



# **STATEMENT**

by

Jürgen Stock

INTERPOL Secretary General

## **2016 NUCLEAR SECURITY SUMMIT**

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Mr. President,

Distinguished Heads of State and Governments,

Your Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- INTERPOL appreciates the opportunity to deliver a brief statement, which we recognize takes place against a most regrettable backdrop.
- Brussels and Lahore stand at the forefront of our mind as the most recent in a string of attacks that have left scores of victims in their wake.
- As INTERPOL condemns these acts of terrorism in the strongest terms, we turn to confront a potential nuclear threat of even greater consequence.
- Yet, the present and future are closely linked.

- We received a chilling reminder of this recently, following news that members of ISIL were surveilling a nuclear official in Belgium.
- In other words, the terrorist threat of today remains indivisible from the threat of nuclear terrorism tomorrow.
- The perpetrators we currently face are the ones we fear wish to harness the devastating effects of nuclear material.
- We must stop them, and INTERPOL is working with law enforcement in 190 member countries in order to do this.
- Since 2010, details on 44 suspects connected to nuclear trafficking have been shared with INTERPOL, including those convicted of trafficking in highly enriched uranium (HEU).
- They join in our system 6,000 profiles of foreign terrorist fighters and nearly 500 profiles of individuals sanctioned by the United Nations Security Council.
- Any one of them could be a key actor in a nuclear plot. But just sharing this information makes no difference if it is not accessible to authorities on the ground.

- This is the added value of INTERPOL. We continue to expand our infrastructure so that law enforcement in any given country can access information shared from 190 countries.
- This means on the streets, at international airports, maritime ports and border crossings, helping a single official benefit from real-time information sharing to identify a dangerous individual of the global community.
- However, too much information in concert with too few law enforcement presents an equally frustrating challenge.
- To address it, INTERPOL has adopted a quality over quantity approach. This emphasizes building capacity and providing analysis.
- Since 2006, we have enhanced the abilities and experience of counter-nuclear experts globally through more than 20 different workshops, courses and tabletop exercises.
- We have strengthened our centralized criminal analysis function to help with early warning and prevention.

- As a result, we are using our global perspective to close the gap between a suspected terrorist being known to law enforcement, and being stopped by them before they act.
- Finally, information sharing, global connectivity, capacity building and analysis are the basis for our work in helping law enforcement counter the cyber threat.
- This is done out of our Global Complex for Innovation in Singapore, which would not exist without support from Singapore.

Your Excellencies,

- The conclusion of the Nuclear Security Summit process should be seen as a starting point, not an end point.
- INTERPOL will soon be launching intensive, transnational operations that proactively target individuals suspected or wanted for terrorism-related offences, including the trafficking of nuclear material.
- For this, we will rely on information in our system to generate actionable law enforcement intelligence and better define which investigative leads to prioritize.

- In a complementary fashion, we are focusing our attention on building sustainable counter-nuclear smuggling capacity in strategically relevant countries.
- This year, thanks to support from Canada and Jordan, INTERPOL began providing long-term technical resources and training in this area to Jordan. We plan to replicate this programme in Mexico soon.
- These are just a few ways INTERPOL is continuing its work following the Nuclear Security Summit.
- We are able to do this because of the many countries here, which are supporting INTERPOL financially.
- Without this support, our work would not be possible.
- With your continued support, INTERPOL can only grow stronger, as we work with you and our partner organizations – the IAEA and UN – to implement our respective action plans.
- Thank you.