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Introduction

We have reached a point in history where we have to consider that there is a serious effort in figuring out what risk is. However, we have reached a point where the consequences of certain kinds of risks are so huge and so unpredictable that there can only be a national response or a global response from Governments working together. We are going to push into somewhat uncharted territory. It is at the intersection of science and governance, because we have two speakers who can really inform our views.

I am Jim Hoagland of The Washington Post. I wanted to first talk a little bit about how we are going to talk about nuclear technology. This includes arms control on the one hand and cyber security and the possibility of cyber terrorism on the other. This is the intersection of technology. We are going to deal with actual and probable catastrophes and how they have to be met.

I am going to very briefly introduce our two speakers. We have the Secretary General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Yukiya Amano. He has had a distinguished career as a diplomat, dealing with science, with non-proliferation and with nuclear matters. This is before becoming the Chief of the IAEA. Next is Scott Charney, who is the Corporate Vice-President for Trustworthy Computing at Microsoft. Is that not a wonderful title? Would you not like to have something like trustworthy attached to whatever it is you do? I am going to ask Scott to first of all explain to us what that means when I get to him.

However, I want to open with a point and then we will go into some questions and answers among the panel and then among the audience. As I said, you deserve a reward for your presence and we appreciate it. We have come to the point where there is a new global division developing, Mr Amano. This is as a result of Fukushima and as a result of 11 March. What we see in the world today is a reaction in developed countries, of questioning nuclear power and cutting back on it. However, in developing countries, there is a fairly undiminished appetite for more nuclear power and more nuclear reactors for the fuel cycle. It is also for access to a fuel cycle that also leads, of course, to nuclear weapons.

I wonder if you see this division taking shape and what can be done about it. Is there anything we have to do about it, to reduce the chances of proliferation? There are also countries that do not have the kind of established infrastructure to deal with accidents that, say, a country like Germany has. However, Germany is one of those countries that are moving away from nuclear power as a result. How do you see this?