession or ratification at the 2012 Treaty Event.

PROMOTING NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND NON-PROLIFERATION.

The international community has recently sought to advance new initiatives for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation through the United Nations. This has included the Group of Governmental Experts on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, the Open-Ended Working Group on taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations and the General Assembly High-Level Meeting on nuclear disarmament. UNODA is also continuing to provide substantive support to States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in the lead up to the 2015 Review Conference.

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1 Afghanistan, Canada, Costa Rica, France, Iraq, Jamaica, Kuwait, Malta, Nigeria, Norway, Qatar, St. Lucia and Turkey