

International Conference on Nuclear Security: Shaping the Future
(Vienna, 20-24 May 2024)
National Statement

**Mr. President,
Director General IAEA,
Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen**

At the outset, I would like to express, on behalf of the people and Government of Pakistan our heartfelt condolences on the very sad passing away of President, Foreign Minister and other officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We share the pain and grief of the people of Iran and families.

It is a pleasure to address IAEA's International Conference on Nuclear Security.

At the outset, we commend the Director General IAEA and his team for their tireless efforts to organize the 4th International Conference on Nuclear Security.

Overwhelming participation of member states underscores the significance that the international community places on bolstering nuclear security worldwide, through concerted national actions.

Since 2013, the series of ICONS have fostered a culture of nuclear security, thereby contributing to our collective safety.

The current iteration of ICONS titled, "Shaping the Future", will promote mutual understanding to leverage technological advancements and our shared commitments in nuclear security, for years to come.

We look forward to fruitful discussions and meaningful outcome of the conference.

Mr. President,

Nuclear Security demands constant vigilance, perpetual preparedness and zero complacency.

At its core, nuclear security is primarily a national responsibility. International and institutional actions are shaped and determined by national nuclear security measures.

Nuclear Security Culture is a key element of our national nuclear security policy.

Pakistan is strongly committed to the objective of strengthening nuclear security at national level and recognizes the importance of sustained efforts in this regard.

We have established a comprehensive nuclear security regime in line with the guidelines of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and international best practices.

The regime is based on an extensive legislative and regulatory framework governing the security of nuclear materials, radioactive substances, associated facilities and activities.

Additionally, it is backed by strong institutions and organizations with the requisite authorities, resources and trained manpower for effective implementation.

Pakistan's Nuclear Regulatory Authority (PNRA), an autonomous regulatory body regularly updates regulations related to nuclear security to keep its procedures and practices in line with international standards and best practices.

Pakistan proactively engages with the international community to promote nuclear safety and security. We are party to important international legal instruments including the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and its 2005 Amendment and subscribed to the IAEA's Code of Conduct on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and its two supplementary guidance documents.

Pakistan is also the State Party to Nuclear Safety Convention, Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident, and the Convention on Assistance in Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency.

Furthermore, Pakistan regularly reviews and updates the national nuclear security regime in the light of IAEA guidance documents and international best practices.

Pakistan's nuclear security regime is anchored in the principle of multilayered defense for the entire spectrum of threat including cyber threats. Our nuclear security regime is governed by well structured command and control system.

Measures taken by Pakistan for nuclear security offer a template for others, to emulate. In this regard, a compendium-booklet of such measures is available in hard and digital versions.

Mr. President,

With five decades of experience in the safe and secure operation of civil nuclear power plants and associated facilities, coupled with sustained collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Pakistan has garnered extensive expertise in the realm of nuclear security.

We have established Centres of Excellence and Collaborating Centres such as Pakistan's Center for Excellence for Nuclear Security (PCENS), National Institute

of Safety & Security (NISAS) and Pakistan's Institute of Engineering and Applied Sciences (PIEAS). These institutes conduct specialized courses and training programmes in the domain of nuclear security, physical protection and personnel reliability.

As recognition of Pakistan's expertise, NISAS has been declared as IAEA's Collaborating Centre for Nuclear Security Education, Training and Technical Support. NISAS regularly holds training courses related to nuclear safety and security having special focus on regulatory aspects. Furthermore, NISAS has established labs as per IAEA standards namely the Radiation Detection Equipment Lab and Physical Protection Lab.

We envision transforming our centers into regional and international hubs for imparting nuclear security related training and stands ready to share its extensive experience in the area of nuclear security with other countries under the auspices of the IAEA.

Mr. President,

Pakistan acknowledges and appreciates the IAEA efforts for providing opportunities related to education and training in nuclear security.

Scientists and engineers from Pakistan have participated at various international forums and demonstrated exceptional professionalism that reflects its commitment to nuclear security.

Pakistan has remained part of multilateral engagement to share its nuclear security experiences with other countries and has also learned from their experiences.

Pakistan contributed in the establishment of IAEA' Nuclear Security Training and Demonstration Centre (NSTDC) extending technical support during installation, commissioning, operation of physical protection system and development of training material at NSTDC.

We have also made a modest contribution to IAEA Nuclear Security Fund.

Mr. President,

Technical cooperation with IAEA has contributed to successful introduction of peaceful technologies in Pakistan.

Our cooperation with the IAEA includes ensuring radiation safety, development of preparedness and response to nuclear and radiological emergencies, up-gradation of physical protection measures at various Nuclear Medical Centers and Nuclear Power Plants to bring those in line with best practices around the world.

Mr. President,

Pakistan has provided expert review services in nuclear security domain.

Pakistan has provided experts in various IAEA IPPAS missions. We are also preparing to host IPPAS Mission in near future to evaluate the performance of its nuclear security regime.

In the same context, Pakistan has also conducted an internal IPPAS and planning to conduct IAEA IPPAS by 2026.

Pakistan Institute of Engineering and Applied Sciences (PIEAS) has significantly contributed and supported IAEA in the development of nuclear security educational networking and served as chairperson of IAEA INSEN Network for year 2010-2011.

We have also helped in developing training material and curriculum for IAEA educational programs in the fields of Transport Security, Detection of Criminal Acts involving Nuclear and Radiological materials etc.

Mr. President,

Drawing on international cooperation, Pakistan is undertaking comprehensive measures to enhance its border control arrangements, aimed at preventing the illicit trafficking of radioactive and nuclear materials.

We are working on deployment of vehicular and pedestrian Radiation Portal Monitors at the Points of Entries / Exits as part of our National Nuclear Detection Architecture.

Apart from land based physical protection system, integrated maritime surveillance system is being installed at our coastal area nuclear facilities. Performance test of nuclear security system and equipment is regularly conducted to ensure its functionality.

Mr. President,

Pakistan welcomes the progressive initiatives of IAEA to expand the use of nuclear science and technology for addressing pressing challenges of today's world.

We believe that IAEA is well positioned to help member states through its advanced scientific approaches and practical assistance tools to address emerging challenges of future.

Due to climate change and global warming, many countries are pursuing nuclear power generation program being low carbon emission technology. Capacity building of member states and nuclear embarking countries would be of paramount importance to address issues related to safeguards, safety and security of nuclear materials and installations.

Pakistan offers its expert for safe and secure operation of nuclear power plants to assist all Member States as well as nuclear embarking countries through international collaboration under auspices of IAEA.

Mr. President,

Pakistan is a strong believer of the consensus based outcomes. We wish that this conference could have reached consensus on the final declaration. In this regard, we appreciate the efforts of the co-chairs. We note that they have issued a statement.

I will conclude by reiterating Pakistan's consistent support to the IAEA and its invaluable assistance to support the Member States in the field of nuclear security.
