

TÜRKİYE National Statement
IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science, Technology and Applications
and the Technical Cooperation Programme
Vienna, 26-28 November 2024

Mr. Chairperson,

It is a great pleasure for me to address this Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science, Technology and Applications and the Technical Cooperation Programme.

Let me also extend our appreciation to the International Atomic Energy Agency and to Director General Grossi for organizing this prestigious and timely event.

Mr. Chairperson,

Türkiye recognizes the significant benefits of nuclear science and technology in many areas. Nuclear techniques, radiation applications and isotopic techniques significantly contribute to attaining high standards in areas of health, food and agriculture, and environment in Türkiye.

Turkiye boasts a robust radiotherapy infrastructure and a well-established network of academic institutions in the field of radiation oncology. It is with great honor that Türkiye became an Anchor Center of the Agency as of September 2023, serving as a regional collaborative hub for Europe. This center is supported by our hospitals, universities, and cancer institutions.

Nuclear power is one of the lowest greenhouse gas emitters and the most reliable sources for electricity generation. As part of its national policy to enhance energy security and net zero emissions target, Türkiye aims to produce 10 percent of its electricity from nuclear power by 2035. To achieve this target, the Akkuyu Nuclear Power Project is already underway, the site for the Sinop Nuclear Power Project was approved in April 2024, and the Third Nuclear Power Plant Project is currently at the feasibility stage. In line with the National Energy Plan 2022, Türkiye envisions achieving approximately 20 GWe of nuclear capacity by 2053 to support decarbonization efforts. This includes the construction of at least 12 large-scale reactors across three sites, along with 5 GWe of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs).

During the COP29 held in Baku recently, Türkiye signed the “”. The declaration will also support advancements in technology, capacity building and financing opportunities. On this occasion I would like to thank Azerbaijan for their warm hospitality and congratulate on the successful organization of the Conference.

Mr. Chairperson,

Radiation measurement, radioactivity analysis and personnel dosimetry services are critically important for effective implementation of nuclear techniques and radiation applications. Türkiye attaches importance to acceleration technologies. A Proton Accelerator Facility has been established in Ankara to produce radiopharmaceuticals and to carry out research and training.

Türkiye is also a member of the SESAME (Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East) and CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research). Our scientists and universities have actively participated in the research projects in these nuclear research centres.

Mr. Chairperson,

Türkiye has been a Member State of the Agency since 1957. We continue to benefit from the Technical Cooperation activities, and to share our knowledge and expertise to Member States through the Agency's Technical Cooperation Programme.

During the 67th General Conference, Türkiye signed the new Country Programme Framework for the 2024-2029 period, outlining the key areas for technical cooperation with the Agency. The priority areas identified are as follows:

1. Nuclear Energy
2. Radioactive Waste and Used Fuel Management
3. Nuclear and Radiation Safety and Security
4. Emergency Preparedness and Response
5. Nuclear Information Management and Capacity Building
6. Industrial Participation
7. Human Health and Nutrition
8. Radiation Applications
9. Isotope and Radiation Technology
10. Gender Equality

Mr. Chairperson,

Türkiye will continue to focus on improving the well-being and prosperity of its people through the use of nuclear science and technology in energy, food, agriculture, industry, water management, human health and environment.

We fully appreciate the Agency's role in promoting the development of and benefiting from the peaceful development and use of atomic energy in a safe, secure, sustainable and responsible manner and in accordance with the international obligations and engagements enshrined in the relevant conventions and agreements.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson.