

## The 67th Regular Session of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) General Conference Vienna, Austria

# Statement delivered by Honourable Khumbize Kandodo Chiponda, MP and Minister of Health on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Madam President, Director-General of IAEA, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates Ladies and Gentlemen.

Madam President, allow me to extend my congratulations to you on your election as the President of the 67th IAEA General Conference. I assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation.

Malawi welcomes The Gambia and Cabo Verde as new Member States of the IAEA.

We join other delegations in congratulating Mr. Rafael Mariano Grossi on his re-appointment as Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency. We wish him continued success in leading the organization.

#### Madam President,

Malawi appreciates the support that the IAEA has provided since we became a Member State in 2006. Through the Technical Cooperation programme, IAEA has supported the sustainable development of Malawi in the areas of agriculture and food security, human health and nutrition, water resource management and development, energy, mining, industrial development, human resource capacity building in nuclear science and technology, nuclear and radiological security, radiation safety and waste management.

#### Madam President,

In the area of health, Malawi is part of the Rays of Hope Initiative through which we have received immense support in terms of training and equipment to support cancer diagnosis and treatment. Presently, Malawi is constructing Radiotherapy and Brachytherapy bunkers which are expected to be completed in November 2023. Procurement of Radiotherapy and Brachytherapy equipment has been initiated and we expect to launch the facility to treat cancer patients in Malawi early next year with the assistance of the IAEA.

I wish to state Madam President that in the area of nuclear safety, security and safeguards, Malawi remains committed to the implementation of its Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and the Additional Protocol and will continue to meet its obligations under these Agreements through the Malawi Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority.

### Madam President,

my country is in the process of establishing a Women in Nuclear Malawi (WiN-Malawi) chapter to support women in the fields of nuclear science and technology.

In addition, the education sector has introduced new programmes in nuclear sciences and technology in an effort to build capacity in different field of nuclear science and technology. Allow me to congratulate a team of students from the University of Malawi, Enita Ebiyamu, Elias Seda and Grasswell Mkanda who participated and won an IAEA Competition on the benefits of Nuclear Sciences through a study of the use of isotopic techniques in the quantification of the amount of nitrogen fertilizers applied to different crops in Malawi. It is my hope that this award will encourage young students and researchers in my country to study nuclear science and technology to enable Malawi to maximize on the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology.

In conclusion, Malawi reaffirms its support to the Agency's activities and thanks the Agency for the invaluable contribution and support towards expanding and promoting peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology for development. Finally, Madam. President, I would like to wish the 67th Regular Session of the Agency General Conference success in all its deliberations.

I thank you for your attention.