

**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. SUH-OCHIR BOLD
AMBASSADOR PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
HEAD OF THE MONGOLIAN DELEGATION**

**44th REGULAR SESSION
IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE**

Vienna, September 21, 2000

Mr. President,

Please accept Mongolian delegation's sincere congratulations on your well-deserved election to the high office of the presidency of the 44th Regular Session of the International Atomic Energy Agency General Conference.

Mongolia warmly welcomes Azerbaijan, the Central African Republic and Tajikistan as new members of the IAEA and wishes them all well.

The Government of Mongolia greatly appreciates Dr. Mohammed ElBaradei and IAEA Secretariat for their dedicated services for the member-states in the discharge of the aims and objectives entrusted to the Agency. Mongolia consistently supports improved and increased IAEA activities and commends the Director-General for the submission of his annual report which highlights significant achievements of the Agency last year.

Mr. President,

IAEA safeguards are crucial element for strengthening and promoting nuclear non-proliferation. Mongolia remains fully complied with the implementation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test- Ban Treaty as cornerstone of the global non-proliferation regime and essential foundation for a pursuit of nuclear disarmament. Mongolia as one among the first 63 States that have ratified the CTBT accords utmost importance to its earliest possible entry into force.

We are committed to the strengthening of the international safeguards system. Mongolia is now making all necessary preparations and arrangements with a view to conclude as soon as possible an Additional Protocol to Safeguards Agreement on the basis of the model protocol on strengthened IAEA safeguards measures.

It is true that the humankind has achieved a great deal in application of science and technology, particularly in the use and utilization of nuclear energy. Nonetheless, further development of nuclear power technology in the new globalized millennium should be aimed at improving a quality of human life. Mongolia seeks new avenues and opportunities for the development of nuclear energy sources for the socio-economic developmental strategy purposes. For this end we need professional expertise support and technical assistance on the part of the Agency. Mongolia looks forward to carry out a national program to develop safe and secure nuclear reactor and nuclear fuel within the framework of the IAEA Technical Cooperation Program. We are confident that nuclear power development policy will make a major contribution to the solution of the existing critical energy situation in Mongolia.

As far as the technical cooperation between the IAEA and Government of Mongolia is concerned, we consider that execution of various projects under the Technical Cooperation Program of the Agency promotes social and economic development in Mongolia, particularly in the area of health and agriculture. This Program applies to such fields as human resource development and nuclear technology support, uranium favourability and evaluation, improving livestock production, bio-fertilizer production, expansion of nuclear medicine services, isotope application in water resource management.

We place high priority to the Agency's technical cooperation activities and look forward to the continued and increased support from the Agency. Furthermore, we would wish to rely on active cooperation as a member within the Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research, Development and Training related to Nuclear Science and Technology which is a useful mechanism of nuclear technology transfer for the benefit of countries in the region.

Notwithstanding the current economic and financial difficulties which Mongolia now faces, we undertake to pay our full assessed contributions to both regular budget and Technical Cooperation Fund.

Mr. President,

From the perspective of Mongolia we commend the IAEA efforts towards proliferation of nuclear-weapon-free zones. I take this opportunity to thank the Agency for its valuable legal assistance in the development of the national legislation on Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status. As member-countries of

the IAEA might know, in February this year the Parliament of Mongolia has adopted a law on its nuclear-weapon-free status. The Mongolian delegation has circulated the present law as an official document GC(44)INF/19 of the current session of the General Conference. Now we think in terms of making arrangements in the future as to attain recognition, acceptance of and respect for such a Status.