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INTERPOL

INTERPOL Written Contribution to the Nuclear Security Summit (NSS)

21 March 2016 | Lyon, France

INTERPOL: The Global Law Enforcement Platform for Countering Nuclear Terrorism

Nuclear terrorism remains an ever-present threat that must be on the forefront of our minds, not in the background. There is no room for error. Any gap in our response is a door for criminals and terrorists to purchase, smuggle or deploy the materials needed for a weapon of mass destruction. This is why our response must be global; a regional or national approach only creates vulnerabilities we cannot afford. We cannot afford to leave law enforcement out of the picture either. Targeting criminals and terrorists, and curbing their potential to achieve the sensational requires law enforcement to be proactive as a key part of their mandate. It must, however, be backed by the requisite expertise, resources, and network for prevention. This is where INTERPOL comes in.

Global, operational, and present on the ground, INTERPOL has been working with law enforcement to address transnational security challenges since 1923. Those countries participating in the Nuclear Security Summit are only a subset of the 190 member countries, which INTERPOL now serves. Relating to criminal and terrorist offences involving nuclear or other radioactive material, INTERPOL provides a forum for collecting operational data, deploying investigative support and building confidence between law enforcement communities. We are a committed partner to the NSS process, and have demonstrated this through our efforts since the second summit in 2012. We have not waited to act because we cannot afford to wait.

BY THE NUMBERS: PROVEN RESULTS FROM GLOBAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION (2012-2016)

1. Capacity Building:

- **5 TABLE TOP EXERCISES (Hosted in Netherlands x 2, Ukraine, Peru, and Thailand):** These exercises promoted national interagency cooperation through the sharing of information/intelligence, and provided a multi-agency coordinated response to a terrorist incident and the investigation of it.
- **7 IAEA-INTERPOL RADIOLOGICAL CRIME SCENE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS (Hosted in Czech Republic, China, Algeria, Morocco, Malaysia, Lithuania, and Colombia):** These workshops aimed to strengthen the ability of participants to ensure safe, effective operations at a crime scene where nuclear or other radioactive materials are known to be or are suspected to be present.

2. Operational Information Sharing:

- **44 SUSPECTED OR WANTED INDIVIDUALS IDENTIFIED:** A number of notices and diffusions have been issued for suspected or wanted individuals connected to the nuclear threat. They were made available on a restricted basis to 190 countries, consistent with our rules on data processing and protection. These notices have been issued under Operation Fail Safe.¹
- **47 SPECIALIZED POINTS OF CONTACTS NOMINATED:** INTERPOL National Central Bureaus (NCBs) and other specialized representatives were identified in key countries to improve the quality and speed of information being shared on suspected traffickers.

¹ Operation FAIL SAFE is the INTERPOL international operational support initiative to increase global nuclear security that provides a capability to the international law enforcement community to track the movements of individuals involved in the trafficking of radioactive or nuclear material. The main tool is to inform Member Countries about these individuals is the Green Notice, which alert countries to an individual's involvement in the trafficking of radioactive or nuclear material upon query.

- **3,400 ENTRIES IN PROJECT GEIGER DATABASE:** Information concerning nuclear or other radioactive material outside of regulatory control was collected, entered into a database, and analysed from a strategic perspective. This is sourced from INTERPOL member country police services, open sources, and the IAEA through its Incident and Trafficking Database (ITDB). Project Geiger data also serves to identify target individuals to be included on INTERPOL Notices.

3. Investigative Support:

- **5 RADIOLOGICAL NUCLEAR INVESTIGATIVE COURSES (Hosted in Poland, Croatia, Panama, Philippines, Uzbekistan):** These focused on helping experienced investigators and mid-level law enforcement supervisors with conducting effective intelligence-driven, prevention-oriented investigations into instances of suspected acts of terrorism involving radiological and nuclear (RN) weapons, materials and technology.

4. Awareness and Confidence Building Measures:

- **5 REGIONAL COUNTER NUCLEAR SMUGGLING WORKSHOPS (Hosted in Poland, Turkey, Tajikistan, Vietnam and Mexico):** These raised awareness of the reality of the illicit trafficking of nuclear and other radioactive material, the concept and establishment of counter nuclear smuggling teams, and the role of INTERPOL.
- **1 GLOBAL COUNTER NUCLEAR SMUGGLING CONFERENCE (January 2016):** This brought together 270 law enforcement officials and independent experts, representing almost 120 countries and organizations. Together they shared best practices as well as operational and investigative experiences in countering nuclear smuggling.

NEXT STEPS: THE INTERPOL RADNUC STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NSS ACTION PLAN

INTERPOL plans to continue on the path it has carved over the last four years, while aiming to incorporate elements of the INTERPOL NSS Action Plan along the way. As a priority, we have identified a singular goal and three supporting actions for the coming years that align with this Action Plan:

Goal: Constrict, isolate and, ultimately suppress criminals and terrorists seeking to unlawfully traffic, possess and/or use nuclear or other radioactive material.

- **Capacity:** Develop law enforcement capabilities and facilitate disruptive action that counters the illicit trafficking of nuclear or other radioactive material.
 - o CNS Workshops; CONDUIT Operations and Project STONE²
- **Preparedness:** Strengthen regional capability to respond to and investigate incidents of criminality or terrorism involving nuclear or other radioactive material.
 - o Radiological Nuclear Investigations Training; Radiological Crime Scene Management Workshops; Radiological Nuclear Table Top Exercises
- **Prevention:** Support regional law enforcement and specialized agencies in developing a partnership approach to the security of legitimately held radioactive material.

² Project STONE was launched in March 2016 and increases the ability to control illicit nuclear trafficking by providing technical resources and training to member countries interested in developing their counter nuclear smuggling capacity. It comprises two phases. Phase one is devoted to capacity building and training activities aimed at the law enforcement community operating in the area of combatting the smuggling of nuclear and other radiological materials. Phase two is oriented towards the coordination and implementation of Project STONE in the field.

- Radiological Nuclear Countermeasures Workshops; Project MERCURY³

These three objectives will be achieved in targeted sub-regions, and the related activities will be undertaken on a priority basis as identified by experts and the international community.

- Four (4) sub-regions in Africa (East; South; West; Sahara)
- Two (2) sub-regions in Asia (South; East)
- Three (3) sub-regions in the Americas (Central; South; Caribbean)
- Two (2) sub-regions in the MENA (Middle East; North Africa)

Additionally, INTERPOL plans to develop a national capability in all three supporting action areas for countries that either request it, or for countries where there is a strategic need. This involves a more sustainable, ground-level capacity building programme that would be implemented by INTERPOL, in cooperation with partners, to assist with the development of RADNUC, and ideally CBRNE specialist units.

Figure 1: Visualizing Implementation of INTERPOL RADNUC Strategy

Goal: Constrict, isolate and, ultimately, suppress criminals and terrorists seeking to unlawfully traffic, possess and/or use nuclear or other radioactive material.



Overall, this proposal requires the support and input of INTERPOL member countries, and we call upon the participating states at the NSS to engage us so that they can learn more about INTERPOL and our plan for a world safe from nuclear terrorism.

³ Project MERCURY will be launched in September 2016 as a series of international law enforcement specialist courses at the Nevada Nuclear Security Site (NNSS) with training that has been jointly developed by INTERPOL and Counter Terrorism Operational Support (CTOS) and which will be delivered by the instructors at the NNSS and supported by INTERPOL staff. The training will prepare international law enforcement to take immediate, decisive action in preventing or responding to terrorist use of nuclear or other radioactive materials

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OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL
REPRESENTATIVE OF INTERPOL
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(planned for late 2015)

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REGIONAL BUREAU

..... **BANGKOK, THAILAND**
LIAISON OFFICE

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