



REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COOPERATION

Her Excellency Dr. Maria Ângela Bragança
Secretary of State for Cooperation of the Republic of Angola
Speech to Be Delivered at the Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety

(Fukushima, December 15-17, 2012)

Mr. President
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Angola and on my own behalf, I would like to begin by congratulating the Government and the people of Japan for organizing this Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety. It is with great honour that we accepted the invitation to attend this important gathering.

Angola and Japan share deep-rooted ties of friendship and cooperation, thus it was with deep regret and profound sadness that we received the news of the catastrophe that hit Japan on March 2011. We would like to take this opportunity to express our admiration and solidarity with the Japanese people for the incredible selflessness and resilience shown in the wake of 3/11.

Likewise we would like to congratulate the organizing committee of the Conference for the excellent facilities made available to the delegations as well as your election, Mr. President, to lead this gathering which surely will result in

conclusions that can bear witness to our firm commitment to coordinate ideas and efforts towards Peace and Security of Mankind, outlining actions towards the path for solid and responsible Nuclear Safety committed to those goals.

Mr. President,
Distinguished Delegates

The international situation increasingly calls for the need for States to coordinate their activities in different directions in order to tackle the huge challenges we face today, in a world dominated by advanced technologies but on the other hand by an alarming lack of dialogue and active solidarity, as highlighted by the international crisis that has been affecting the world since 2009 and as shown by the tension and conflict in different regions of the globe.

By attending this Conference, the Republic of Angola is aware of the importance of this event for the exchange of views on Nuclear Safety as well as on what we can share in the context of the lessons learned from the accident at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant, so that the Action Plan of the International Atomic Energy Agency on Nuclear Safety, adopted in September 2011 constitutes, in fact, a platform for action in this area.

The responsibility to ensure the application of high standards of nuclear safety and to provide appropriate responses to nuclear emergencies in a timely manner, setting safety Standards to ensure the safety and protection of people and the environment from the harmful effects of radiation, are among some of the commitments that urge States to establish

specific national programs and partnerships, particularly in terms of risk management at the borders to prevent accidents.

The political will of governments to implement actions in the field of nuclear safety based on information sharing that leads to the identification of the causes of accidents in a transparent manner and the search for the appropriate responses to situations of risk, are the key steps for the effective implementation of the actions stated in the Action Plan, approved by the 55th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in September 2011.

The international legal framework for nuclear safety is defined by a set of legal instruments signed and ratified by the different States, which are today part of the domestic law of many countries. Thus what is needed for us to act?

This Conference will provide answers to this question as well as analyse the lessons taken from previous disasters and promote consultation and partnership for a world based on the principles of dialogue, peaceful coexistence and international cooperation.

Mr. President
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen

The Republic of Angola adds its voice to the many others that are against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction but also recognizes the huge potential of Nuclear Energy for peaceful purposes, being this the essence that guides the Angolan legislation adopted, regarding this matter.

In this context, at the domestic level, we would like to highlight the passing of the "Nuclear Energy Act" whose goal is to regulate the use of nuclear energy, in terms of natural resources, socio-economic development and in the fight against major endemic diseases, without however, neglecting the safety aspect.

Mr. President
Distinguished Delegates

In the name of progress and within a framework of responsible development, we welcome the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency, of which we are a Member State, for its contribution to International Peace and Security, particularly through the "IAEA Action Plan on nuclear safety."

The International Atomic Energy Agency should continue to play an essential role in promoting dialogue and cooperation between states on nuclear safety, against acts of nuclear terrorism and all actions aimed at undermining the peace, stability and global security.

Finally the Republic of Angola hopes that this conference will contribute to better transparency and discussion of the various international efforts aimed at strengthening nuclear safety worldwide. I conclude wishing that the present agenda achieves the best possible results and that they may turn into projects of success.

Thank you very much