

**International School on Nuclear Security
Trieste, ICTP, 8 April 2013**

**Remarks by Mr Giovanni Brauzzi, Deputy Director General for Political and
Security Affairs - Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.**

Director, Authorities, Course Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen ~

Thank you for your invitation to speak at this event.

In 2009 at the Summit in L'Aquila the G8 Leaders pledged that they would seek a safer world for all, and create the conditions for a world without nuclear weapons.

In 2010 the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington was a very significant step in this direction, and so was the follow-up process in the Summit that took place in Seoul in 2012. On this basis, we are working hard in view of the next Nuclear Security Summit to be held in The Hague in March 2014.

At the Washington Summit in 2010, the issue of the human dimension was mentioned in the final Communiqué and was part of the Work Plan approved by the 47 participating nations.

At the time of the Washington Summit there was a widespread conviction that nuclear energy could be the ultimate power source for highly energy-consuming development programs. As a result, the risk of nuclear materials being diverted for illegal purposes began to be perceived as increasing.

The expectations of a “nuclear renaissance” as regards energy supply somehow changed in response to the Fukushima accident in 2011, but the threat of nuclear terrorism still continues over time.

The strengthening of nuclear security is thus a common imperative. Leaders at the Seoul Nuclear Security Summit in march last year recognized that investment in human capacity building is fundamental to promoting and sustaining a strong nuclear security culture. To that end, States are encouraged to share best practices and build national capabilities, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

At the national level, the responsibility of enhancing security culture relies not only on government and regulatory bodies but also on industry, academia, nongovernmental organizations and the media, with the aim of promoting human development through education and training.

With this in mind, the establishment of Centers of Excellence and other nuclear security training and support centers within the framework of the Nuclear Security summits process is a clear sign of the commitment of the international community in this field.

In this regard, the IAEA plays a pivotal role in promoting networks among such centers to share experience and lessons learned and to optimize available resources.

Distinguished participants,

I said we have a duty to provide improved nuclear safety, in order to safeguard our citizens and, especially, the younger and future generations.

Still, nuclear security culture goes far beyond the traditional focus on material protection, control, and accounting systems and equipment at the nuclear sites as the keystone to effective security. It also includes management, organization and individual performance in ensuring that security systems meet the challenges and the threats of today's world.

Italy is therefore firmly convinced that safety, security and nuclear safeguards are essential to ensure a use of nuclear energy that adequately protects the health of the population and the integrity of the environment.

The International School on Nuclear Security, as an initiative launched together with the IAEA and the Trieste International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), specifically aims at promoting a nuclear security culture globally.

With its prestigious tradition of education and training with special attention to the needs of emerging nations, the ICTP is the perfect setting for this initiative. We are most grateful to the ICTP for their professionalism and their commitment.

We recognize that the School would not exist without the contribution of the IAEA, from the initial idea to the finalization of a high-level agenda and the capacity to attract high-profile lecturers.

The large number of applications demonstrates the strong interest in the initiative in both developed and emerging countries.

As part of the outreach efforts aimed at raising awareness of the importance of nuclear security, Italy has addressed in particular the Balkan countries and encouraged participation of professionals from the region through a fellowship scheme funded by Italy through the Central European Initiative. A significant number of participants have benefited from these fellowships.

At this juncture, with safety considerations demanding the highest attention, we have to be careful never to lower our guard on security. Instead, we have to use this occasion to revise safety and security interfaces, to better understand them and mutually strengthen them. Our hope is that each of you will take home this message and the seeds of a nuclear security culture.

~ Thank you all very much indeed.~