



G R E E C E

69th IAEA General Conference

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Statement by H.E. Mr Georgios Iliopoulos, Ambassador-Resident Representative of Greece to the IAEA

President,

I warmly congratulate you on your election and assure you of our full support for the successful conduct of this General Conference.

Greece values the Agency's independent mandate and unique expertise, and remains firmly committed to a strong partnership.

Greece aligns itself with the statement delivered by Denmark on behalf of the European Union and wishes to highlight a number of points in its national capacity.

President, Distinguished Delegates,

More than three and a half years have passed since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and the illegal seizure of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, of which six of the seven indispensable nuclear safety and security pillars remain compromised. All reactors at ZNPP must stay in cold shutdown as ordered by Ukraine's regulator and requested by the Agency, and any restart is unacceptable under current circumstances.

Russia's strikes against Ukraine's energy infrastructure jeopardise the off-site power supply indispensable for nuclear safety. We commend the courageous work of the IAEA in maintaining a continuous presence under exceptionally challenging conditions.

Greece condemns Russia's war of aggression in the strongest possible terms. We urge Russia to withdraw its troops and equipment from ZNPP and to return control of the facility to Ukraine's sovereign authorities. Greece reiterates its solidarity with Ukraine and supports all efforts towards a comprehensive, just and lasting peace.

President, Distinguished Delegates,

It is imperative to preserve the global non-proliferation regime as enshrined in the NPT. Iran must fully comply with its safeguards obligations and must never be allowed to acquire a nuclear weapon.

We take note of the recent agreement in Cairo between the IAEA and Iran on modalities to resume inspections. This is a step in the right direction, but it does not alter Iran's obligations under the NPT Safeguards Agreement. We are concerned

over the potential implications of attacks against nuclear facilities. At the same time, we remain gravely concerned by Iran's suspension of inspector access since June 2025, which has led to loss of continuity of knowledge, including over highly enriched uranium. Safeguards obligations cannot be suspended. We call for the immediate resumption of full verification activities.

Although the latest developments have strained the international climate, Greece believes that there remains space for diplomacy. We call on Iran to urgently re-engage in negotiations and reach a comprehensive settlement to address concerns over its nuclear programme.

President, Distinguished Delegates,

Greece is also deeply concerned by the DPRK's unlawful and destabilising actions, which undermine regional and international peace and security. We note with serious concern its nuclear activities and repeated missile launches in violation of UN Security Council resolutions. The DPRK cannot and will never have the status of a nuclear-weapon State under the NPT.

Greece supports international efforts to achieve complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearisation on the Korean Peninsula, and underlines the importance of the Agency's return to the country.

President, Distinguished Delegates,

Greece reaffirms its unequivocal support for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the cornerstone of the global non-proliferation regime and a key framework for promoting peaceful uses of nuclear energy. We underline the importance of universalisation of Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements together with Additional Protocols as the current verification standard under the NPT.

Nuclear safety and security remain at the core of the Agency's mandate. Greece, as a party to all major international conventions on nuclear safety, believes transparency is vital for building public trust. We attach great importance to strengthening the global nuclear safety framework and support the Agency's Safety Standards. Peer review services are indispensable for transparency and continuous improvement and we encourage Member States to use them and publish their reports.

Greece follows closely developments on Small Modular Reactors, recognising their potential while stressing that the highest safety, security and safeguards standards must apply. We note positively the Agency's expanding work on SMRs, including capacity-building and international dialogue.

President, Distinguished Delegates,

Greece strongly supports the Agency's work in promoting peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology, as discussed with Director General Grossi during his visit to Athens last May. These applications help address global challenges such as human health, environmental protection and climate change.

The Technical Cooperation Programme is a key instrument for capacity-building and innovation. Greece contributes actively through the Greek Atomic Energy Commission, which operates as an IAEA Regional Training Centre. Athens hosted this year as well a postgraduate course on radiation protection, while Greek experts assisted other Member States and scientists joined Agency activities.

Furthermore, Greece commends the Agency's efforts to promote gender equality and diversity. We welcome the achievement of gender parity in professional categories and support the continuation of initiatives such as the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship and the Lise Meitner Programs.

In conclusion, President,

Greece reaffirms its strong support for the Agency's vital role in promoting nuclear safety, security and non-proliferation, as well as in advancing applications that serve sustainable development. We thank Director General Grossi and all IAEA staff for their professionalism and dedication.

Thank you President.