

Republic of Lithuania
Statement
IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science, Technology and Applications and the
Technical Cooperation Programme

Vienna, 26-28 November 2024

Distinguished Co-Chairs, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Lithuania fully associates itself with the statement made by Hungary on behalf of the European Union.

In my national capacity, I would like to add the following remarks.

Excellencies,

Using this opportunity allow me to express my appreciation that the successful 2018 Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology has a successor. Today, six years later, we meet here again to discuss this topic in view of emerging global issues such as climate change, food security or geopolitical contingencies.

We thank for the leadership of the distinguished Co-Chairs from Finland and Ghana, in making today's Conference happen and for the inclusive work leading to the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration which clearly addresses the evolving global challenges.

Lithuania recognises a sound contribution of nuclear science, technology and applications, to meet a wide variety of social, economic and human development needs, mitigation of the effects of climate change, water management and preservation of cultural heritage and emphasises the need for wide collaboration at the regional and international level among interested Member States in the fields of nuclear science, technology and applications for peaceful purposes.

Lithuania attaches a great importance to nuclear and radiation safety of all nuclear and other facilities using radiation sources and is constantly contributing to its upgrade. We welcome the fact that nuclear safety and security remains among the three top priorities for the IAEA technical cooperation activities. Our technical

cooperation projects within the IAEA framework also significantly contribute to this endeavour.

Distinguished Co-Chairs,

Lithuania's steady progress on the complex decommissioning and dismantling activities at the Ignalina NPP gives invaluable experience on decommissioning of graphite reactors which may be of great interest to the nuclear community facing a rising demand for such know-how around the globe. The Ignalina NPP is already actively disseminating its knowledge in the areas of decommissioning, decontamination, dealing with legacy waste and environmental monitoring in the form of the IAEA Scientific visits and various workshops. To this end, we thank the IAEA for creating useful tools for exchange of best practices on this emerging issue and invite Member States to take advantage of this opportunity.

Recently, the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania adopted the renewed National Energy Independence Strategy which sets a goal to analyse the option of using advanced SMR technologies in Lithuania to complement a rapid growth of renewable energy. The experience and expertise of other Member States together with the tools established by the IAEA will be of great interest for Lithuania in this endeavour. Therefore, we are looking forward to engaging in the TC activities in the nearest future.

Excellencies, Distinguished Co-Chairs,

I reaffirm Lithuania's continuous support to the work of the Agency as the international platform for cooperation and resource mobilization across research and development, academia, education, governmental and non-governmental organizations and private sector of the Member States enabling the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technology.

I thank you.