STATEMENT

By H.E. Mr. VU Le Thai Hoang Resident Representative, Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the IAEA

At the General Debate of the Sixty-ninth Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference (Vienna, Austria, 15-19 September 2025)

Madame Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Delegation of Viet Nam, I extend our warmest congratulations on the election of the Republic of Slovakia's Resident Representative, Mr. Peter Burian as President of the Sixty-ninth Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference. We are confident that, under his experienced and distinguished leadership, this General Conference will achieve significant success. I would also like to thank the Republic of Korea's Ambassador Ham Sang Wook for his respected dedication and successful presidency of the last General Conference.

Madamee Chair,

Distinguished Delegates,

We are pleased to announce that in November 2024, the National Assembly of Viet Nam approved the continuation of the Ninh Thuan Nuclear Power Project. This is a landmark decision of profound national significance, aiming to strengthen our energy infrastructure, ensure long-term energy security, foster the development of highly skilled human resources, and advance the scientific and technological capacity of our nation.

The development of nuclear power infrastructure is a cornerstone for the successful implementation of Viet Nam's nuclear energy programme. At present, we are working closely with the IAEA to conduct a comprehensive assessment of Viet

Nam's nuclear power infrastructure. This assessment will serve as the foundation for a national roadmap towards the safe, secure, and high-quality implementation of nuclear power projects. We look forward to continued cooperation with the Agency in this endeavor in enhancing the legal framework in ensuring nuclear power project deployment in safe and secure manner in Viet Nam, as well as in assisting the country to improve the capability of the nuclear regulatory body, research and development organizations, technical support organizations, etc. which will not only contribute to Viet Nam's sustainable development but also reaffirm our shared commitment to the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Madame Chair,

Distinguished Delegates,

Viet Nam deeply appreciates the tremendous efforts and remarkable achievements of the Agency in promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy and ensuring global safety and security.

Viet Nam reaffirms its commitment to the peaceful application of nuclear technology for sustainable development, particularly in addressing global challenges through IAEA initiatives such as the Zoonotic Disease Integrated Action (ZODIAC), Nuclear Technology for Controlling Plastic Pollution (NUTEC Plastic), Atoms for Food, and Rays of Hope. We are dedicated to cooperating with the Agency in implementing these initiatives.

On the national front, we are grateful to the IAEA for its cooperation and support through technical cooperation projects. This support is vital for Viet Nam's new research reactor project and for advancing nuclear energy applications across various sectors, including healthcare, agriculture, industry, research, environmental protection, water resource management, climate change response, and radiation and nuclear safety infrastructure. For the 2026-2027 cycle, besides on-going TC projects, Viet Nam has completed designing five (5) new national projects, which will be officially approved by the end of this year. Under the Technical Cooperation Programme, Viet Nam has made efforts to implement Practical Arrangements for Triangular Cooperation with Cambodia, Lao PDR, and IAEA. These efforts leverage Viet Nam's contributions and resources to support the IAEA's Technical Cooperation

Programme and promote greater technical cooperation among developing countries. We are pleased with the significant achievements this year under these extended Practical Arrangements.

In the area of nuclear security, the IAEA continues to support Viet Nam in strengthening its capabilities, including human resource development, technical equipment provision and expertise exchange by the Agency to support ensuring nuclear security for Major Public Events during the recent 80th Anniversary of Viet Nam Independence Day (2nd September 2025). The finalization of the Integrated Nuclear Security Sustainability Plan (INSSP) and its Implementation Plan from 2024-2027 has helped identify specific needs and future activities to support the detection, prevention, and response to unauthorized acts involving materials out of regulatory control (MORC). Over the past year, Viet Nam has made concerted efforts to accompany IAEA inspectors in conducting in-field safeguards activities and performing safeguards in the country. Viet Nam has consistently responded to the Agency's verification requests, reaffirming its commitment to the peaceful application of atomic energy through the implementation of the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement (CSA) and the Additional Protocol (AP).

Madame Chair,

Distinguished Delegates,

Viet Nam operates a nuclear research reactor in Da Lat, consistently adhering to IAEA safety standards. This reactor is crucial for scientific research, training skilled professionals, and producing essential radiopharmaceuticals for national and regional needs. We are currently implementing a project to establish a Research Center for Nuclear Science and Technology, featuring a 10 MW research reactor, extendable to 15 MW. This project, now in the phase of site survey and evaluation as well as the development of the Feasibility Study report, aims to replace the 40-year-old Da Lat reactor, reinforcing Viet Nam's commitment to the peaceful application of atomic energy for socio-economic development. It also aims to maintain a high-quality workforce and significantly enhance Viet Nam's research and development capabilities in atomic energy. Viet Nam appreciates the Agency's support for this project through Technical Cooperation projects promoting the Reactor Safety Development Programme. We look forward to ongoing collaboration

with the IAEA in consultations, human resource development, and more to ensure the project's success.

Madame Chair,

Distinguished Delegates,

In conclusion, Viet Nam expresses its sincere appreciation and gratitude to all IAEA staff for their dedication and efficient performance. We thank the Agency for its valuable cooperation and assistance. Under the mandate of the IAEA and the guidance of its Board of Governors, the Government of Vietnam fully supports the Agency in the peaceful application of nuclear technology for sustainable development.

Thank you, Madame Chair./.