

“Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me first of all express my sincere appreciation to President Lee and the Government of the Republic of Korea for its generous hospitality and excellent organization of this timely and important event.

Hungary attaches great importance to the safe use of nuclear energy. Hungarian scientists have always played an important role in developing nuclear technology, including measures related to nuclear safety. A large number of Hungarian experts are working in international organizations, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization, which are responsible for guaranteeing the safe use of nuclear energy.

As a country with an active peaceful nuclear program and plans to further expand its related capacities, Hungary has a keen interest in ensuring the security of its nuclear facilities and material, and in mitigating the risks of nuclear terrorism. Therefore, Hungary is especially pleased to be part of this important event initiated by President Obama.

Nuclear terrorism is one of the most defiant threats to international security these days. Efficient measures in the sphere of physical nuclear security are the most reliable means to prevent terrorists, criminals or other unauthorized entities from acquiring nuclear material.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Hungary has reinforced the legal and regulatory framework. Since we attach great importance to the nuclear security program of the International Atomic Energy Agency and to the elaboration of a new series of publications on the issue of nuclear security, we support the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources. Hungary ratified the Amendment of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material in 2008 and complied with the requirement to reform the legal and regulatory framework of the physical protection of nuclear facilities, nuclear and other radioactive material in the country.

We understand the potential harm that Highly Enriched Uranium can cause if it gets in wrong hands. Hungary has taken a leading role in minimizing and eventually eliminating its stocks of

Highly Enriched Uranium used at civilian facilities. As part of the Global Threat Reduction Initiative and the Russian Research Reactor Fuel Return program, the majority of the spent fuel from the Budapest Research Reactor to Russia was successfully repatriated in 2008, with core conversion to be completed in a few years.

In the framework of the Global Threat Reduction Initiative program, with the help of the United States Department of Energy, the Hungarian Atomic Energy Authority has upgraded the physical security of more than 30 sites with category 1 or 2 radioactive sources in Hungary.

We understand that no one can be successful on its own. Therefore, we highly value the assistance and support we receive from our partners. We believe that international co-

operation is essential so the Hungarian Atomic Energy Authority, a member of the European Nuclear Security Regulators Association, takes actively part in the International Physical Protection Advisory Service by providing experts to its missions.

And finally, material accountancy is a key element in support of nuclear security. Hungary has always emphasized the need of a well-functioning State System of Accountancy for and Control of Nuclear Material. Besides the international safeguards obligations, the Hungarian system has also compiled a national central registry of all radioactive material and waste above exemption level.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Hungary shares the view that appropriately addressing the issue of fissile material for nuclear weapon purposes could make an important contribution to enhancing international and regional security. We believe that the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty should be the next multilateral instrument to be negotiated in this field.

To conclude, as a House gift to this Summit, Hungary, in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency would like to offer training courses. These courses would provide both theoretical and on-site activities in the field of physical protection.

Thank you for your attention.”