

**Statement by Poland to the
International Conference on Nuclear Security:
*Sustaining and Strengthening Efforts***

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Delivered by dr. Łukasz Młynarkiewicz,

Acting President of the National Atomic Energy Agency (PAA)

Mr Presidents,

Mr Director General,

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is my great honour and privilege to address you during this ***International Conference on Nuclear Security: Sustaining and Strengthening Efforts***. Let me extend our gratitude to Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi for organising what is already the third edition of this important conference. Poland strongly supports global efforts to achieve the highest possible level of nuclear security – globally, regionally and nationally – and welcomes the continued leadership of the International Atomic Energy Agency in this area.

We associate ourselves fully with the statement made by the European Union. In addition, I would like to make the following remarks in my national capacity.

Poland is a State Party to all the relevant international legal instruments relating to nuclear security. In that regard, Poland attaches great importance to the CPPNM review process and the **2021 Conference of the Parties to the Convention** and will support the work in preparation for the Conference. We strongly believe this process will continue to keep the convention relevant to the evolving threat of nuclear terrorism and will further encourage the effective implementation of its provisions.

Poland also supports other initiatives such as the **Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT)**.

Mr Presidents,

Poland has undertaken **increasing efforts** to enhance nuclear security. We hosted an **International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS)** mission in 2016. Considerable progress has since been made at the Polish nuclear facilities, including **security upgrades** at the MARIA research reactor and at the Radioactive Waste Management Plant ZUOP. Other recommendations made during the mission are at advanced stages of implementation. We will be looking into inviting a follow-up IPPAS mission in 2021 to take stock of the achievements.

More recently, an **Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP) mission** was held in Poland last December 2019. With the help of the IAEA and external partners, the plan will enable us to implement our nuclear security activities in a comprehensive manner, focusing not only on the physical protection of nuclear material and nuclear facilities but also on the broader spectrum of nuclear security, including but not limited to: the security of radioactive material, transport security, detection architecture and response to nuclear security events.

Actions for enhancing nuclear security are taken in close cooperation with the IAEA, but also through **effective coordination** among all competent authorities at the national level. We will continue to develop and sustain our capabilities together with operators, law enforcement, and other stakeholders. This will be of particular importance as we move in our endeavours to introduce nuclear power into the energy mix. The successful development of the **Polish Nuclear Power Programme** depends on the further development of capabilities and human resources, as well as the establishment of a sound legal and institutional infrastructure for nuclear security.

For this reason, we place special importance on **regulatory development**. Poland believes the establishment of adequate nuclear security systems and measures against threats from malicious acts involving nuclear and other radioactive material needs a sound legal basis in order for the systems to be effective, efficient, consistent and sustainable. This is why we are now in the final stages of developing a regulation on the security of radioactive material and are continuing the revision of the 2008 Regulation on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities to reflect the latest good practices in physical protection.

In addition, in cooperation with the IAEA, we will host a national workshop on the **design basis threat (DBT)** in March. The workshop will assist the creation of a Task Force for the development of a new DBT.

We will also continue to support the work of the IAEA Division of Nuclear Security, including through participation in the **Nuclear Security Guidance Committee (NSGC)** to contribute to the development of the IAEA Nuclear Security Series (NSS).

We are committed to preserving the highest standards of nuclear security in all peaceful applications of nuclear technology. As we grow in capacity we will keep an eye on **future trends, new technologies and emerging challenges** to uphold a strong nuclear security architecture. Information and cyber security, evolving threats and technological advances all need to be closely monitored.

Mr Presidents,

To conclude, let me use this opportunity to express our appreciation to the IAEA and all States convened here today for sharing their experiences and best practices, as well as for their commitments and actions in support of nuclear security. Nuclear security is a collective responsibility. I have no doubt the discussions this week will generate valuable ideas for future work together in sustaining and strengthening nuclear security efforts.

Thank you Mr Presidents.