Nuclear Security Summit, Seoul, 26-27 March 2012
Prime Minister of Pakistan’s Remarks during Dinner, 26 March 2012

Review of the progress made since the 2010 Washington Summit.

Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Good Evening

I thank you President Lee and the Government of the Republic of Korea, for hosting this Summit and for extending warm hospitality to all leaders assembled here.

Three years ago in Prague, President Barack Obama took the historic initiative to convene a Nuclear Security Summit to set out our common objectives for nuclear security. The Washington Summit was a great success. And this time, the Republic of Korea – a country with which Pakistan has deep, friendly ties – is carrying the torch.

Since the Washington Summit, we have seen swift movement in the field of nuclear security.

Together, we have taken steps to create a secure world that will not live under the fear of nuclear terrorist attacks. We firmly believe that nuclear materials must never fall into the hands of terrorists.

World leaders have invested political capital to create greater awareness about nuclear security and instill a sense of urgency in our efforts.

Mr. President,

The democratic government of Pakistan is fully committed to nuclear security. We have focused especially on capacity building and interaction with the international community.

We have established a Center of Excellence for Training, which conducts specialized courses in nuclear security, physical protection and personnel reliability. We offer this Centre of Excellence as a regional and international hub for training.

We are deploying Special Nuclear Material (SNM) portals at key entry and exit points to detect, deter and prevent illicit trafficking of nuclear and radioactive materials.

After the Fukushima accident, we carried out comprehensive stress tests of our nuclear power plants. Following these tests, we have refined and improved safety parameters.
We have been implementing our Nuclear Security Action Plan in cooperation with the IAEA. The plan reinforces physical protection of nuclear medical centers and civilian nuclear plants.

We have also developed a strong nuclear emergency response mechanism. Nuclear and Radiological Emergency Coordination Centers work closely with the first responders.

Pakistan has been active in international diplomacy to promote nuclear security. We have supported the work of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT). Our reports to the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 Committee have shared details of the measures we have taken to secure sensitive materials and technologies.

Pakistan had the honour of chairing the IAEA Board of Governors last year.

In South Asia, Pakistan is pursuing strategic restraint and confidence building through dialogue. This process, overtime, should guarantee security and stability in the region.

Last year, the IAEA Board of Governors unanimously approved the safeguards agreements of our two new civil nuclear power plants. This shows the international community’s continued confidence in the safety and security standards maintained by Pakistan.

To meet our growing energy needs, the National Command Authority has approved Nuclear Power Programme 2050. We urge the international community to give Pakistan access to nuclear technology for peaceful uses on a non-discriminatory basis.

Pakistan qualifies to become a member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group and other export control regimes.

As we meet here today, we break new ground on the evolving global nuclear security architecture, the role of the IAEA, and protection of nuclear materials and radioactive sources. Our consensus on these vital issues puts a roadmap in our hands for concerted national actions and international coordination to enhance nuclear security.

National measures are the most important part of our efforts to enhance nuclear security. If nations do not move, nothing would move. If nations move feebly, nuclear risks increase many times. But nations need to move together and learn from each other. And this is precisely what we aim to accomplish at this Summit

I thank you.