

statement by Mr. Nopadol Gunavibool
Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of
Thailand
at the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing
Global Efforts
1 July 2013, Vienna

Mr. President,

1. I would like to join previous speakers in congratulating you on your assumption as the President of this Conference. I also wish to thank the Ambassador of Hungary and the Ambassador of Brazil, the coordinators of the preparatory consultations, for their dedicated efforts.

2. Thailand also commends the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on its role in assisting member states to establish and improve nuclear security through its Nuclear Security Plan and through the provision of ad hoc training in physical protection as well as by issuing a set of recommendations in this area. We are also appreciative of the information shared within the IAEA's Incident and Trafficking Database (ITDB).

Mr. President,

3. Nuclear safety, security, and safeguards are inter-related. If we choose to ignore the insecurities of some, they will soon become the insecurities of all. It is thus incumbent upon us to strengthen our cooperation to overcome these challenges.

4. Thailand recognizes that the responsibility for nuclear security rests with each state and that appropriate and effective cooperative measures are important in facilitating peaceful use of nuclear energy and enhancing global efforts to combat nuclear terrorism.

5. Thailand is a party to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. We are amending domestic legislation on the Atomic Energy for Peace Act which would enable us to

join other conventions including the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

6. Regarding the non-legally binding framework, Thailand has actively participated in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) and we have endorsed the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) in November 2012. We have joined the Nuclear Security Summit (NSS) process since 2010 and will host a Sherpa meeting in Bangkok on 13-14 January 2014.

7. At the regional level, Thailand has proposed the idea of establishing a network amongst nuclear regulatory bodies within the Southeast Asian region (ASEANTOM) to provide a framework for the issues of safety, security, and safeguards based on the IAEA standards and guidelines.

8. Domestically, we are in the process of establishing the Center of Excellence on Nuclear Forensics, which is partially funded by the EU, aiming for capacity-building in this field as well as sharing best practices with countries in the region.

Mr. President,

9. Thailand believes that tackling the proliferation of WMDs requires more than determination and legislation. Thus, Thailand welcomes the role of the IAEA International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS) in providing independent expert assessments of national nuclear security measures, tailored to national circumstances and needs.

10. In closing, Mr. President, Thailand is committed to international peace and security. My delegation looks forward to working with you and other delegations to achieve this goal.

I thank you.
