

**STATEMENT**  
**of the Head of the Delegation of Ukraine**  
**at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Session of the IAEA General Conference,**  
**(17-21 September 2018, Vienna)**

**Madam President,**

Allow me to congratulate you on your election as President of the 62<sup>nd</sup> session of the IAEA General Conference.

My delegation wishes you success and stands ready to work constructively under your leadership.

I would like to express my country's appreciation to Director General Mr. Yukiya Amano, who has demonstrated outstanding talents of leadership during this challenging year. We also wish him a fast recovery.

**Madam President,**

Ukraine welcomes Agency's activities and highly values major achievements throughout 2018 in fulfilling key Agency missions such as non-proliferation, nuclear safety and security.

Ukraine recognizes irrefutable authority and independent role of the IAEA in applying safeguards. A Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement combined with an Additional Protocol constitute current verification standard, which we encourage all states to adopt.

Ukraine strongly supports the State-level concept and its further development. We are convinced that a consistent and universal application of State-level concept can contribute to further strengthening of efficiency and effectiveness of the IAEA Safeguards System and thus contribute to global non-proliferation efforts.

My country remains fully committed to its obligations under the NPT in general and the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and Additional Protocol to it in particular.

Since the act of aggression by the Russian armed forces in February 2014, the Agency reliably proved that the framework of the IAEA will never be used for impudent attempts to recognize any alteration of the status of Crimea. In this regard, we highly value important role, which the Agency plays in meeting today's combined challenges under the terms of its Statute and relevant General Assembly resolutions.

Ukraine fully supports the Agency's role in verification and monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran and commends the IAEA for timely providing comprehensive and substantial reports on the status of implementation of both, the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action in general.

We welcome Agency efforts to enhance its safeguards operational readiness, such as forming a special DPRK Team within the Department of Safeguards as well as the relevant Executive Group within the Secretariat.

**Madam President,**

We reiterate the position that the responsibility for nuclear security rests within each State. At the same time, we are convinced that all countries should work together to improve nuclear security globally. We also recognize the central role of the IAEA in this regard.

Ukraine strongly supports universal adherence to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and Nuclear Facilities and the Amendment to the Convention.

Ukraine recognizes and supports the IAEA's practical efforts to further develop and strengthen capabilities of the Incidents and Trafficking Database (ITDB), which continues to be an essential component of the information platform supporting the IAEA Nuclear Security Plan 2018-2021.

**Madam President,**

Nuclear Energy is and will continue to be an important component of the national economy of Ukraine. Since last General Conference Ukraine has taken several important decisions in the nuclear energy sector development. These include lifetime extension of three power units, start of construction of Centralized Spent Fuel Storage Facility and full load of one Soviet design VVER power unit at South-Ukraine NPP with Westinghouse fuel.

Nuclear Safety remains a top priority for us. We believe that activities under Convention on Nuclear Safety, Joint Convention and other legal instruments provide good background for enhancing safety of peaceful nuclear energy use worldwide.

In this regard last year's radioactive incident with ruthenium should become a wake-up call and therefore be the subject of comprehensive analysis within the Agency. Such incidents with tainted history have a significant impact on public opinion regarding the ability of countries with nuclear technologies to timely provide reliable and consistent information about their nuclear activities.

**Madam President,**

We recognize the IAEA Technical Cooperation Programme as the fundamental mechanism through which the Agency helps Member States to build, strengthen and maintain capacities in the safe, peaceful and secure use of nuclear technology in support of sustainable development.

Taking this opportunity, let me express my Government's gratitude to the Secretariat for providing valuable advisory and technical support on a broad variety of issues in the field of technical cooperation.

My country stands ready to actively cooperate with the Agency on Chornobyl related issues for 2018-2019 project cycle by further implementing, inter alia, a national project aimed at supporting Chornobyl NPP Units Decommissioning and Radioactive Waste Management at the NPP site and within the Exclusion Zone.

**Madam President,**

We recognize the Secretariat's profound and comprehensive work done in preparation of the Annual Report for 2017. Ukraine welcomes the fact that the Annual Report for 2017 fully complies with the norms of international law, the IAEA Statute and respective safeguards agreements.

With this, Madam President, I conclude my remarks and I wish you and the Conference every success!

**Thank you!**

