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ON UNITED NATIONS STUDY ON DISARMAMENT AND NON-PROLIFERATION EDUCATION

CONTRIBUTION BY THE WORLD INSTITUTE FOR NUCLEAR SECURITY (WINS)

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Executive Summary

WINS was established in 2008 as a professional institute dedicated to providing a platform for personnel and managers with nuclear security accountabilities to share and promote best practices in nuclear security management. WINS has grown to over 8,300 members in 163 countries and has published 34 Best Practice Guides and 22 Special Reports on a variety of topics related to nuclear and radioactive sources security and conducted 200 workshops in over 30 countries.

In 2014, to meet the demand for demonstrable competence in nuclear security, WINS launched the WINS Academy, the world’s first international certification programme for nuclear security management. Since then, the Academy has produced over 1000 successful Alumni, with a rising number of female alumni.

WINS’ work is related to all management of all nuclear and other radioactive materials – including issues related to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

WINS Contribution to Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

Disarmament and non-proliferation are crucial for ensuring a safe and secure nuclear future. However, recent events driven by significant geopolitical shifts demonstrate that achieving this common goal remains a long and challenging journey. Understanding these profound changes is essential to reframe and reshape our approach to disarmament and non-proliferation. In particular, nuclear security plays a vital role in this process—it is essential to protect nuclear materials and installations wherever they are. This includes the military sector and nuclear materials released from military uses.

There is a crucial interconnection between non-proliferation and nuclear security, resulting in mutual reinforcement. Nuclear security supports non-proliferation by ensuring that nuclear materials and technology are not diverted for weapon development. Conversely, strong non-proliferation and disarmament measures reduce the number of actors with access to sensitive nuclear materials and technology, simplifying the task of securing these resources.

Over the past two years, WINS has organized numerous workshops—some specifically focused on strengthening nuclear security capabilities that are also useful as non-proliferation and disarmament measures. These workshops have addressed topics such as the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its Amendment, transport security, and threat mitigation. Many training courses on cybersecurity in the nuclear industry have been across the globe. These trainings significantly strengthen nuclear security regionally and non-proliferation and disarmament globally.

The WINS Academy offers ten programmes for individuals and organizations in nuclear security wishing to broaden and deepen their understanding of specific aspects of nuclear security. Particularly through modules on transport security management, cybersecurity in the nuclear industry – issues that are central in non-proliferation and disarmament.

Being a WINS member provides access to a wealth of relevant publications produced since 2008. Notable recent publications directly linked to non-proliferation and disarmament include special reports such as “Nuclear Security 2.0 – The Post-24th February 2022 [Dis]order and its implications for Nuclear
Security”, as well as Best Practice Guides like “4.3 Cybersecurity in the Nuclear Industry” and “4.10 Nuclear Transport Security.”

WINS remains at the disposal of UNODA and the UN for collaboration on initiatives aimed at enhancing global nuclear security, supporting non-proliferation efforts, and contributing to disarmament processes.