



*Ministero degli Affari Esteri  
e della Cooperazione Internazionale*



*National Agency for New Technologies,*

*Energy and Sustainable Economic Development*

***High-Level Event Nuclear Security Summit 2016 and beyond:  
the role of training and support centres and Centres of Excellence***

*Bologna, Italy  
7-8 May 2015*

The high-level event “Nuclear Security Summit 2016 and beyond: the role of training and support centres and Centres of Excellence” was organized by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development, in cooperation with the European Union and the IAEA. The aim was to evaluate how the nuclear security training and support centres and Centres of Excellence (NSSC/CoE) can contribute to sustaining nuclear security worldwide, and how the NSSC/CoE can be sustained beyond the NSS process.

A number of countries co-sponsoring the Gift Basket “Nuclear Security Training and Support Centres / Centres of Excellence - NSSC/CoE” actively contributed to the success of the Event. Moreover, the Diploma Ceremony of the ICTP-IAEA International School on Nuclear Security was held in Bologna on 8 May to celebrate the fifth year of this initiative announced by Italy at the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington in 2010.

A total of 80 participants from 25 countries, of which four non-NSS countries, and seven Organizations, took part to the two-day Event. On the second day, with the ICTP-IAEA School joining the gathering, 130 participants from 70 countries were present, only half of them from the NSS community.

The programme of the Event covered four topics: the expansion of the network, governance challenges, widening the scope, and NSSC/CoE for Education and Training. A panel session was dedicated to “How to sustain the NSSC/CoE in the long term”. The main outcomes are summarized below.

- Nuclear Security Training and Support Centres / Centres of Excellence are a key element of the global nuclear security architecture promoting nuclear security culture worldwide. Sustaining the NSSC/CoEs contributes to the sustainment of the national nuclear security regime and, ultimately, to the sustainability of the international nuclear security framework.
- Although they have increased in number considerably in the past few years, more NSSC/CoE are needed and their number will likely increase in the future. However, not all countries have resources or perceive the need for a national NSSC/CoE, and some prefer a regional approach. International and Regional Schools on nuclear security, such as the Joint IAEA-ICTP School in Trieste and the one just started in Indonesia, have already registered the participation of several hundred international trainees and several of the existing national NSSC/CoE are already open to international participants.
- Seven key elements for the sustainability of NSSC/CoE were highlighted, rooted at national, regional and international level.



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## **National Level**

### **1 - Commitment**

- Political commitment: decision to establish NSSC/CoE and nuclear security high in the political agenda.
- Legislation: establishment of NSSC/CoE laid down by law with mandatory nuclear security training.
- Customer commitment: NSSC/CoE based on real national needs for training and support. Some NSSC/CoE have expanded and broadened their scope beyond nuclear security, covering e.g safety, safeguards, non-proliferation, EPR, strategic trade control and cybersecurity.

### **2 - Integration**

- Establishing dedicated sessions for education (Universities, academia) and strengthening the coordination between training and education.
- Sharing experience and R&D with other national institutes to ensure scientific advancements and continuous engagement of the scientific communities (e.g. detection, models/simulations, forensic, cybersecurity).
- Providing technical support for decision-makers.
- Developing national exercises and response plans.
- Testing technologies for relevant authorities and industry.

## **Regional Level**

### **3 - Building Trust**

- Creation of regional networks and mechanisms of coordination (e.g. the regional network launched by Japan, Korea and China and the EU CBRN CoE Risk Mitigation Initiative).

### **4 - Synergies**

- Taking advantage of complementarities of training offered by various NSSC/CoE in the Region, e.g. on physical protection, export control, forensic, cybersecurity.

## **International Level**

### **5 - IAEA role**

- Providing support “as long as it is needed, with the understanding that long-term sustainability will remain in the hand of states”:
  - providing training materials based on IAEA guidance
  - providing instructors and supporting train-the-trainers courses
  - maintaining and developing the NSSC network for sharing best practices and foster cooperation and collaboration
  - providing other forms of support.

### **6 - International cooperation**

- Providing in-kind support, experts and expertise, e.g. G7 Global Partnership.
- Filling the gaps related to nuclear security needs at national/regional level, e.g. EU CBRN CoE Risk Mitigation Initiative.
- Exchanging best practices, e.g. GICNT partners.
- Ensuring the quality of programmes (“the NSSC/CoE has to BE excellent”), e.g. peer reviews from IAEA or among NSSC/CoEs in the NSSC Network.

### **7 - Monitoring sustainability**

- Defining common indicators to measure the impact of NSSC/CoE, e.g. at regional level.