

STATEMENT

REPUBLIC OF POLAND

delivered by Mr. Miłosz Motyka

Minister of Energy

Mister President, Mr. Director General, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I congratulate His Excellency on his election to the honourable function of the President of the sixty-nine session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. I assure you of Poland's full support and co-operation.

Mister President, Mr. Director General, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to underline that Polish government considers nuclear energy as valuable dispatchable source of clean energy, as the main industrial technology and - what became crucial due to the Russia's full-scale aggression on Ukraine – to ensuring energy security. In Poland up to 9 GW of nuclear power capacity will be put into operation by 2043.

In April last year the Phase 2 Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review (INIR2 mission) was carried out by the IAEA. The mission positively assessed Poland's readiness to start construction of the first nuclear power plant. Poland is currently actively working on implementing the INIR 2 recommendations and suggestions.

In addition to the Polish Nuclear Power Programme, there is an interest among Polish large energy-intensive companies in the SMR technology. After being successfully implemented and commercialized, it can complement the Government's programme.

Mister President, distinguished Delegates,

Poland continues to undertake efforts to enhance and sustain nuclear safety and nuclear security. After receiving the Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) in 2023, we have developed and launched action plan for implementation of IRRS

recommendations and suggestions. We have already invited IRRS follow-up mission for 2027 and intend to have action plan fully accomplished prior to the mission.

Taking into account the upcoming process for construction of first NPP in Poland, we are actively strengthening regulatory capabilities of national nuclear regulatory authority, as well as nuclear safety competences of project organization and other involved national stakeholders.

Mister President, distinguished Delegates,

Poland recognizes the great value of the Agency's Technical Cooperation Programme. Participation in national and regional TC projects significantly contributes to the sustainable development of Poland. Because of TC assistance we were able to implement broad program of On-the-Job-Trainings and workshops for Polish nuclear regulatory inspectors and safety reviewers hosted in various countries constructing and operating NPPs.

We also gladly continue to provide support to the TC Programme.

Mister President, Mr. Director General, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

NUCLEAR SAFETY, SECURITY AND SAFEGUARDS IN UKRAINE

Russia's illegal, and unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine continues for the fourth consecutive year, including the ongoing occupation of the Zaporizhya Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP). Poland condemns this war of aggression as a grave violation of international law, notably the UN Charter that prohibits the threat or use of force and calls on all Members to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of other States.

Poland expresses full confidence in the IAEA and its Director General in safeguarding NPT commitments, including through the seven pillars and five principles to prevent a nuclear accident at the ZNPP, and continues to support the Agency with logistics and transport as well as politically for its mission in Ukraine. Without a just and legally sound solution to the ZNPP question and securing peaceful operation of other endangered Ukrainian nuclear facilities, the future peace accord and nuclear safety cannot be durable.

Mister President, Mr. Director General, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Poland is concerned about the stockpiles of highly enriched uranium in Iran, as well as the lack of transparency following and Iran's refusal to cooperate with the IAEA. Poland aligns itself with the international community in stressing that Iran should not acquire nuclear weapons, as this would undermine non-proliferation efforts and both regional and global security.

We take positive note of the recent agreement between Iran and the IAEA, which should pave the way for the resumption of verification activities at all nuclear sites. We urge Iran to engage swiftly and constructively with the IAEA to provide assurances that its nuclear program is exclusively peaceful.

We recall that the Islamic Republic of Iran is a State-Party to the NPT as non-nuclear state and in accordance with article III of the Treaty and has legal obligation to implement the safeguards agreement.

Poland supports resolving the Iranian nuclear issue through diplomacy, avoiding the use of force, and ensuring that all discussions take into account the broader security context, including Iran's ballistic missile program, and support provided to Russia in its war against Ukraine.

Mister President, Mr. Director General, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The DPRK continues to advance its nuclear and missile programs while showing no willingness to engage in meaningful negotiations. It must cease unlawful and destabilizing actions that undermine regional and global peace and security and engage in dialogue with relevant partners.

We support the IAEA in its technologically advanced surveillance in order to monitor the DPRK clandestine nuclear weapons activities and report to the IAEA members accordingly.

Mister President, distinguished Delegates,

Poland views nuclear power as an essential and indispensable component of the future low-carbon global energy mix.

In this light we highly value the actions undertaken by the IAEA as regards mainstreaming the issue of nuclear power's advantages in the worldwide discussions on commitments to curb the greenhouse gases emissions which helped to recognize the role of nuclear power in the fight against climate changes during the COP summit in the UAE.

Mister President, distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Polish Government, I am pleased to express firm and continuous support of our country for the International Atomic Energy Agency activities. I have absolutely no doubt that nuclear power should be continuously included in the global climate and energy security debate.

Thank you for your attention