

National Statement by Md. Anwar Hossain

Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology of Bangladesh

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Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the delegation of Bangladesh, I extend our warm congratulations on your election as President of this 69th IAEA General Conference. We assure you of our full support and cooperation.

We also express our sincere gratitude to Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi and the IAEA Secretariat for their steadfast leadership and dedication to the Agency's mission.

We would also like to take the opportunity to congratulate Maldives, one of our friends in the South Asia, for their accession to the IAEA as a new member.

Mr. President,

Bangladesh reaffirms its strong commitment to the Agency's motto of "Atoms for Peace and Development." We believe the IAEA plays an essential role in fostering international cooperation for the peaceful and safe application of nuclear technologies.

The Agency's support is vital in helping Member States strengthen their nuclear safety, security, and safeguards frameworks. At the same time, we emphasize that such measures should not hinder international collaboration or the right of all nations to access nuclear science and technology for peaceful purposes.

Mr. President,

As a developing country, Bangladesh faces considerable challenges in energy security, climate change, health, food, and water management. Nuclear science and technology offer practical solutions to these pressing issues.

We highly value the IAEA's initiatives—such as Atoms4Food, Atoms4NetZero, Rays of Hope, and NUTEC Plastics—which contribute significantly to global development, health, and environmental sustainability.

Mr. President,

For over fifty years, Bangladesh has greatly benefited from the IAEA's technical cooperation programs. These initiatives have been instrumental in helping us pursue our national development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Currently, we are implementing six (06) IAEA technical cooperation projects in health, environment, food security, nuclear power, and safety. We look forward to finalizing our new Country Programme Framework with the Agency soon.

In agriculture, the Agency's support in plant mutation breeding and isotope hydrology has improved crop yields and water resource management, helping us achieve a more sustainable food supply.

In healthcare, nuclear medicine and radiotherapy are expanding nationwide. We are proud to partner with the IAEA through the Rays of Hope initiative to establish our first comprehensive cancer care center.

Mr. President,

As a country on the front lines of climate change, Bangladesh is committed to diversifying its energy mix with clean sources. The Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant is a flagship project in this effort, and we are progressing steadily toward the commissioning of our first reactor.

The IAEA remains a key partner in our clean energy transition. We appreciate its ongoing support through peer review and advisory service missions such as INIR, SEED, and IRRS, which help strengthen our nuclear infrastructure. We look forward to hosting additional missions, including IPPAS, EPREV, and INIR Phase 3, in the coming years.

We encourage the Agency to continue supporting developing countries—especially those introducing or expanding nuclear power—in building robust nuclear infrastructure and developing skilled professionals.

Mr. President,

In closing, Bangladesh reiterates its firm commitment to the peaceful use of nuclear energy for the benefit of all. We are deeply aware of the responsibilities that come with it and remain dedicated to maintaining the highest standards of nuclear safety, security, and safeguards- in cooperation with the IAEA and the international community.

Together, let us continue working toward a safer, more sustainable future through the peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology.

I wish this General Conference every success.

Thank you, **Mr. President.**