



BELARUS

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**UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON COUNTERING NUCLEAR TERRORISM

28 September 2012

Statement

**by His Excellency Vladimir Makei
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Belarus**

Distinguished co-chairs, ladies and gentlemen!

Republic of Belarus attaches the most serious attention to such a vital topic as countering nuclear terrorism. Our country is a party to all major universal treaties in this field, elaborated under the aegis of the United Nations. Belarus has established a national legal framework which enables to effectively withstand contemporary challenges and threats of terrorism.

Belarus undertakes efforts to fight terrorism on global and regional level within the framework of Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). In particular in 2008 the Belarusian side initiated in the framework of the OSCE the adoption of the ministerial decision on protecting critical energy infrastructure from terrorist attack.

One of the fundamental elements of efforts to prevent acts of nuclear terrorism is the reliable protection, account and control of nuclear materials. As a transit state which has the experience of struggle against smuggling of nuclear materials, we deem urgent to strengthen national capacities in detecting and suppressing illicit transboundary trafficking of such materials. I would like to underline that strengthening legal framework to counter nuclear terrorism cannot be feasible without the establishment of effective and non-selective system of technical assistance aiming at states' capacity building as well as the assistance in implementing their international obligations.

Belarus considers the IAEA as a central international body, capable to ensure due balance between maintaining the global regime of nuclear security and peaceful development of atomic energy.

We actively cooperate with the IAEA in implementing the Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan in the Republic of Belarus for 2011-2014. In the framework of this Plan the International Nuclear security Review Service has been invited to pay a visit to Belarus in 2013.

We consider the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) as an effective mechanism to prevent weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, from falling in the hands of terrorist organizations. One of the tools to increase the effectiveness of implementation of the 1540 Resolution is the preparation by the Member-States of national action plans, mapping out their priorities and plans for implementing the key provisions of the 1540 resolution.

This year Belarus in cooperation with the OSCE, UN Security Council Committee 1540 and UN Office for Disarmament Affairs elaborated a national framework document ("road map") on additional measures to implement the 1540 Resolution. The document put an, emphasize on the issues of export control and biological security. Subsequently we intend to expand this road map by the issues of strengthening physical protection, account and safety of nuclear materials.

In this regard we deem appropriate to further develop capacity of implementation mechanism of the 1540 Resolution. The universalization of the Convention on the Physical protection of Nuclear Material, International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism could also contribute to the reduction of proliferation risks.

In conclusion I would like to stress that such a complex issue as international terrorism needs global and coordinated responses. Selective approach in choosing partners for cooperation on this matter is counter-productive. The genuine success in combating terrorism, including nuclear one, could be possible only through the collective efforts of all members of the international community.

I thank you for your kind attention.