



THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

**Zambia's Ministerial Statement to the
International Conference on Nuclear Security: Sustaining and
Strengthening Efforts**

**IAEA Headquarters
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A statement delivered by the

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ZAMBIA**

SALUTATIONS:

- Mr President
- Distinguished delegates

My delegation would like to thank you for this opportunity to address the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Sustaining and Strengthening Efforts 2020. On behalf of the President of the Republic of Zambia His Excellency Dr Edgar Chagwa Lungu , I would like to commend the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) through this conference on its continued effort to promote global effort to enhance peaceful use of nuclear technologies for social and economic development. Further I would like to congratulate the Director General of the IAEA, **Mr Rafael Mariano Grossi** for the well deserved appointment.

Your Excellencies,

The threat of nuclear terrorism continues to pose a risk of global security and peace. Therefore, response to this threat requires concerted effort by all IAEA member states. The role of the IAEA in nuclear security regime continues to be very relevant now and in future.

I wish to note that the IAEA has been living up to this role through the Technical Cooperation Programmes which are aimed at strengthening the Legal and Regulatory framework to address nuclear security activities in its Member States. Further the IAEA has assisted many member states including Zambia in the development of the Nuclear Security Detection Architecture, Response Plans to nuclear security events as well as Human Resource Capacity building through training, workshops, expert missions and conferences.

Your Excellencies,

I wish to take this opportunity to affirm my country's commitment to ensuring the safety and security of nuclear and other radioactive materials. As part of this commitment, Zambia has ratified the Convention for Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials (CPPNM) and the code of conduct on safety and security of radioactive materials. Further Zambia is committed to ensure that the Amendment to the CPPNM is also ratified.

Zambia has embarked on development of the nuclear energy Program and hence all other unratified nuclear and safety conventions are being considered for ratification through our internal consultation processes. These include:

1. Convention on Nuclear Safety;
2. Convention on assistance case of nuclear accident or radiological emergency;
3. Joint convention on safety of spent fuel management safety of radioactive waste management;
4. Convention on civil liability for nuclear damage; and
5. Convention on early notification

I would like to appreciate the IAEA through the Division of Nuclear Security, for the capacity building programs in the field of Nuclear Security which our various key stakeholder Institutions have benefited. E.g. in the areas of trainings, Expert Missions and in the guidance provided for development of relevant legal framework which include the current Zambias Nuclear and Radiation Safety Bill.

The Government, through the Radiation Protection Authority, has embarked on enhancing monitoring of the Transboundary movement of nuclear materials and radioactive sources at Border entry points. Further, plans are

underway by our National Regulator to establish the Centre for Nuclear Safety and Security by 2025. The Centre will contribute to capacity building for Security Officers within the Country.

Your Excellencies,

To achieve global nuclear security, International Cooperation continues to play a key role in sustaining and strengthening the global nuclear security regime. And Zambia is committed to promoting such cooperation bilaterally on exchange of experience in development of regulatory framework in the field of nuclear and radiation safety and nuclear security.

I wish to commend the IAEA for data sharing portals like the Incident and Trafficking Database (ITDB) and the Control of Sources Network (CSN). These platforms have been playing a key role in enhancing control of materials out of regulatory control.

Your Excellencies,

In conclusion, the resolutions of this conference should be expeditiously implemented to support global peaceful use of Nuclear Technologies and enhance global Nuclear Security Regime through Sustaining and Strengthening Efforts among IAEA member states. This will not only demand to strengthen regional and international cooperation but also enhance national mechanisms for combating nuclear terrorism and Illicit trafficking of Radioactive and Nuclear Materials.

I Thank you