



Statement by the Kingdom of Morocco

delivered by

H.E Azzeddine FARHANE, Ambassador, Permanent Representative

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**Check Against Delivery*

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Thank you, Mister President,

1. On behalf of the Kingdom of Morocco, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to H.E Ambassador of the Republic of Slovakia, **Mr Peter Burian**, on your election as President of the 69th session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Mr President

2. Our General Conference is being held in a particular context marked by heightened political tension, profound uncertainty and major challenges related to the growing need of nuclear energy and the optimal use of nuclear application, while guaranteeing at the same time the conditions of safety and security of the use of nuclear technology for peaceful purpose.
3. Indeed, our gathering today is a valuable opportunity, for all of us, to renew our political commitment for a safe and secure use of nuclear technology applications, to assess what has been done by the Agency and Member States, particularly in support for the technical cooperation program, and to agree on a collaborative approach aiming at undertaking collective actions for strengthening the international nuclear safety and security regime. **In this endeavor, it is worth mentioning that the international instruments on non proliferation, negotiated and adopted by member States more than two decades are, more than ever, valid to upholding the international nuclear safety and security regime, while the importance of cooperation and dialogue between Member States cannot be overstated.**
4. This year's conference coincides with the celebration of the **20th anniversary** of the adoption of both the **Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM)** and the **International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT)**, as well as the **55th anniversary** of the **entry into force of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)**.
5. In this context and within the celebration of 20 years of the adoption of the Amendment of the IAEA Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and the UN International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT), adopted under the chairmanship of Morocco on April 2005 in New York. Morocco will organize, alongside with the depositories of both instruments (the SG of the UN and the DG of IAEA), with the presence of the Director of UN Counter terrorism Center. This side event will commemorate, this afternoon, these two cornerstone instruments CPPNM and ICSANT to highlight the context of the adoption and the continued relevancy of these legal instruments in the global effort for the prevention and criminalization of the unauthorized access to nuclear material as well as to encourage universal adherence and effective implementation by all member States. I invite all of you to attend this side event to commemorate together the 20th anniversary of these instruments.

Mr President,

6. As part of its contribution to strengthening the nuclear security and safety international regime, Morocco hosted voluntarily two IAEA Review Missions, which highlight the following: **The IAEA emergency preparedness review mission (EPREV), commended the solid basis for EPR arrangements, implemented in Morocco**, for nuclear and radiological emergencies, and noted a number of specific commendable practices that **go beyond the expectations set in the IAEA Safety Standards**. The Integrated Regulatory Review Service Mission (IRRS), **underlined that Morocco has taken effective measures to establish a new coherent legal and regulatory framework for nuclear and radiological safety.**
7. At the regional and bilateral level, Morocco has been providing trainings, workshop, education, and sharing technical expertise with over 40 African Member States. Bilaterally, and in a triangular cooperation with IAEA, in the field of the peaceful use of nuclear applications and technologies in a safe, secure, and sustainable manner.
8. **At the regulatory level** : over the last twelve months, **the Moroccan Agency for Nuclear and Radiological Safety and Security, AMSSNuR**, has strengthened its support for nuclear and radiation safety and security in Africa, through the **African School for Radiation Safety Regulators, in particular by** :
 - Leading the development of **National Policies and Strategies** and has supported the training of **New Regulators** through structured programs aimed at building the **Regulatory Capacities**. The School is also preparing a dedicated workshop for **Drafting Regulation** on radioactive waste management, further supporting the development of effective **Regulatory Framework** across the continent.
 - Hosting **12 Scientific Visits & Fellowships**, enabling professionals from several African countries to benefit from Morocco's regulatory experience. The Agency also carried out **4 Expert Missions** on regulatory control and contributed to **2 IRRS Missions** in Africa. These actions, rooted in peer-to-peer learning and regional

cooperation, have helped build sustainable **Regulatory Capacities** and strengthen the **Safety and Security Culture** across the continent, in full alignment with IAEA safety standard and security recommendations.

- Organizing and hosting **8 Regional events** dedicated to African stakeholders, addressing **Key Thematic Areas** such as human resources development, regulatory control, safety culture, education and training, including the 17th FNRBA Steering Committee Meeting, which reaffirmed its commitment to **African Cooperation** and knowledge exchange.
9. ***At the level of scientific and nuclear researches*** : Morocco's National Center for Energy Sciences and Nuclear Technology, **CNESTEN**, designated by AIEA as the first Center in Africa as an ICERR for «Education and Training» and «Hands-on Training», played a central role by :
- Hosting **14 IAEA Fellowships, 9 IAEA Scientific Visits, 2 IAEA PhD Sandwich Students, 48 Master Degree Students (IAEA+Moroccan Agency for International Cooperation AMCI)** : Totaling 73 beneficiaries from Africa;
 - Hosting **5 IAEA events (training courses and workshops: 3 regional events and 2 national events)** for the benefit of **123 participants**, including 70 from Africa ;
 - Hosting a regional workshop on “Pan-African Water Resource Monitoring and Data Sharing with Nuclear Science and Technology”, organized with the USA/DoE/NNSA, involving IAEA experts, for the benefit of 101 participants, including 71 from Africa ;
 - Providing **technical expert missions and labs measurements** as a part of CNESTEN's contribution to the implementation of the **IAEA/AFRA Technical Cooperation Program**.
10. Within this substantial contribution, Morocco was trusted and mandated in Botswana, last June, during the 36th TWG to organize in 2026, the 37th Technical Working Group Meeting, within the view to chair AFRA for the period 2026-2027.

Mr President,

11. The Kingdom of Morocco has continuously **reiterated its standing support for the central role of the IAEA in providing technical assistance to Member States**. In this context, Morocco recognizes the valuable contributions of the IAEA Director General launched during the last 5 years, such as the **NUTEC Plastics, ZODIAC, Rays of Hope, and Atoms4Food**, which contribute in making tangible impact in the areas of environment and health.
12. In this respect, Morocco reiterates its supports for the implementation of **the Rays of Hope, particularly in Africa**. Within this framework, the Moroccan National Oncology Institute, **designated as an Anchor Center under Rays of Hope**, has already started, welcoming trainees particularly from African Member States and working to share its expertise through regional courses and workshops in partnership with the IAEA. The Moroccan National Oncology Institute is also prepared to undertake expert missions to assist, upon the request, other Centers.
13. Under **ZODIAC initiative**, which was adopted under the Moroccan Chairmanship of the GC64, Morocco's **National Center for Scientific and Technical Research (CNRST)**, which has been designated as a **Collaborating Center**, organized, last November, the **first Regional Meeting on ZODIAC Implementation in Africa**. This first meeting, which was attended by 31 African Member States, adopted a roadmap aimed at enhancing the collaborative approach, coordination measures and synergy interactions, among African ZODIAC Laboratories.
14. We propose, after 5 years of lunching of all these DG's initiatives, that it is high time to convene a high level meeting for a global assessment of these initiatives to identify collective actions based on strong cooperation aiming at exploring innovative financing and solid partnership.

Mr President

15. In closing, the Kingdom of Morocco, **under the high guidance of His Majesty King Mohammed VI**, is attached to the principles of South-South cooperation and African Solidarity and committed to continue its actions in support of multilateral efforts and promoting initiatives that embody our collective moto, “**Atoms for Peace and Development**.”
16. Morocco remains fully committed **to continue sharing, either in a bilateral setting or in cooperation with the IAEA**, its experience with its partners as well as African countries with a view to promoting the use of nuclear applications, science and technology for peaceful purposes.
17. I thank you for your kind attention and wish every success to the work of our General Conference.