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African Regional Briefing by PGA on Nuclear and Radiological Security Project

Overview of Review Conference of States Parties to A/CPPNM

Briefing régional africain par PGA sur le projet de sécurité nucléaire et radiologique

Aperçu de la Conférence d'examen des Etats parties à l'A/CPPNM

Peter Barcroft, Senior Director, International Peace and Security Program, PGA



Engaging Female and Male Parliamentarians in Promoting Nuclear and Radiological Security



16 June, 2021

Related Campaign: Campaign to Promote Nuclear and Radiological Security

13 participants from 8 countries, the Central African Republic - Somalia, Burkina Faso, the Gambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Nigeria and Togo, as well as representatives from the [International Atomic Energy Agency \(IAEA\)](#) and the [United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime \(UNODC\)](#) took part in this Virtual Regional Parliamentary Webinar, kindly supported by Global Affairs Canada. This Webinar is a first of a series of 8 virtual projects in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean which PGA will organize over the course of the next 12 months, aimed at facilitating and encouraging parliamentary diplomacy to promote greater universality of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT), the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials (CPPNM) and its Amendment (ACPPNM).

The Webinar was opened by Mr. Peter Barcroft, Director of the International Peace and Security Programme of PGA, providing an extensive overview of the importance of the subject matter of the Webinar in the context of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the concomitant need for improved emergency preparedness to address several ongoing, existential threats. The importance of promoting the Women Peace and Security Agenda, mobilizing more women parliamentarians in this arena, was also underscored.

The first presentation from Ms. Maria Lorenzo Sobrado, Head of the CBRN Terrorism Prevention Programme of the UNODC, introduced the participants to the [International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism \(ICSANT\)](#) and UNODC's related assistance programs and activities. The numerous benefits and advantages of joining ICSANT were also subsequently highlighted. The relevance and importance of ICSANT also in the context of implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 and the role of parliamentarians in its implementation – as set out in UN Security Council Resolution 2325 (2016) was also reviewed for the benefit of all Participants

The second presentation was made by Mr. Jonathan Herbach, Legal Officer – Nuclear and Treaty Law Section at the Office of Legal Affairs of the IAEA, who conducted an in-depth review of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its Amendment, the numerous, substantial benefits accruing to States Parties as well as sharing with participants the wide range of peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology currently being deployed by IAEA, including in addressing zoonotic diseases.

Mr. Florian Delsert, Program Associate, International Peace and Security Programme, PGA subsequently made a short presentation setting out a number of different, pragmatic steps that Parliamentarians can take to promote universalization of ICSANT, CPPNM and its Amendment, as well as sharing with participants how Women, both directly and indirectly, are disproportionately impacted by Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

Hon. Beatrice Epaye, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of Central African Republic, made a substantive and informative contribution to the proceedings of this Webinar, recalling her own past contributions leading to ratification of the Biological Weapons Convention by the Central African Republic as well as submission of its First Report to the UNSCR 1540 Committee, in which she played a [central role](#). Hon. Epaye recalled the sense of lack of urgency at the time, but with Covid-19, there is now a greater appreciation for, and understanding of, the importance of not leaving unaddressed grave threats to humanity.

A rich, extensive interactive session subsequently ensued among all participants, many inquiring about steps they could take in their own countries to promote greater adherence to the three treaties in question, taking into account also the continuing commission of acts of terrorism in certain African States and the need to also engage at respective regional levels as well. The Director of the Radiation Protection Authority of Zimbabwe also informed all Participants that his office was currently working on internal processes in seeking to make progress towards accession to the CPPNM and its Amendment.

PGA's IPSP Team will continue to stay in contact with the Workshop Participants/Registrants in the coming months to encourage ongoing follow-up actions, as appropriate, as well as providing requisite advocacy advice. PGA also encouraged participants to reach out and contact directly the representatives from UNODC and IAEA who participated in this Webinar. A follow-up Regional Africa Parliamentary Webinar for these participants, allowing them to share lessons learnt and experiences gained, pursuant to this Webinar, will be organized by PGA in approximately 6 months' time.

PETER BARCROFT
OPENING REMARKS

JONATHAN HERBACH
PRESENTATION

MARIA LORENZO SOBRADO
PRESENTATION

FLORIAN DELSERT
THE PATH FORWARD

For more information about the meeting, please contact:

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Campaign Donor

PGA is grateful to Global Affairs Canada for its kind support of this series of Regional Parliamentary Webinars engaging female and male parliamentarians in promoting nuclear and radiological security.

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PARLIAMENTARY HANDBOOK

on the Role of **Women Parliamentarians**
in Preventing the Proliferation
of **Weapons of Mass Destruction**



GUIDE PARLEMENTAIRE

sur le rôle des **femmes parlementaires**
dans la prévention de la prolifération
des **armes de destruction massive**



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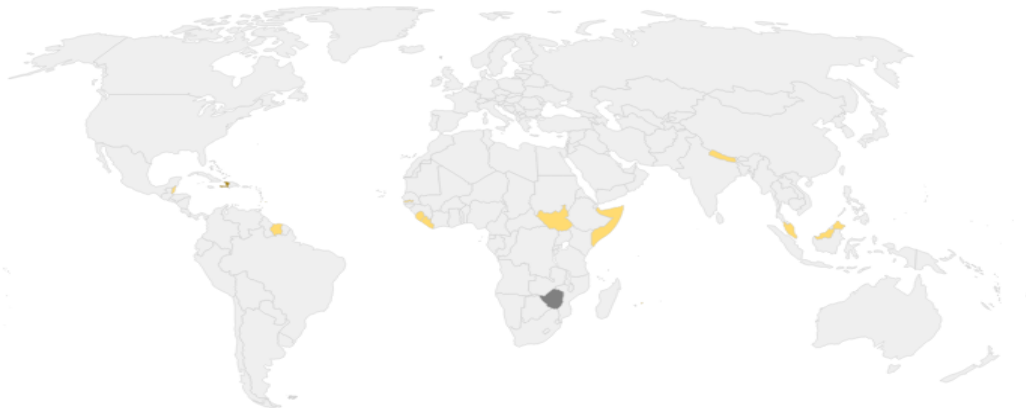
CPPNM | Key Provisions

The CPPNM obliges States Parties to:

- Take specific measures and respect the defined standards of physical protection for international shipments of nuclear material for peaceful purposes (plutonium, uranium 235, uranium 233 and spent fuel)
- Undertake not to export or import nuclear materials or to authorize their transit through their territory unless they have been assured that such materials will be protected during international transport in accordance with the levels of protection determined by the Convention;
- Cooperate in the recovery and protection of stolen nuclear material, by sharing information on missing nuclear material;
- Criminalize specified acts, including the misuse or threat to misuse nuclear material to harm the public; and
- Prosecute or extradite those accused of committing such acts. States Parties undertake to include these offenses as extraditable offenses in any future extradition treaty to be concluded between them.

The Convention also provides a framework for international cooperation in the exchange of information on physical protection.

Target Signatory State Target Non-Signatory State



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African States Parties to CPPNM

- *Algeria*
- *Angola*
- *Benin*
- *Botswana*
- *Burkina Faso*
- *Cabo Verde*
- *Cameroon*
- *Central African Republic*
- *Chad*
- *Congo*
- *Cote d'Ivoire*
- *Democratic Republic of Congo*
- *Djibouti*
- *Eritrea*
- *Eswatini*
- *Gabon*
- *Ghana*
- *Guinea*
- *Guinea-Bissau*
- *Kenya*
- *Lesotho*
- *Malawi*
- *Mali*
- *Mauritania*
- *Morocco*
- *Mozambique*
- *Namibia*
- *Niger*
- *Nigeria*
- *Rwanda*
- *Senegal*
- *South Africa*
- *Sudan*
- *Togo*
- *Tunisia*
- *Uganda*
- *Tanzania*
- *Zambia*
- *Zimbabwe*

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African States not State Party to ➤ Sierra Leone

CPPNM targeted by PGA

➤ *Somalia*

➤ *Gambia*

➤ *South Sudan*

➤ *Liberia*

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African States Parties to ACPN

- *Algeria*
- *Angola*
- *Benin*
- *Botswana*
- *Burkina Faso*
- *Cameroon*
- *Chad*
- *Cote d'Ivoire*
- *Djibouti*
- *Eritrea*
- *Eswatini*
- *Gabon*
- *Ghana*
- *Kenya*
- *Lesotho*
- *Malawi*
- *Mali*
- *Mauritania*
- *Namibia*
- *Niger*
- *Nigeria*
- *Rwanda*
- *Senegal*
- *Tunisia*

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African States not State Party to ➤ Sierra Leone

ACPPNM targeted by PGA

➤ *Central African Republic*

➤ *Democratic Republic of Congo*

➤ *Gambia*

➤ *Guinea*

➤ *Guinea-Bissau*

➤ *Liberia*

➤ *Mauritius*

➤ *Mozambique*

➤ *Somalia*

➤ *South Sudan*

➤ *Tanzania*

➤ *Togo*

➤ *Uganda*

➤ *Zambia*





➤ *Zimbabwe*

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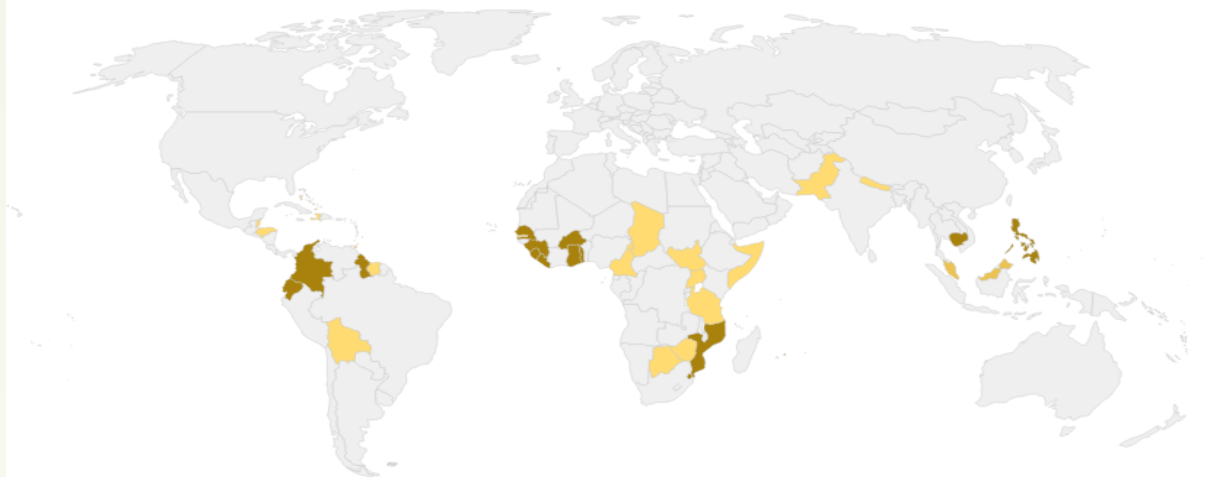


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ICSANT | Key Provisions

-  A broader definition (than the Convention on the Protection of Nuclear Material) of materials and facilities covering both military and civilian applications
-  The criminalization of the planning, threat or execution of acts of nuclear terrorism; it obliges states to criminalize these offenses through implementation in national law and to establish penalties according to the seriousness of these crimes
-  Guidelines for extradition and other punitive measures
-  The obligation for States to take all possible measures to prevent and counter the preparations for offenses which take place inside or outside their territory.

 Target Signatory State  Target Non-Signatory State



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African States Parties to ICSANT

- *Algeria*
- *Benin*
- *Botswana*
- *Burundi*
- *Cote d'Ivoire*
- *Democratic Republic of the Congo*
- *Djibouti*
- *Gabon*
- *Guinea-Bissau*
- *Kenya*
- *Lesotho*
- *Libya*
- *Madagascar*
- *Malawi*
- *Mali*
- *Mauritania*
- *Morocco*
- *Namibia*
- *Niger*
- *Nigeria*
- *South Africa*
- *Tunisia*
- *Zambia*

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African States not State Party to ➤ Mozambique

ICSANT targeted by PGA

➤ *Burkina Faso*

➤ *Cameroon*

➤ *Chad*

➤ *Eswatini*

➤ *Gambia*

➤ *Ghana*

➤ *Guinea*

➤ *Liberia*

➤ *Senegal*

➤ *Sierra Leone*

➤ *Somalia*

➤ *South Sudan*

➤ *Tanzania*

➤ *Togo*

➤ *Uganda*

➤ *Zimbabwe*

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The Challenge:

The Convention for the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials (CPPNM) was adopted on 26th October 1979 and entered into force on 8th February, 1987. CPPNM provides for certain levels of physical protection during the international transport of nuclear material, in addition to establishing a general framework for cooperation among States in the protection, recovery, and return of stolen nuclear material. CPPNM also lists certain serious offenses involving nuclear material to be prescribed and punished by States Parties, and for which offenders are subject to a system of extradition or submission for prosecution.

In 1996, the UN Secretary-General (UNSG) prepared a report pursuant to UN General Assembly Resolution 50/53 (A/RES/50/53), which analyzed international legal instruments in place relating to international terrorism. The Report concluded that a need existed to elaborate additional international frameworks in spheres not contemplated in existing treaties. One of the initiatives proposed was prevention of the use of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) by terrorists.

In the period immediately following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 in the United States of America, the risk of WMD related terrorism, including nuclear terrorism, began to receive more urgent attention on the part of the international community. Nuclear and radiological materials in the illicit market, in parallel, also became a significant point of alarm, in particular in the context of the revelations surrounding the A.Q. Khan nuclear smuggling networks in the 1980s and 1990s.

The ability of Non-State Actors, including terrorists and terrorist organizations, not only to obtain and use Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), but also to gain access to Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) materials, continues to pose a grave threat to international peace and security. In recent years, Non-State Actors have sought out new ways to acquire and use WMD in the commission of terrorist acts. With the ever-increasing growth and expansion of legal and illegal trade channels, the potential for access to such weapons and constitutive materials has, regrettably, only become easier.

The International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) was adopted on 13th April, 2005. ICSANT criminalizes the possession, use, or threat of use of radioactive devices by Non State Actors, their accomplices, and organizers "with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury" or environmental or property damage. ICSANT also requires States Parties governments either to prosecute terrorist suspects in domestic courts or extradite them to their home countries and also provides a framework for increased exchanges of information and greater cooperation between States in the pursuit of terrorist suspects. ICSANT also urges states to ensure the protection of radioactive materials, "taking into account" recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). ICSANT also classifies as a punishable offense any attacks on nuclear facilities that could risk the release of radioactive material.

However, as the quantity of nuclear material in circulation for civilian use has steadily increased, both CPPNM and ICSANT were considered not to be fully adequate in the protection of nuclear installations or nuclear materials in domestic use, storage, and transport. Pursuant to Article 2, the CPPNM applies to nuclear material used for peaceful purposes while in international nuclear transport. On 8 July 2005, the State Parties to the CPPNM adopted the Amendment to the CPPNM. The amended Convention makes it legally binding for States Parties to protect nuclear facilities and material in peaceful domestic use, storage as well as transport. The Amendment also provides for greater cooperation between and among States regarding rapid measures to locate and recover stolen or smuggled nuclear material, mitigate any radiological consequences of sabotage, and prevent and combat related offences.

| CPPNM | AMENDMENT TO CPPNM | ICSANT |
|--|--|--|
| Adopted: 26 October 1979 | Adopted: 8 July 2005 | Adopted: 13 April 2005 |
| Opened for Signature: 3 March 1980 | Opened for Signature: N/A | Opened for Signature: 14 September 2005 |
| Entered into Force: 8 February 1987 | Entered into Force: 8 May 2016 | Entered into Force: 7 July 2007 |
| Number of States Parties: 162 | Number of States Parties: 125 | Number of States Parties: 117 |
| Number of Signatories: 44 | Number of Signatories: N/A | Number of Signatories: 115 |
| Depositary: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) | Depositary: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) | Depositary: UN Secretary-General |

Le défi :

La Convention pour la Protection Physique des Matières Nucléaires (CPPNM) a été adoptée le 26 octobre 1979 et est entrée en vigueur le 8 février 1987. La CPPNM prévoit certains niveaux de protection physique pendant le transport international de matières nucléaires, en plus d'établir un régime général cadre de coopération entre les États pour la protection, la récupération et le retour des matières nucléaires volées. La CPPNM énumère également certaines infractions graves impliquant des matières nucléaires devant être prescrites et punies par les États parties, et pour lesquelles les contrevenants font l'objet d'un système d'extradition ou de poursuites.

En 1996, le Secrétaire Général des Nations Unies (SGNU) a préparé un rapport conformément à la résolution 50/53 de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies (A / RES / 50/53), qui analysait les instruments juridiques internationaux en place relatifs au terrorisme international. Le rapport concluait à la nécessité d'élaborer des cadres internationaux supplémentaires dans des domaines non envisagés dans les traités existants. L'une des initiatives proposées était la prévention de l'utilisation d'armes de destruction massive (ADM) par des terroristes.

Dans la période qui a immédiatement suivi les attentats terroristes du 11 septembre 2001 aux États-Unis d'Amérique, le risque de terrorisme lié aux ADM, y compris le terrorisme nucléaire, a commencé à recevoir une attention plus urgente de la part de la communauté internationale. Les matières nucléaires et radiologiques sur le marché illicite, en parallèle, sont également devenues un point d'alerte important, en particulier dans le cadre des révélations entourant les Réseaux de contrebande nucléaire d'A.Q. Khan dans les années 1980 et 1990.

La capacité des acteurs non étatiques, y compris des terroristes et des organisations terroristes, non seulement d'obtenir et d'utiliser des armes de destruction massive (ADM), mais aussi d'accéder à des matières chimiques, biologiques, radiologiques et nucléaires (CBRN), continue de poser problème. Une grave menace pour la paix et la sécurité internationales. Ces dernières années, des acteurs non étatiques ont recherché de nouveaux moyens d'acquiescer et d'utiliser des ADM dans la commission d'actes terroristes. Avec la croissance et l'expansion sans cesse croissantes des circuits commerciaux légaux et illégaux, le potentiel d'accès à ces armes et matériaux constitutifs n'est malheureusement devenu que plus facile.

La Convention internationale pour la Répression des Actes de Terrorisme Nucléaire (ICSANT) a été adoptée le 13 avril 2005. L'ICSANT criminalise la possession, l'utilisation ou la menace d'utilisation d'engins radioactifs par des acteurs non étatiques, leurs complices et organisateurs « avec l'intention causer la mort ou des blessures corporelles graves » ou des dommages environnementaux ou matériels. L'ICSANT exige également que les gouvernements des États parties poursuivent les suspects de terrorisme devant les tribunaux nationaux ou les extraditent vers leur pays d'origine et fournit également un cadre pour un échange d'informations accru et une plus grande coopération entre les États dans la poursuite des suspects de terrorisme. L'ICSANT exhorte également les États à assurer la protection des matières radioactives, « en tenant compte » des recommandations de l'Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique (AIEA). L'ICSANT classe également comme infraction punissable toute attaque contre des installations nucléaires qui pourrait risquer le rejet de matières radioactives.

Cependant, étant donné que la quantité de matières nucléaires en circulation à des fins civiles n'a cessé d'augmenter, la CPPNM et l'ICSANT ont été jugées insuffisantes pour la protection des installations nucléaires ou des matières nucléaires utilisées, stockées et transportées au niveau national. Conformément à l'article 2, la CPPNM s'applique aux matières nucléaires utilisées à des fins pacifiques lors du transport nucléaire international. Le 8 juillet 2005, les États parties à la CPPNM ont adopté l'amendement à la CPPNM. La Convention amendée rend juridiquement contraignante pour les États parties la protection des installations et des matières nucléaires utilisées à des fins pacifiques, au stockage et au transport. L'amendement prévoit également une coopération accrue entre les États et entre les États en ce qui concerne les mesures rapides pour localiser et récupérer les matières nucléaires volées ou introduites en contrebande, atténuer les conséquences radiologiques du sabotage et prévenir et combattre les infractions connexes.


| CPPNM | AMENDEMENT À LA CPPNM | ICSANT |
|--|--|--|
| Adopté : 26 octobre 1979 | Adopté : 8 juillet 2005 | Adopté : 13 avril 2005 |
| Ouvert à signature : 3 mars 1980 | Ouvert à Signature : N/A | Ouvert à Signature : 14 septembre 2005 |
| Entrée en vigueur : 8 février 1987 | Entrée en vigueur : 8 mai 2016 | Entrée en vigueur : 7 juillet 2007 |
| Nombre d'États Parties : 162 | Nombre d'États Parties : 125 | Nombre d'États Parties : 117 |
| Nombre de Signataires : 44 | Nombre de Signataires : N/A | Nombre de Signataires : 115 |
| Dépositaire : Agence Internationale de l'Énergie Atomique (AIEA) | Dépositaire : Agence Internationale de l'Énergie Atomique (AIEA) | Dépositaire : Secrétaire Général des Nations Unies |

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Conference of the Parties to the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material 2022

28 March–1 April 2022, Vienna, Austria

Conference of the Parties to the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (A/CPPNM) 2022

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The **Conference of the Parties to the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (A/CPPNM)**, planned to take place from **28 March to 1 April 2022**, will mark just over **five years** after entry into force of the Amendment, a major milestone in the development of the international legal framework for nuclear security. The Director General of the IAEA, as depositary, is pleased to convene this important Conference in accordance with Article 16.1 of the CPPNM as amended. Ambassador Benno Laggner of Switzerland and Ambassador Suleiman Dauda Umar of Nigeria have been designated as Co-Presidents for the Conference.

The **CPPNM**, as strengthened by the Amendment, provides a solid framework for protecting nuclear facilities, as well as nuclear material in domestic use, storage and transport, as well as in international transport. It harmonizes approaches to combatting criminal acts involving nuclear material and facilities. It also serves as a basis for international cooperation in locating and recovering stolen or smuggled nuclear material, as well as in the case of sabotage.

The purpose of the Conference is to review the implementation of the CPPNM as amended and its adequacy as concerns the preamble, the whole of the operative part and the annexes in the light of the then prevailing situation.

In preparation for the Conference, the Secretariat, on behalf of the Parties, convened two informal Open-Ended Meetings of Legal and Technical Experts in July and November 2019, as well as two sessions of the Preparatory Committee in December 2020 and February 2021, which undertook Conference preparations including with respect to draft Rules of Procedure and a draft annotated agenda.




NGO Participation

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) may be represented at the Conference as observers, subject to the approval of the Parties, and participate as determined by the Parties. NGOs should inform the IAEA


“The Conference will provide an opportunity for the Parties to the Amendment and the CPPNM to underline their political commitment to nuclear security. It will also be an occasion to promote further universalization. I hope that we will have a substantive dialogue and exchange of best practices that will lead to more effective implementation.”

– Ambassador Benno Laggner, Switzerland’s Resident Representative to the IAEA and designated Co-President of the Conference

Related resources

-  [Side Event Request Form](#)
-  [Conference Poster](#)
-  [Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material \(CPPNM\) and its Amendment](#)
-  [5 Questions on the CPPNM and its Amendment](#)
-  [Nuclear Security Information Portal \(NUSEC\) Portal: CPPNM and A/CPPNM \(Restricted\)](#)

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-  [Send an email](#)



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We welcome your questions and comments.

THANK YOU

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