

2016 EAST ASIA SUMMIT STATEMENT ON NON-PROLIFERATION

Adopted in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic on 8 September 2016

WE, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Australia, People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and the United States of America on the occasion of the 11th East Asia Summit (EAS) in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, on 8 September 2016,

UNDERLINING EAS participating countries' adherence to a rules-based regional and international order that upholds rights and privileges of all states;

EMPHASIZING the importance of advancing the nuclear disarmament, nonproliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy as mutually reinforcing pillars;

RECALLING the rights of all states to develop research, production of, and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes consistent with international law, including obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT);

NOTING that much of the projected world growth in civil nuclear energy will occur in the Indo-Pacific region;

REAFFIRMING EAS participating countries' commitment to disarmament and the global non-proliferation objectives that promote international peace and security, and acknowledgment of the critical role played by the NPT in this regard, while acknowledging the important role of political and diplomatic means in effectively addressing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

WELCOMING ASEAN's commitment to preserving Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone and the contribution of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty to regional security and the global non-proliferation regime;

RECALLING and fully supporting the unanimous adoption of Resolution 2270 by the United Nations Security Council on 2 March 2016, which unequivocally condemned the January nuclear test and February long-range ballistic missile launch and registering deep concern over the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's subsequent and repeated ballistic missile launches in violation and flagrant disregard of the Council's relevant resolutions;

EMPHASISING the importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), 20 years since it was opened for signature, which should, inter alia, contribute to the process of nuclear disarmament;

RECOGNISING the challenge posed by nuclear terrorism;

DO HEREBY:

1. **REAFFIRM** our support for efforts at the national, regional and international level to promote nuclear disarmament, nuclear nonproliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and the importance of nuclear security to combating nuclear terrorism;

2. **SUPPORT** the commitment of States Party to the NPT to comply fully with their obligations;
3. **STRESS** the significance of signature and ratification of the CTBT by EAS participating countries, particularly the remaining Annex 2 States whose ratifications are necessary for entry into force, and urge all states to maintain all existing moratoriums on nuclear weapon test explosions and other nuclear explosions;
4. **CALL** for the early commencement of negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty in the Conference on Disarmament on the basis of CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein and within the context of an agreed, comprehensive and balanced Program of Work;
5. **URGE** the DPRK to abandon its nuclear and ballistic missile programs in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner, and uphold its international legal obligations; express grave concern over the DPRK's nuclear tests and ballistic missile launches and call for the full implementation of all relevant UNSC resolutions, including the UNSC sanctions regime and the 2005 Joint Statement; call for the continuation of joint efforts to resume meaningful Six Party Talks at an early date to make substantial progress in the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner;
6. **REAFFIRM** EAS participating countries' commitment to full implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540 to prevent non-state actors from developing, acquiring, manufacturing, possessing, transporting, transferring or using weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;
7. **ENCOURAGE** EAS participating countries to accelerate work on nuclear security objectives through their membership and support of the leading international organisations and initiatives, including the IAEA, UN, Interpol and the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism;
8. **SUPPORT** the strengthening of the IAEA safeguards system, including through universalisation and implementation of applicable additional protocols to strengthen the effectiveness and improve the efficiency of the safeguards system as a contribution to global non-proliferation objectives;
9. **REAFFIRM** the importance of transparency and confidence-building measures (TCBMs) as the bases for advancing disarmament and nonproliferation as well as in improving the regional and international security environment;
10. **ENCOURAGE** all States yet to do so to become parties to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) as amended, and encourage all States Party to the CPPNM yet to do so to ratify the Amendment to the CPPNM and act in accordance with its object and purpose, including by protecting nuclear facilities and material in peaceful domestic use, storage and transport;
11. **ENCOURAGE** further cooperation among EAS participating countries on non-proliferation related issues, including through capacity building and exchanging information, best-practice and lessons learned, through relevant regional institutions;
12. Adopted at Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, this 8th of September in the Year Two Thousand and Sixteen at the 11th East Asia Summit.