Contribution ID: **169** Type: **Paper**

The Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism Nuclear Forensics Self-Assessment Tool

For the past two-and-a-half years, the Nuclear Forensics Working Group (NFWG) of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) has worked on the development of the Nuclear Forensics Self-Assessment Tool (SAT). The SAT is designed to assist a national government structure an interagency dialogue to inventory and assess its national nuclear forensics capability. Its purpose is to ensure that a State considers key scientific and technical, operational and policy-related questions when collecting information when undertaking the self-assessment process. By using the SAT, it is anticipated that a State will gain a clearer sense of its nuclear forensics requirements and a better understanding of its scientific, technical, operational and policy gaps, and how these can be addressed as part of both a near- and long-term strategy.

The SAT is divided into three components: A. Identification of Nuclear Forensics Stakeholders; B. Collection of Information Related to Current Nuclear Forensics Capabilities; and C) Identification of Strengths and Gaps. Component B is further divided into four worksheets that facilitate the collection of information on the status of a State's nuclear forensics-related policies and legal frameworks, protocols and procedures for material evidence management, scientific and technical analytical capabilities, and human resource development strategy. The SAT suggests steps a country may take following the completion of the self-assessment; however, it does not prescribe what a national nuclear forensics capability should like, nor does it provide a State with solutions on how to address identified gaps. This paper will provide an overview of the SAT and a detailed discussion of the worksheets in Component B. It will also discuss proposed strategies for facilitating the use of the SAT collecting information derived from its use.

State

Canada

Gender

Male

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Track Classification: MORC: Nuclear forensics