

MISSÃO PERMANENTE DE  
MOÇAMBIQUE JUNTO DAS NAÇÕES  
UNIDAS E OUTRAS ORGANIZAÇÕES  
INTERNACIONAIS EM GENEVRA



PERMANENT MISSION OF  
MOZAMBIQUE TO THE UNITED  
NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANISATIONS IN GENEVA

**Statement by Amb. Pedro Comissário, Permanent  
Representative of Mozambique to the International Atomic  
Energy Agency before the International Conference on Nuclear  
Security: Enhancing Global Efforts**

*Mr. President,*

*Mr. Director General,*

*Excellencies,*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I wish to convey my delegation's warm congratulations to you, Mr. President, for your well-deserved election to preside over our deliberations. We are confident that under your able leadership, this Conference will be crowned with success.

I extend my delegation's profound appreciation to the Director General, HE Mr. Yukiya Amano, and to his entire team for the excellent work they have been performing at the helm of the IAEA. We praise the Organization for the role it has been playing in the promotion of international and regional cooperation on nuclear protection. This Conference bears testimony to that commitment.

*Mr. President,*

We are gathered here, today, to discuss issues of great importance that are at the heart of humankind's future and at the center of the survival of our civilization. Mozambique, therefore, applauds the

decision to convene this International Conference on Nuclear Security that aims at enhancing our global efforts for our common security. We need to pause and assess the emergence of additional threats, within the realm of nuclear technologies, and agree on a set of universal standards to boost humankind's protection and safety.

In our view, the holding of this Conference testifies the widespread recognition that a paradigm shift has occurred in the way we perceive the sources of nuclear threat. In the past, the prevailing idea was that a nuclear deflagration could chiefly result from a nuclear confrontation between states. In this context, the strengthening of measures aimed at preventing the likelihood of an eruption of a nuclear conflict was the overriding concern, alongside actions designed to avert nuclear accidents.

Today, however, there is a growing awareness that the world is confronted with the emergence of new sources of threats posed by the possibility of illicit traffic of nuclear material and the mounting threat potentially associated with cyber-attacks.

This is not a matter from fiction literature. It is a clear and present danger that we face today. It is a danger of nuclear material falling into the hands of non-state actors. As a consequence, this could raise the likelihood of a nuclear deflagration. The case from Moldova as expounded by the Director General of IAEA, in the opening session, this morning, is a pertinent illustration.

Nuclear devices in the hands of non-state actors by design fall outside the boundaries of nuclear non-proliferation regime. This is the reason why, today, nuclear security should become the highest concern of every Government, be it nuclear or non-nuclear. In this context, we strongly believe it is imperative that we take bold and effective steps in order to enhance global efforts for nuclear protection and security as well as to avert the threat of a nuclear explosion.

We are happy to note that the IAEA, an institution founded with the purpose of fostering peaceful use of nuclear energy, very early understood the need to widen the scope of its mission and activities. In the early 1970's, the IAEA started to provide assistance to members states in order to establish and improve nuclear security and safety and to boost physical protection of nuclear installations.

Since then, a number of crucial international legal instruments were adopted. A few among them, in the form of Conventions, stand out as the backdrop of the IAEA longstanding efforts in fostering worldwide framework for nuclear safety and security.

We believe that in the process of the implementation of these Conventions, considerable experience has been accumulated. It is therefore befitting that one of the purposes of this Conference should be to ensure that we appraise the international community's lessons learnt and achievements attained so far in the strengthening of nuclear security. This will allow us to take stock of our past experience and to formulate positions and define future directions and priorities.

Mozambique wishes to praise the IAEA for the support it has been providing to member States in the implementation of the comprehensive nuclear security guidance and for its efforts for the participation of all states in the activities associated to international nuclear security. We value, in particular, the fruitful partnership we have with the Organization. We encourage the IAEA to continue to play a central role in strengthening global nuclear security framework.

Mozambique is a non-nuclear state, a state party to the NPT. We advocate complete and universal disarmament and a world free of nuclear weapons. That is the reason why we remain committed to cooperate with IAEA in the fulfillment of its mandate and in leading the international community in ensuring a safer world, free of nuclear threat.

We are confident, Mr. President, that this Ministerial Conference will take decisive measures that embody the strongest commitment by member States and the International Community at large to reinforce the nuclear security in the world.

I thank you, Mr. President!

Vienna, 01 July 2013