

**Statement by the Delegation of Turkmenistan at the 69th
Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference**
(Vienna, September 15, 2025)

***Esteemed Mr. President,
Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,***

On behalf of the Delegation of Turkmenistan, I extend a warm welcome to all of you at the IAEA General Conference. We also express our gratitude to Director General Rafael Grossi and all the organizers for the excellent preparation of this conference and their warm hospitality.

Taking this opportunity, I wish to congratulate the Chair of this Conference, Ambassador Peter Burian, on his election to this important position. We also congratulate the Republic of Maldives on its accession to IAEA membership.

In this context, I would like to emphasize that the Turkmen side advocates for the prompt restoration of sovereign equality among IAEA Member States. All Member States of the Agency should be admitted without hindrance to one of the eight regional groups. This issue is included on the agenda of the current session, and we look forward to a positive outcome.

Distinguished Participants,

Turkmenistan is actively engaged in developing and strengthening cooperation with the Agency. Within the framework of the Technical Cooperation Programme, four projects are being positively implemented:

1. Modernization of the radiotherapy service,
2. Updating the legislative framework on radiation safety,
3. Improvement of the radioactive waste management system, and
4. Establishment of dosimetry and calibration services.

All four projects were approved by the IAEA Board of Governors and were activated in 2022. Considerable progress has been made under these projects. In particular, cooperation is currently underway to improve radiation safety legislation, and Turkmenistan is developing its Strategy and Policy on radioactive waste management. We thank the IAEA for the technical and expert support provided, especially in the modernization of the radiotherapy service.

We note significant progress in cooperation through the IAEA's expert assistance for the construction of the International Scientific and Clinical Oncology Center in Ashgabat. The Center will establish an integrated network to enhance the efficiency of medical institutions and oncology centers. This 500-bed facility will become a vital part of Turkmenistan's healthcare system.

With the support of the IAEA, we are also implementing nuclear medicine and radiology techniques and ensuring their safe application in the prevention and treatment of non-communicable diseases, developing human resources, and selecting equipment for clinical imaging, diagnosis, and treatment.

Additionally, at Turkmenistan's request, the IAEA is conducting an assessment of cancer control efforts (imPACT Review) within the framework of the Cancer Therapy Action Programme. Just last week, Turkmenistan hosted the expert team of the imPACT Review mission.

Furthermore, we note Turkmenistan's interest in cooperating with the IAEA under the framework of the "Rays of Hope" Initiative. At the same time, we emphasize our interest in the Agency's "Atoms for Food" and "Atoms for Water" initiatives.

Distinguished Delegates,

Last month, from August 5 to 8, 2025, Turkmenistan hosted the Third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3) in the city of Avaza on the shores of the Caspian Sea.

The forum brought together 3,000 participants from more than 100 countries, including over 10 heads of state and government, approximately 50 international organizations, as well as representatives from more than 20 leading companies, to seek solutions and establish partnerships aimed at addressing the specific challenges faced by landlocked developing countries.

The objectives of the Forum are reflected in two documents intended to serve as a Roadmap for the coming decade.

First, the Avaza Programme of Action for 2024–2034 envisages the creation of a platform for inclusive and sustainable development across all landlocked developing countries, along with concrete measures to modernize transport and transit systems, diversify economies, accelerate digital transformation, enhance climate resilience, and attract investment.

Second, the Avaza Political Declaration, as an expression of unity and solidarity, reaffirms the collective commitment to implementing the Agenda through 2030, promoting multilateral partnerships, and ensuring the full integration of landlocked developing countries into the global economy.

In this regard, we underscore the importance of the IAEA mission aimed at harnessing nuclear science and technology to address the specific development challenges faced by such countries.

We see the opportunities of the Avaza Programme of Action 2024–2034 in expanding access to the Agency’s expertise in key areas, including food security, water resource management, environmental protection, and healthcare.

We are convinced that the Programme will complement the IAEA’s activities under Technical Cooperation, promote greater inclusivity, and ensure that the most vulnerable countries benefit from peaceful nuclear technologies.

Accordingly, we propose to implement the initiative “Atoms for Landlocked Developing Countries (Atoms for LLDCs)” within the framework of the Avaza Programme of Action for 2024–2034.

In this regard, we invite all delegations to our parallel event tomorrow titled “Avaza Programme of Action: Atoms for Landlocked Developing Countries (Atoms for LLDCs).”

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Next year, 2026, will mark the tenth anniversary of Turkmenistan’s accession to the IAEA. This important milestone provides us with an opportunity to review the achievements of our cooperation with the Agency and to define new directions of partnership aimed at sustainable development and, above all, at strengthening peace.

Turkmenistan, having the status of permanent neutrality recognized by the international community, highly values the Agency’s efforts in promoting international cooperation, scientific exchange, and supporting Member States in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through the peaceful application of nuclear technologies.

Speaking of which, I would like to note that this year holds special significance for Turkmenistan. Alongside the celebration of the 80th anniversary of the United Nations, 2025 marks the 30th anniversary of the UN’s recognition of Turkmenistan’s permanent neutrality.

Taking this opportunity, I wish to invite IAEA Member States to the upcoming celebrations in Ashgabat on December 12 this year, dedicated to the International Day of Neutrality.

In conclusion, Mr. President, the Delegation of Turkmenistan reaffirms its readiness to continue close cooperation with the IAEA and all Member States in pursuit of our shared goals — peace and sustainable development.

Thank you, Mr. President!