



National Statement of the Republic of Malta delivered by the Hon. Ian Borg, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism

69th IAEA General Conference, Vienna, 15-19 September 2025

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, allow me to congratulate you, President, on your election. My delegation stands ready to offer our support throughout this year's General Conference.

Malta aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of EU Member States and adds these remarks from a national perspective.

As the UN nears its 80th anniversary, this milestone must not only reflect the achievements of multilateralism but renew our collective commitment to the principles of the UN Charter.

Malta reaffirms its strong support for the indispensable work of the IAEA, led by Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi, in maintaining global peace and security under the NPT. Today's challenges make the Agency's mission more vital than ever.

Malta remains firmly committed to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the cornerstone of disarmament and non-proliferation. Instances of non-compliance are deeply concerning. We urge all states to uphold the treaty, safeguards agreements, and relevant legal instruments. As we approach the 2026 NPT Review Conference, cooperation and reconciliation must prevail, avoiding actions that undermine the treaty and global security.

Global security is fragile. Russia's invasion of Ukraine and rising tensions elsewhere threaten our collective stability. In this climate, the IAEA must serve as a unifying force,



reminding us of the value of multilateralism. Inflammatory rhetoric is a dangerous gamble. As UN Secretary-General António Guterres said, “diplomacy must prevail.” Malta calls for genuine commitment to lasting peace in Ukraine and the Middle East, recognizing the risk of escalation.

Despite adversity, the IAEA continues to improve lives worldwide. Malta commends DG Grossi’s flagship initiatives—Rays of Hope, ZODIAC, and Atoms4Food—which we proudly support. We have also joined the NUTEC Plastics initiative and look forward to further collaboration.

Malta fully supports the IAEA Technical Cooperation programme, a key driver of knowledge-sharing in nuclear technology. We are grateful for the Agency’s assistance over the years.

We also applaud the IAEA’s commitment to gender equality. Malta commends the Lise Meitner and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship Programmes, and the Women in Nuclear IAEA Chapter. As gender champions, we proudly serve as focal point for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). We will work to operationalize its gender-related elements. The TPNW is vital in recognizing the disproportionate impact of ionizing radiation on women and girls and advancing disarmament.

In conclusion, Malta reaffirms its commitment to nuclear safety, security, and safeguards. In uncertain times, diplomacy and multilateralism remain our strongest tools. Let us work together to strengthen the international nuclear framework and ensure peace and progress for future generations.

Thank you.