

## Information Circular

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### Communication dated 26 May 2023 received from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the Agency

1. The Secretariat has received a Note Verbale dated 26 May 2023 from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the Agency.
2. As requested, the Note Verbale is herewith circulated for the information of all Member States.

ПОСТОЯННОЕ ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬСТВО  
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ПРИ МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫХ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯХ  
В ВЕНЕ



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The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency and in connection with the information disseminated by Ukraine about the alleged violations by Russia of the seven pillars of nuclear safety and security at the Zaporozhskaya NPP (ZNPP) has the honor to convey the following.

Russia ensures the safety and security of all its nuclear facilities, including the ZNPP, in accordance with national legislation and international obligations. We consider any attempts to dictate to us the safety parameters of the functioning of Russian nuclear facilities as interference in internal affairs and actions hostile to our country.

We do not intend to respond point by point to the accusations of Ukraine and, moreover, to make excuses for the organization of work at the ZNPP. At the same time, on the basis of some accusations by Kiev, we will demonstrate their entire inconsistency.

In particular, Ukraine claims that Russia is shelling the ZNPP and deploying Russian troops on the territory of the plant. We are not surprised that these two mutually exclusive allegations are combined by the Ukrainian authorities, however, it is obvious to any sane person that it is impossible to deploy troops at the facility and to shell it at the same time.

Another example. Ukraine accuses Russia of some possible attempts to replace the nuclear fuel of the US company "Westinghouse" in the reactors of the

THE SECRETARIAT OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY  
Vienna



ZNPP. First of all, at present, most of the power units of the station are in a state of cold shutdown, not a single reactor is working to supply energy to the grid. In this mode, there is no need to change fuel. Secondly, this accusation is in principle unfounded, since the station's reactors were designed in Russia, and the use of fuel of the US company "Westinghouse" was not envisaged from the very beginning. In fact, we have repeatedly warned about the risks of using US nuclear fuel in Russian-designed reactors.

All other accusations are also groundless and are based on a false perception that the ZNPP belongs to Ukraine. ZNPP is a Russian nuclear facility.

We draw attention to the fact that the Ukrainian side has committed and continues to commit criminal acts against the ZNPP and its employees, aimed at undermining the plant's security. The list of such unlawful acts is long: shelling of the NPP, destroying its premises and critical infrastructure facilities, power supply lines, exerting psychological pressure on the plant personnel up to the threat of physical violence, etc.

It is obvious that the main objective of the V.Zelensky regime is to create an emergency situation that could endanger the life and health of both the population of the region and the inhabitants of European countries. Such actions are ignored by the Western curators of the Ukrainian authorities, who, without thinking about the consequences of their steps, are ready to support any provocation by Kiev against Russian nuclear facilities and employees working there, who are, in fact, civilians.

The particular cynicism of the situation lies in the fact that such steps by Ukraine and Western countries undermine the long-term efforts of States, as well as of the relevant international organizations, primarily the IAEA, aimed at strengthening nuclear safety and security in the world. In particular, the accumulated experience and interaction of the Member States within the Agency, whose leadership has repeatedly expressed concerns in connection with the attacks on the ZNPP undertaken by the Ukrainian side, are exposed to significant risks.

Despite the efforts of the IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi to ensure the nuclear safety and security of the station, it was the Ukrainian side that took active steps to prevent the implementation of any of his initiatives: it disrupted the agreement on the creation of a protection zone at the station, now it is trying to accuse Russia of violating the seven pillars of nuclear safety and security.

We consider such actions of the Ukrainian side as an assault on the entire international cooperation between States in the field of nuclear safety and security. We believe that the fact, that Kiev abuses aforementioned pillars for political purposes is nothing but an attempt to discredit the efforts of the IAEA leadership in ensuring nuclear safety and security of the ZNPP. We would like to remind that the main goal of the Agency's initiatives on this matter is to prevent threats posed by the regime of V.Zelensky and the collective West that supports it.

The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation requests the Secretariat to circulate this information among all IAEA Member States as soon as possible.

The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the IAEA Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, "26" May 2023

