

STATEMENT

REPUBLIC OF POLAND

delivered by Mr. Michał Kurtyka

Minister of Climate

to the 64th General Conference

of International Atomic Energy Agency

Vienna, 21-25 September 2020

Mr. President,

On behalf of the Polish delegation, I would like to congratulate you on the assumption of your important and difficult task as President of the sixty fourth session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. I assure you of the full support and co-operation of Polish delegation in the fulfillment of your responsibilities.

Mr. President, Mr. Director General, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Poland is continuing transformation of energy sector and nuclear power remains a very important part of it.

Recently, we launched the update of two important documents – Long Term Energy Strategy and Polish Nuclear Power Program. We expect that the Polish government will approve the update in the coming months. According to the both documents we plan to have 6 blocks with 6 -9 GWe of nuclear power capacity operational by 2043.

Poland continues to improve its nuclear safety and security framework. Undertaking nuclear power program, we understand the priority to assure regulatory readiness to oversee safety and security of new nuclear build in Poland.

We recognize the great value of Agency Technical Cooperation Program. I would like to underline that participation in TC projects is a visible support for development of peaceful applications of nuclear energy in Poland.

Mr. President, distinguished Delegates,

Poland actively participates in the international cooperation focused on continuously raising and consolidating a high level of safety worldwide. Poland is engaged in the current Review Cycle of Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which remains the cornerstone of the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. We attach an utmost importance to the successful outcome of the 2020 NPT Review Conference, postponed due to current pandemic situation.

We believe that only by strengthening organizations like International Atomic Energy Agency we can truly advance the whole nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation agenda. We praise the IAEA engagement into implementation of the related United Nations Security Council resolutions as well as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

We believe that the IAEA should continue monitoring the Democratic People's Republic of Korea nuclear activities by using advanced technologies before full-fledge returning to DPRK with its verification statutory activities.

Mr. President, distinguished Delegates,

In the context of the climate change challenge, Poland would like to emphasize the necessary role that nuclear energy has to play in the efforts to limit greenhouse gases emissions. In our opinion IAEA should actively engage in the discussions on this issue.

Mr. President, distinguished Delegates,

I would like to express our strong support and readiness to provide financial contribution to the Maria Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship Program, which was launched by the IAEA this year. We consider it as a promising measure to increase the number of women working in nuclear science and technology.

Mr. President, distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Polish Government, I am pleased to reiterate that the firm support of our country for the International Atomic Energy Agency activities will continue.

At the same time we would like to convey our appreciation to the Director General of the Agency, Mr. Grossi, for his impressive work and dedication to duty in this challenging time. Let me express Poland's full support for continuation of his chairmanship in incoming years.

Thank you for your attention,