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## MEASURES AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND OTHER RADIOACTIVE SOURCES

The statement by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. N.A. Nazarbaev, which is reproduced overleaf is being circulated at the request of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN,  
MR. N.A. NAZARBAEV**

7 September 1995

Kazakhstan shares the concern of the world community and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, at the illicit trafficking in nuclear materials which is continuing despite the fact that the States-parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) have taken the decision to extend the Treaty indefinitely.

The danger of proliferation is also heightened by the dismantling of large quantities of nuclear weapons, the activities of non-governmental bodies seeking to acquire nuclear devices and the risk of nuclear materials and weapons finding their way into regions where national and ethnic conflicts are taking place.

We support the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to resolve this problem. Now that Kazakhstan has ratified the agreement with the Agency for the application of safeguards in connection with the NPT, it has joined the international safeguards system for preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and their components.

However, technical measures alone are no panacea against nuclear proliferation, since the activities of non-governmental elements pose a very great threat on account of their covert nature. A new climate of openness and transparency in nuclear matters is necessary. The effectiveness of the non-proliferation regime depends on a high level of political commitment to international security by governments, which must co-operate to establish a tougher system of export monitoring and control. In this connection the proposal by Boris Yeltsin, President of the Russian Federation, for a meeting in spring 1996 to discuss nuclear security could be an important step towards uniting forces against illicit trafficking in nuclear materials.