

*National Statement of Mr. Almassadam Satkaliyev,
Chairman of the Atomic Energy Agency of Kazakhstan
at the 69th session of the IAEA General Conference
(15 September 2025)*

**Distinguished President,
Excellencies,
Dear Director General,**

First and foremost, allow me to express my deep appreciation to His Excellency **Mr. Rafael Mariano Grossi**, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and his team for their significant contribution to the advancement of the peaceful atom and the effective work of the Agency. I would also like to extend **my congratulations to the newly elected officers** of the Bureau of the 69th session of the General Conference.

For more than 30 years, Kazakhstan has consistently supported the **initiatives of the IAEA**, promoted the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and actively participated in international efforts to strengthen global stability and security.

Kazakhstan occupies a unique place in world history as a country whose policies have embodied responsibility and commitment to peace. Our nation **voluntarily renounced** the world's fourth-largest nuclear arsenal, closed the **Semipalatinsk test site**, and initiated the **International Day against Nuclear Tests**. These steps have strengthened trust in Kazakhstan and made it a symbol of moral **leadership** in matters of non-proliferation and the peaceful atom.

A landmark event for Kazakhstan was the **first nationwide referendum** on the construction of **nuclear power plant**. The support of our citizens reflected the high sense of responsibility of society and its readiness to embrace **new energy solutions**. With the consultative and expert **support of IAEA** this decision gained additional foundation of trust and became a solid basis to start a new stage in Kazakhstan's development as a **modern energy nation**.

We are convinced, that **nuclear energy** is not only reliable source of power but also a strategic tool in the **fight against climate change**. Kazakhstan has set itself the

goal achieving **carbon neutrality by 2060** and nuclear energy will play a key role in this transition.

To ensure the systemic development of the sector, the **Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan for Atomic Energy** has been established, and a national **nuclear cluster** is being formed, uniting industry, science, and education. **A National Strategy for the Development of the Atomic Sector** is being elaborated, which will define priorities and concrete steps in areas such as the construction of nuclear power plants, the development of nuclear technologies in medicine and industry, as well as the safe management of radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel.

Kazakhstan rightfully holds a special place in the global **nuclear security** system. The **IAEA Low-Enriched Uranium Bank** operates successfully in our country — a unique project that strengthens energy stability worldwide and builds confidence in the peaceful atom.

Special attention is being devoted to the development of **nuclear medicine**. In cooperation with the IAEA, Kazakhstan is expanding the production of

radiopharmaceuticals, thereby increasing access to cancer diagnosis and treatment both within our country and across the region. In 2024, the **Institute of Nuclear Physics of Kazakhstan** carried out, for the first time, the **export of a technetium-99m generator** within an IAEA order, making an important contribution to the advancement of nuclear medicine.

Kazakhstan's contribution to the future of humanity also extends to the field of **scientific research**. Our **National Nuclear Center** has evolved into an international laboratory for developing the technologies of tomorrow. It hosts the world's largest **spherical tokamak**, where research is conducted in **controlled thermonuclear fusion**. Kazakhstan actively participates in the ITER program and invites the global community to make use of our **scientific infrastructure for joint research**. This is our contribution to the energy of the future — safe, clean, and virtually inexhaustible.

We also firmly believe that the sustainable development of the nuclear sector is impossible without the systematic development of **human capital**.

Kazakhstan is building a modern system for training a **new generation** of specialists, strengthening **scientific and educational potential**, and creating opportunities to integrate national programs into the global educational space. Our country is ready to share this experience by providing training and professional development opportunities for specialists from other states, particularly those who are only beginning to explore the peaceful atom.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please allow me to draw attention to another important aspect of the Agency's work.

Today, **13 IAEA Member States** are still restricted in their ability to be elected to the **Board of Governors** and to participate in the General Conference on **equal terms**. Kazakhstan **initiated** a resolution on the restoration of sovereign equality two years ago, which was supported by an overwhelming majority of Member States. Nevertheless, this issue **remains pertinent**.

In order to exercise our fundamental right, **Kazakhstan officially submitted its candidacy to the IAEA Board of Governors in line with the provisions of the Statute. We call upon all delegations to support Kazakhstan and stand for equality in the Agency!**

Distinguished Delegates,

Kazakhstan will continue to build its nuclear policy on the basis of **IAEA international standards**, strengthen transparency, and contribute to the development of the peaceful atom in the interests of global security and sustainable development.

We consider **nuclear energy** as part of our national future and as our contribution to the future of all humankind — a future free of nuclear weapons, with safe and clean energy, grounded in trust, equality, and cooperation.

Thank you for your attention.