

## Information Circular

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**General Distribution** 

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## Communication from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the Agency

- 1. On 29 November 2023, the Secretariat received a Note Verbale from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the Agency.
- 2. As requested, the Note Verbale is herewith circulated for the information of all Member States.



**Permanent Mission of Ukraine** to the International Organizations in Vienna

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The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency and has the honour to draw attention to the situation at and around the Russian-occupied Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, which has become extremely threatening.

In his Statements on Situation in Ukraine – updates No.197 of 26 November 2023 and No.198 of 28 November 2023 – the Director General clearly indicated that rockets and artillery rounds were fired from the vicinity of the Zaporizhzhia NPP, that is, from the Russian-occupied areas.

Earlier, Greenpeace, in its report on the occupation of the Zaporizhzhia NPP, provided detailed evidence that the plant is being used by the Russian armed forces for strategic and tactical purposes in Russia's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine, and also indicated that a military threat to the plant exists on the site itself, as well as in the adjacent region.

In particular, based on the analysis of satellite images, firing positions of the Russian military were discovered within a range of 1-18 km from the occupied Zaporizhzhia NPP. From these locations, since March 2022, shelling has been conducted from multiple launch rocket systems, particularly BM-21 Grad and BM-30 Smerch.

It is very likely that the IAEA experts present at the Russian-occupied Zaporizhzhia NPP heard multiple rocket rounds fired from these rocket systems. The corresponding Greenpeace report is available at the following link:

https://www.greenpeace.de/publikationen/McKenzie\_Report\_Zaporizhzhia.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1KJX1lkFf5a6UYMf1JUMp-8NZjingQnNKwm-x1dkuX5FTAd4iKkYoR0xM

Secretariat
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Vienna

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Ukraine has repeatedly drawn the attention of the IAEA Secretariat and Member States to numerous hazards and risks to the Zaporizhzhia NPP posed by the Russian armed forces and Rosatom: from placing military trucks inside turbine halls and establishing firing positions on reactors roofs to mining the territory of the plant and using it as a military base.

Russian armed forces are deliberately using heavy weapons located in close proximity to the nuclear power plant to attack Ukrainian civilian infrastructure.

The Russian Federation is also deliberately aggravating the security situation at the occupied Zaporizhzhia NPP and around it in order to achieve military goals in its war against Ukraine.

There is no evidence that Russia is capable to heeding the Resolution GC(67)/RES/16 of 28 September 2023 "Nuclear safety, security and safeguards in Ukraine", which, inter alia, calls for the urgent withdrawal of all unauthorized military and other unauthorized personnel from the Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia NPP and for the immediate return of the plant under the full control of the competent Ukrainian authorities consistent with the existing licence issued by the State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine.

Russia completely ignores any calls from or interaction with IAEA policy-making bodies aimed at normalizing the situation at the occupied Ukrainian Zaporizhzhia NPP, and continues to blackmail IAEA Member States with new threats to nuclear safety and security of the plant with impunity.

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine requests the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency to promptly circulate this Note Verbale as an Information Circular to all IAEA Member States.

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration

Vienna, 29 November 2023