

STATEMENT BY

THE HONOURABLE DATUK HAJAH NANCY SHUKRI MINISTER IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT HEAD OF DELEGATION OF MALAYSIA TO THE 60TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA) GENERAL CONFERENCE 26 SEPTEMBER 2016, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Mr. President,

- On behalf of the Malaysian delegation, I would like to congratulate you on your election as President of this 60th Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference and assure you of our fullest support and cooperation. We are pleased to welcome Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Islamic Republic of the Gambia as the new Member States to the IAEA.
- 2. The 60th anniversary of the establishment of the IAEA is indeed a historic year. The theme, "Atoms for Peace and Development" fully attests the central role of the Agency in promoting worldwide safe, secure and peaceful uses of nuclear technologies. The adoption of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development by the UN General Assembly in September 2015 provides further impetus to the Agency to make peaceful nuclear energy available to Member States in broader fields. The role of the IAEA in the promotion of peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology is increasingly important in helping to bring Member

States closer to achieving their developmental goals and priorities.

Mr. President,

- 3. As we embark into the 60th year of IAEA, we recall many accomplishments made by the Agency under the leadership of the Director General (DG) of the IAEA, Mr. Yukiya Amano and his office. These positive achievements such as the development of nuclear safety standards, nuclear security guidance and strengthening safeguard implementation as well as the promotion of technology transfer deserve our full recognition. We continue to pledge our full support to DG Amano and his office.
- 4. As a member of the IAEA since 1969, Malaysia has enjoyed a longstanding and mutually beneficial partnership with the Agency in the application of peaceful uses of nuclear technology for socio-economic development. Malaysia is intensifying its role and contribution to global peace, security and development from being a recipient country to sharing its expertise(s) and experience(s) with other countries.

Mr. President,

5. The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the spread of mosquito-borne Zika virus a global public health emergency. The widespread of Zika virus has been alarming across the regions including Malaysia and Singapore. While coordination, capacity building, information exchange and provision of experts' advice and issuance of guidelines on vector control and public health measures have been intensified at all levels, we believe that effective response to the on-going Zika outbreak necessitates collective responsibility of all international community and international organisations such as the IAEA. Malaysia, in partnership with the IAEA and the Food Aid Organisation (FAO) hosted a workshop in Kuala Lumpur from 5-9 September 2016, with the participation of more than 50 scientists and public health experts from 40 countries in Asia, Africa and the Americas, to learn the use of Sterile Insect Technique (SIT). The convening of this workshop was timely and clearly demonstrates the importance of the IAEA's role and assistance in the application of nuclear techniques to address issues of global public health.

6. Malaysia commends the Agency's efforts for successfully attaining full funding for the Renovation of the Nuclear Applications Laboratories (ReNuAL) project. We are pleased to be part of the Friends of ReNuAL and attach our full confidence towards the role of ReNuAL in strengthening the IAEA's trainings and support in various scientific and research activities.

Mr. President,

Malaysia recognises that strengthening nuclear safety is a continuous process, where effective and timely implementation of projects and activities related to the Action Plan could only be realised through our collective will. We appreciate the assistance and support provided by the Agency to Malaysia in the areas of

research reactor safety, response to radiological emergency, and environmental monitoring. We also expressed appreciation to the IAEA in conducting national workshop on promoting the Joint Conventions on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management as well as the support for Malaysia to host the 15th year of Malaysia-IAEA Post-Graduate Education Course (PGEC) in Radiation Protection and the Safety of Radioactive Sources. We look forward to IAEA's continuous support and assistance.

Mr. President

- 8. As a State Party to the Treaty to the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Malaysia believes that nuclear security should be addressed in a larger context of nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation as it contributes to a broader goal of international peace and security. The Fourth Nuclear Security Summit this year reflects the importance of strengthening nuclear security and our pursuits to achieve a nuclear weapon-free world. The entry into force of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material on 8th May 2016 and the upcoming IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security on 5 December reaffirms 2016 further our commitment strengthening nuclear security. We look forward to a constructive participation in this Conference.
- We are pleased with the commencing of Malaysia-IAEA collaboration on the integration of the establishment of Nuclear Security Detection Laboratory and Physical Protection Laboratory

under Malaysia's National Nuclear Security Support Centre (NSSC). Such collaboration will enhance the role of Malaysia's NSSC in supporting and strengthening capacity building programmes for nuclear security at national and regional levels. The implementation of the Malaysia-IAEA Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP) has been effective since 2007. This effective implementation of Malaysia-IAEA INSSP has enabled Malaysia's NSCC, for the first time, to play an independent role to host the IAEA Regional Training 'Train the Trainers for Front Line Officer' beginning 2017.

Mr. President,

- 10. Finally, Malaysia looks forward to continue working closely with the Agency on the Phase 1 Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review (INIR) Mission scheduled for October 2016. Malaysia is committed in co-hosting this mission in line with the established IAEA's guidelines.
- 11. In ensuring the Agency meets the objective as mandated in Article II of its Statute, Malaysia strongly emphasises the need for all Member States to give equal priority and consideration to the Agency's activities and programmes particularly those related to promotional activities.

Thank you Mr. President.

26 September 2016