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I REPUBLIKËS SË SHQIPËRISË  
PRANË ORGANIZATAVE  
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PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA  
TO THE INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATIONS  
VIENNA

**Statement of the Albanian Delegation  
to the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the General Conference of the IAEA  
14 - 18 September 2009**

Madam President,  
Distinguished participants,

Allow me, please, to join the other delegations in congratulating You on your election as President of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the General Conference of the IAEA, as well as all the other newly elected officials. Being confident that under your guidance the Conference will accomplish its work successfully, I would like to assure you of the full constructive support of the Albanian delegation. Let me also warmly welcome the new Member States for joining the family of the Agency, and we look forward to working with them.

Albania expresses appreciation and gratitude to Dr. ElBaradei for his great contribution, and meantime we congratulate Mr. Amano as designated Director General.

Madam President,  
Distinguished delegates,

Albania has aligned itself with the Statement of the European Union; therefore, I would limit my remarks to a few issues of particular interest to my own country.

Albania has completed its term as member of the Board of the Governors, taking active part in all discussions and providing its modest contribution to important issues dealt by the Board during this two year period. The Albanian Government lends its full support to the activities of the IAEA and will continue to do so in the future.

We will continue to contribute for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Albania will continue to meet all its obligations in the IAEA. For that reason, the Government of Albania attaches particular importance to the implementation of all the resolutions adopted by the Agency's General Conference as well as the decisions of the Board of Governors, especially those that ensure an effective and efficient international safeguards system and have a universal character. Conscious of the importance that the Additional Protocol to the Safeguards Agreement has, as a fundamental instrument to achieve these objectives, the Albanian Government has signed it and is on the way of ratifying it. We are also taking the final legislative measures to complete and adopt a comprehensive national atomic law, which would include also safeguards related issues, as well as the relevant structures to ensure high executive leadership and control over all nuclear and radiation obligations, requirements and standards.

Madam President,

The Albanian Government considers with priority the nuclear applications. We gave the same priority to nuclear safety and security and we are working to further improve and consolidate the regulatory framework, to adapt and harmonize the relevant national infrastructure and consolidate the legal basis for all nuclear related activities.

Albania will continue to be a beneficiary partner of the PACT project (Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy). The Albanian Government highly appreciates the Agency's contribution and assistance, and is fully committed to strengthen cancer control activities in the country.

The nuclear power and non-power technology applications have a clear perspective in Albania. We are conscious that the nuclear technology transfer and implementation is a long process and the Agency's cooperation and assistance is important and required for many years to come.

The Albanian Government is seriously taking into consideration the possibility of exploring the use of nuclear technology for power generation. Initial steps are undertaken, and the cooperation with the Agency is on the right track.

Of high importance for the Albanian Government is also our continued cooperation in the field of nuclear security. We are committed to ensure a most effective prevention and combating the illicit trafficking of radioactive material and terrorist acts. This has been and remains one of our top priorities, fully in line with the efforts of the international community.

The fight against organized crime and terrorism has been and still remains a priority for the Albanian Government. Border management and border control has greatly improved and strengthened in all border check points, as well as along the green and blue borders. Within this framework, the IAEA has been providing its advisory services to establish the necessary infrastructure to protect nuclear and other radioactive materials from theft and diversion, as well as from illicit trafficking. Albania is part of the Agency's global plan to fight against nuclear terrorism, and I assure you that the Albanian Government remains fully committed and dedicated to successfully implement this plan.

Madam President, concluding my statement, I wish again to express the full support of the Albanian Government to the Agency in the realization of its statutory functions under the guidance of its Director General.

Thank you Madam President.