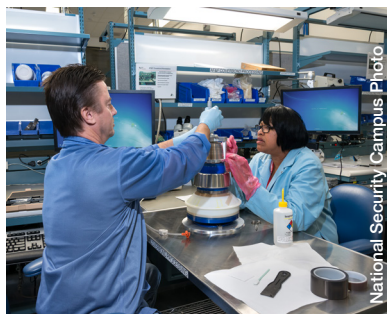




Bruce Boulineau, SRS Photo



National Security Campus Photo



White House Photo



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“We must ensure that terrorists never acquire a nuclear weapon. This is the most immediate and extreme threat to global security. One terrorist with one nuclear weapon could unleash massive destruction...To protect our people, we must act with a sense of purpose without delay.”

– President Barack Obama

Nuclear terrorism is one of the greatest threats to our collective security. If any terrorist networks that have been trying to get their hands on a nuclear device succeed, the consequences for the world would be catastrophic.

Locking down nuclear materials and strengthening the global nuclear security architecture are the best ways to prevent this threat and that is why, in 2010, President Obama decided to take this issue directly to other world leaders.

On March 31 and April 1, President Obama will host the 2016 Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, DC. This will be the fourth and final in a series of Summits that have brought together leaders from 50+ countries and four international organizations to highlight accomplishments and make new commitments towards reducing the threat of nuclear terrorism.

Through the Summit Process, the international community has strengthened the international organizations, institutions and multilateral legal instruments that make up the nuclear security architecture, and improved coordination among them.

The international community has also focused on common sense, but critical steps, like bolstering security at facilities with nuclear and radioactive material. Another part of this process is minimizing the civilian use of highly-enriched uranium, which can be used to make nuclear weapons, by removing and eliminating this material. Since the President’s April 2009 Prague speech, historic quantities of highly enriched uranium (HEU) and plutonium have been removed through U.S. actions in cooperation with international partners.

Accomplishments in material minimization since 2009 include:

- Removal or disposition of over 3.8 metric tons of foreign material by the U.S. and its partners (enough for over 150 nuclear weapons)

- Over 29 metric tons of U.S. surplus HEU that the United States down-blended (enough for over 1,100 nuclear weapons)
- Approximately 138 metric tons of Russian weapons-origin HEU that U.S. experts confirmed was permanently eliminated under the HEU Purchase Agreement (enough for over 5,500 nuclear weapons), and
- Over 5.8 metric tons of Russian non-weapons origin HEU that was down-blended with U.S. support (enough for over 230 nuclear weapons).

With an emphasis on transparency and cooperation, we have expanded our ability to prevent, detect and respond to trafficking in nuclear and other radioactive material. These efforts included the installation of radiation detection equipment at 329 international border crossings, airports, and seaports. We have also improved our ability to locate smuggled material, find nuclear smugglers, and bring them to justice.

Our work to combat the threat of nuclear terrorism will never be done, but the Nuclear Security Summits have yielded tangible results in the fight. The 2016 Summit will allow leaders to highlight the accomplishments that have been made and commit to the further expansion and strengthening of the global nuclear security architecture.

Beyond the Nuclear Security Summit, the United States will continue to work with other organizations focused on reducing the nuclear threat, including the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT), and the G-7 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (Global Partnership).

Learn more about the Nuclear Security Summit at www.nss2016.org