

National Statement by the H.E. Ambassador SHIN Dong-ik
Head of Delegation to the
IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology
Vienna, 28–30 November 2018

Director General Yukiya Amano,
Distinguished delegates,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to convey my congratulations on the first Ministerial Conference on nuclear science and technology. The international community has worked tirelessly to achieve sustainable development and a better quality of life. The IAEA and Member States have actively participated in efforts to tackle global challenges using nuclear science and technology.

The Republic of Korea has duly joined the efforts by implementing a nuclear science and technology policy to improve safety and quality of life for our people. Based on the "Future Nuclear Energy Development Strategy" announced last year, we are striving for technology development of radiation safety management, and are fostering the radiation fusion technology in major areas including the health, biotechnology, advanced materials, and environment.

Distinguished delegates,

We could hardly expand the use of radiation without first guaranteeing radiation safety. Toward that end, Korea is making its efforts to conduct researches on the early detection of radioactive contamination and the biological effects of radiation around us for the protection of life and health of our people. In addition, We are also focusing on securing radiation protection and shielding technologies for the safe and transparent disposal of radioactive wastes.

In order for nuclear fusion technology to drive the innovation growth and to address social issues, the effort of the public and private sector would be integrated. Korea aims to improve public health by developing customized diagnosis and treatment and radiopharmaceuticals. We are actively making progress in the development of industrial and new energy materials as well as stable supply of radioisotopes using research reactors and accelerators.

To resolve environmental problems, Korea is supporting the development of radiation fusion technologies related to reduction of fine dust and purification of polluted water. And we will continue to invest in research facilities and human resources to advance nuclear technology and industry.

Distinguished delegates,

Korea roundly applauds the IAEA's efforts to attain the "Sustainable Development Goals," and I would like to reaffirm Korea's steadfast support. We have made financial contributions for the Renovation of the Nuclear Science and Applications Laboratories project(ReNuAL, ReNuAL+) and the Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT).

In addition, Korea has been going to great lengths to enhance Member States' capabilities through the IAEA Collaborating Center and Capacity Building Center. As the RCA Chair country, Korea has supported to the socio-economic development in the Asia-Pacific region.

And we also play a role in joint response to global issues, such as activities to assess the impact of Fukushima Daiichi accident on marine pollution. We will keep sharing our technologies and experiences wherever the IAEA and Member States need.

Distinguished delegates,

Nuclear technology has steadily evolved. Thus, it has contributed to solving global challenges and improving quality of life. Furthermore, we can expect it play a bigger role in the future. In this regard, Korea would like to ask that all IAEA Member States communicate and cooperate more

actively through the IAEA toward our common goal: sustainable development.

Thank you.