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**STATEMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**

**TO THE 59<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

**By**

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Ambassador, Resident Representative  
of the Republic of Serbia to the IAEA**

**Vienna, 14 - 18 September 2015**

Mr. President, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to address you on behalf of the Delegation of the Republic of Serbia and to join previous speakers in congratulating you, Mr. President, and to the other members of the Bureau, upon your election to this high office. I want to assure you of our full support and wish you every success in discharging this important task.

Let me use this occasion to extend my congratulations and thanks to the Director General Amano and the staff of the Secretariat of the Agency for their outstanding efforts and excellent work done in achieving the goals set during the 58. Session of the General Conference and to compliment on professional preparations of this Conference.

I would also like to take this opportunity to join previous speakers in warmly welcoming Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados as well as Turkmenistan, as new members of the Agency.

Republic of Serbia has fully associated itself with the Statement of the European Union and therefore let me further highlight only those issues of particular importance to my country.

Mr. President,

Republic of Serbia remains committed to all the fundamental principles and goals of the Agency towards safe and secure applications of nuclear energy for the peaceful purposes and in accordance with international instruments and practices.

Mr. President,

Distinguished Delegates,

Republic of Serbia rests firmly with its traditional position when application of nuclear energy is concerned: towards its use for the peaceful purposes only. To that aim my country will continue to support the Agency's program on strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency in the successful implementation of verification measures and efforts for development of integrated safeguards in accordance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The importance which my country attaches to strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and to the suppression of nuclear terrorism is

represented, *inter alia*, in a number of preparatory actions in the framework of ratification of the Additional Protocol to the NPT as well as in various activities on raising nuclear security awareness, where the three national seminars held in Belgrade this year with participation of the representatives of many governmental agencies and with support of the IAEA, are of particular significance.

Mr. President,

The activities in nuclear and radiation safety and security are the important institutional pillars of the IAEA. To protect public health and environment from the potential safety and security risks and to ensure that nuclear energy is used for the global peace and prosperity and for the benefits of the future generations - is among our primary goals.

Mr. President,

On its way to achieving a full compatibility with the IAEA requirements in the field of nuclear security Republic of Serbia puts a lot of efforts to provide the instruments for legislative and regulative framework. Let me use this opportunity to inform you that the *Convention on Nuclear Safety*, *Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management*, as well as the *2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material* are in various – but advanced – stages of the ratification

procedure. Expeditious ratification of the said international legal instruments will significantly contribute to the strengthening of the Serbia's national legal and regulatory framework.

Developing of national regulations in the field of nuclear security provides a legal basis for developing of Design Basis Threat and physical protection system for operators as well as long-term plans and goals, such as the implementation of international conventions and strengthening professional capacities in the field of nuclear safety and security. Future plans of Republic of Serbia in this field are approval of Integrated Nuclear Security Plan, further implementation of Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, as well as of supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources.

Our efforts in capacity building and enhancing infrastructure in the field of radiation protection and nuclear safety are recognized by IAEA and supported through several national and international projects providing relevant expertise, advice and technical assistance.

Although application of nuclear energy is controlled and covered by the set of national legal instruments, the Republic of Serbia is strongly committed to further strengthening of its national nuclear legal and regulatory system making it more comprehensive and in compliance with the international safety standards and practices and with EU *acquis*.

Therefore we support the efforts of the Secretariat towards further improving of the international safety standards, recommendations and

relevant international legal and political documents, and we recognize its technical assistance as an essential support for any progress.

Mr. President,

Before concluding, let me emphasize that the Republic of Serbia gives full support to the Agency's Report for 2014 as well as to the Program and Budget for 2016.

Mr. President, Distinguished Delegates,

Let me conclude by reassuring you, Mr. President that the Republic of Serbia will continue to lend its full support to the Agency work and the work of its Secretariat standing on with its traditional orientation towards the peaceful uses of the nuclear energy.

Thank you, Mr. President.