## **Elements of a National Statement:**

- Major steps towards implementing CPPNM/A
- New commitments to enhance nuclear/radiological security
- Previous nuclear/radiological security accomplishments
- Reinforcing nuclear security norms
- Specific requests for assistance
- Reference to the adequacy of the CPPNM/A

# NATIONAL STATEMENT DELIVERED BY MR HUBERT FOLEY, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, FEDERATION OF TIDELAND

at the

## CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE AMENDMENT TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PHYSICAL PROTECTION OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL

Vienna, Austria 28 March – 1 April 2022

Mr. Co-President,
Director-General of the Global Atomic Energy Agency
Excellencies,
Distinguished Ladies and Gentleman,

The Federation of Tideland delegation joins other speakers to commend the co-presidents of the conference for their excellent preparations. We also thank the co-chairs of the technical and legal working groups and the Preparatory Committee for their roles. We especially thank them for doing so during a time of great global crisis, which led to the delay of the Preparatory Committee meeting and this Conference.

#### Mr. President,

Tideland is undertaking various activities regarding the development of a strong framework for nuclear security and implementing the Amendment to the CPPNM. Tideland was proud to ratify the Amendment in 2020 after working with the GAEA to ensure our laws and regulations were updated as needed to implement the Amendment.

Although Tideland does not have nuclear materials or nuclear facilities that fall within the scope of the treaty, we believe Tideland has a vital role to close gaps in the global architecture that could be exploited by malicious actors seeking to steal nuclear materials to use in a nuclear bomb or to sabotage a nuclear facility leading to a release of radiation. We believe that countries without nuclear materials and facilities must take actions to prevent smuggling and trafficking of nuclear material across our territories and to cooperate in preventing and prosecuting nuclear crimes. In short, we know that our actions are crucial to preventing an act of nuclear terrorism that would damage public support for peaceful use of nuclear technology and that our engagement on nuclear security serves to protect and expand access to peaceful nuclear use for all nations.

To implement the Amendment, Tideland updated its laws and regulations to criminalize and punish offenses under the treaty. To ensure Tideland's criminal laws were sufficient to implement the treaty and cooperate in the prosecution of crimes with other States Parties, Tideland co-hosted two workshops with the GAEA, with representatives from international bodies responsible for international crimes and criminal law experts from countries in our region in attendance. At the technical session on criminalization, our Head of the International Crimes Unit at the Ministry of Justice will provide a presentation on implementation of the criminalization provisions of the treaty.

To demonstrate Tideland's commitment to a strong regulatory framework for implementing the treaty, we have made a request to the GAEA to host an International Nuclear Security Advisory Service (INSServ) mission. This mission was scheduled for 2021 but was delayed due to pandemic travel restrictions. It is rescheduled for later this year. Tideland plans to provide a summary of the results of this mission as an added demonstration of our commitment to strong nuclear security and to build confidence among the public that we are taking necessary steps for the safe and secure use of peaceful nuclear technology.

Upon Tideland's ratification of the Amendment, we also submitted information on laws and regulations to the GAEA as required by Article 14. As an extra confidence-building step, the Tideland Nuclear Regulatory Commission published the submission on its website (<a href="http://www.tnrc.tdl/">http://www.tnrc.tdl/</a>) along with its annual report of nuclear and radiological security activities.

#### Mr. President,

Although Tideland does not have nuclear materials and facilities that are within the scope of the treaty, Tideland uses other types of nuclear technology for research and uses radioactive sources for cancer therapy. I invite everyone attending to visit the Tideland booth in the Expo to read more about these initiatives. The use of these technologies is an example of how peaceful use of nuclear technology can have medical and scientific benefits. It is vital to protect those benefits through a strong nuclear security regime.

The 2015 Nuclear Regulatory Act (NRA) established the Tideland Nuclear Regulatory Commission as an independent regulatory body to regulate all institutions and individuals that use radioactive sources. The NRA requires users of radioactive sources to secure those sources so they cannot be stolen and used in a dirty bomb. We took note of the recent NTI Radioactive Source Security Assessment's analysis to identify areas for improvement in our radiological security regulations and plan to work with the GAEA to make updates, including through our Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP), which was put in place in 2019 and will be updated.

#### Mr. President,

Tideland recognizes that a trained and skilled workforce is necessary to implement strong nuclear security. Next year, we plan to work with the World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS) to certify professionals in radiological security through the WINS Academy. We have also participated in regional training exercises and workshops partnering with the regional Center of Excellence and the GAEA. These capacity-building exercises were designed to train individuals responsible for border protection and ensure they are trained to use detection technology. We thank the GAEA's assistance in gaining access to these technologies that are designed to prevent smuggling of nuclear and radiological materials across the border. More information about these exercises is available at Tideland's booth at the Expo.

### Mr. President,

I would like to conclude by restating again Tideland's commitment to nuclear security globally and to the universalization and complete implementation of the Amendment to the CPPNM. As the only international legal agreement that requires the protection of nuclear materials from theft and the protection of nuclear facilities from sabotage, we believe that a strong, effective, and sustainable treaty regime is of the utmost importance to continue to strengthen nuclear security and preserve the benefits of peaceful uses. We believe that future review conferences, as permitted by the treaty, will provide the necessary vehicle to continue this dialogue, to review implementation, and to strengthen nuclear security in the future.

Thank you.

# Coastalia National Statement for the Conference of the Parties to the Amended to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material 28 March – April 1, 2022

### As delivered by Deputy Minister of Defense General Thomas Biedist

Dear Co-Presidents,

#### Your Excellencies,

I would like to begin with expressing our deep appreciation for the work of the Co-Presidents in preparing for this vitally important meeting. I assure them of my delegation's complete and total support in discharging their responsibilities.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Global Atomic Energy Agency for organizing this meeting and the excellent arrangements for this event.

#### Your Excellencies,

As we embark on our first ever Review Conference of the Amended Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, we have a unique opportunity to set the stage for the future of the only legally binding treaty on nuclear security. The importance of this moment cannot be overstated. We hold in our hands the future of this essential legal mechanism and our decisions this week will set the stage for how it is implemented across the globe, what assurances we will give to our neighbors on our ability to secure our relevant nuclear materials and the assurances we will receive from our neighbors on that same issue. Coastalia is committed to do its utmost to adhere to every article of this treaty without fail and I look forward to participating in a second Review Conference five years from now.

#### Your Excellencies,

Coasalia has taken many steps to implement the amended CPPNM into our national laws and policies for protecting nuclear materials. In addition to criminalizing acts of weapons of mass destruction terrorism, Coastalia has incorporated fundamental principles noted by the GAEA on developing a design basis threat that includes defense in depth and continuous quality assurances into our efforts to secure nuclear materials. We have strengthened our measures to

protect this material while in transport and have taken specific steps to cooperate with the GAEA in the event that there is a theft of material in our territory.

#### Your Excellencies,

In Coastalia, our prevailing situation is complicated and unsteady. Despite our best efforts, we, along with our closest neighbors, continue to face threats from the Revolutionary Militant Forces. This so-called RMF group is a decentralized group of armed rebels that have committed heinous acts of violence for years. We will be victorious in our battle against the RMF, but it also serves as a reminder for why it is of the utmost importance to ensure that we secure our nuclear materials to the highest possible standard.

Based on the information noted, Coastalia has determined that the amended CPPNM is adequate in its current form and does not need to be amended at this time.

#### Your Excellencies,

That said, the most effective way to prevent a terrorist from acquiring sufficient nuclear material to create a nuclear device is to eliminate such material whenever possible. To that end, I am announcing here today for the first time ever, our commitment to convert our research reactor from highly enriched uranium fuel to low enriched uranium fuel. We will work with the GAEA and other relevant countries to complete this task within the next three years. The conversion of this facility and removal of the HEU fuel will eliminate the last remaining HEU in our country. As the other countries in our region also do not possess HEU, the Government of Coastalia will also lead efforts to seek a declaration amongst our neighbors that our region is officially free of all HEU.

Thank you for your attention.

# Midland National Statement for the Conference of the Parties to the Amended to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material 28 March – April 1, 2022

As delivered by Ingrid Kirsten

#### Excellencies

Co-Presidents of the Conference Madame Director General of the GAEA Distinguished Ambassadors Ladies and Gentlemen

At the outset, I would like to congratulate the co-presidents on their election to lead this review of the Amended Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material which will strengthen use of nuclear materials around the world in the future. I would also like to thank the Director General and the Global Atomic Energy Agency (GAEA) for convening this important conference as the depository for the Amended Convention.

### Distinguished Co-Presidents,

Midland is committed to the safe and secure use of nuclear power. As a costal state, we are deeply concerned about the global effects of climate change, particularly rising sea levels that threaten coastal cities in our country and around the world. Decades ago, the government of Midland decided to invest in nuclear power in order to combat climate change, and we pleased to say that today, Midland is the leading power producer in the region, providing clean, safe and secure power to our citizens and our neighbors. Midland has operated its reactor fleet over the last 20 years reliably, effectively and safely. We have not had any major safety incidents since the beginning of our nuclear power program, and have thousands of safe operating hours for our reactors.

Midland supports the role of the GAEA in coordinating efforts to strengthen the global nuclear security architecture. The GAEA safeguards system ensures that violations of the Non-Proliferation Treaty are detected quickly and efficiently, and Midland one was of the first countries to sign an Additional Protocol with the GAEA. Therefore, we call on all countries to adopt and implement both the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and the Additional

Protocol. We also strongly support continued efforts toward nuclear disarmament, particularly under the newly entered into force Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

#### Distinguished Co-Presidents,

Nuclear security is the responsibility of the state, and Midland calls upon all countries with nuclear material to strictly implement their national responsibilities for nuclear security, improve their systems and measures, effectively guarantee the safety of their own nuclear materials and nuclear facilities, and improve their ability to prevent the threat of nuclear terrorism. Adhering to the Amended Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material demonstrates national commitment to nuclear security, and we look forward to this week as a forum to discuss good practices, lessons learned, and experiences from implementing this Convention. Midland is prepared to share our experiences developing a robust nuclear security detection architecture, ensuring that nuclear material out of regulatory control is detected before it can cross our borders.

#### Distinguished Co-Presidents,

Midland is pleased to announce the successful implementation of a new Practical Agreement with the GAEA on nuclear security at the World Cup tournament that was held in Capitol City in June 2021. We worked closely with the GAEA to ensure that this event was safe and secure, and that everyone was able to focus on the players on the field. It was a phenomenal event, and we hope that many of you were able to join us in Capitol City for the thrilling matches.

#### Distinguished Co-Presidents,

The amended CPPNM's broad scope and language allows for interpretation of the treaty and its application to evolve as the prevailing situation evolves. The current text can encompass changes to threats, best practices, and technology (for example, covering protection against cyber threats), without the need for amendment. The current text, if interpreted broadly and treated as a living document allows enough flexibility for this interpretation, even though implementation itself will need to evolve. Given this understanding of the treaty, the amended CPPNM is adequate and does not need to be amended at this time.

Thank you.

**Commented [JB1]:** This coding implies that safeguard agreements serve to reinforce nuclear security. Are we making that argument?

Commented [SR2R1]: I didn't mean to communicate that message. What was the motivation for including this in the Statement? Might we tie it to another element above?

**Commented [SN3R1]:** If I recall, the purpose of this statement was to show what not to do - this is a treaty on physical protection. We don't want countries to go off on tangents related to the NPT. So this is an example of a bad statement