



República de Angola

53rd IAEA General Conference

Statement Delivered by H. E. Vice- Ministry of Energy
Eng. João Baptista Borges

Vienna, Austria

Madam President,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my great honour to speak at this momentous event, and in the name of the delegation of the Republic of Angola and myself, I would like to express my warm congratulations to Mr President and to the members of the presidium on your election to direct the work of the 53rd Session of the IAEA General Conference. We believe you will put all your experience into conducting this session to produce successful conclusions.

We listened most attentively to the speech delivered by the Director-General, His Excellency Dr. Mohammed Elbaradei, and we take this opportunity to thank him, as well as the Secretariat, for the activities carried out during the last year and for organising this session.

Allow me to express my great satisfaction with the efforts made by His Excellency Dr. Mohammed Elbaradei over the 12 years leadership at the front of this so important organisation. We know that those years were marked by a context of countless challenges, in which Your Excellency, respecting the Agency's Rules, managed to exercise the mandates and do so honestly and impartially.

My sincere congratulations to his Excellency Ambassador Yukiya Amano, on his recent appointment to the position of Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and we wish him every success in the performance of the new duties.

The Republic of Angola welcomes the admission of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Republic of Rwanda as new members of Agency.

Madam President,

We welcome the information contained in the 2008 Annual Report; in which we observe progress in different areas in particular in the application of the use of nuclear science in the areas of food safety, control and prevention of disease, water resources and environmental management.

I would like to express our appreciation for the continuity of the IAEA/FAO partnership which has supported African countries in the Tsetse Fly and trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaigns (AU-PATTEC); and in the support of the application of nuclear technology in the agricultural sector, which has made a significant contribution to reducing poverty.

We cannot leave out the efforts made by the Agency in supporting the Member States in the fight against Cancer. However, we regret that the African Continent still continues to have a low number of Institutions equipped with positron-emission tomography which facilitates the prevention and early diagnosis of Cancer. We call on the Secretariat to strengthen cooperation with Governments with a view to creating institutional and human capacity to that effect.

Madam President,

The Republic of Angola attaches great importance to matters associated with the safeguards system, not just because of the increasing interest of States in access to Nuclear Energy, but also to guarantee safe management.

Consequently, I take this opportunity to once again reaffirm that my Government is of the opinion that access to nuclear energy and its use in service of development is a right of all Member States, and must be carried out within the scope of the Agency's Rules.

Madam President,

Many of the Member States are developing countries; for them, and in particular for the African states, one of the most important benefits is the technical assistance and cooperation programme which has been a fundamental contribution to the development of the different sectors of national economies.

In this context, Angola states its appreciation and its thanks for the continuous support which has been targeted towards it by the Agency, in the form of the Country Programme Framework (CPF) planned and

signed by the Government and the IAEA, with a view to the promotion and development of nuclear technology and science, in the most varied areas from the training of staff to the supplying of equipment and sending of experts. Considerable progress has been verified in this area, thanks to the efforts of both parties.

Madam President,

Still within the field of technical cooperation, we must highlight the firm resolution which has been verified for ever better control of activities involving ionising radiation, based on the process of monitoring of the occupational dose in health institutions and oil sector companies and others, and on inspection and authorisation for the functioning of x-ray equipment, as well as on the authorisation process for the importing of radioactive sources for use in industrial gamma-ray examination.

Currently, Angola is engaged in 12 national projects varying from strengthening of education capacity, development of human resources in the nuclear field, to applications in the mixed farming, environment and health sectors.

We also identified 14 projects in the scope of AFRA that we hope be approved as soon as possible. We would like to put on record our praise for the Agency's staff for the dedicated way in which they have taken care of the Angola case, which has resulted in improved fulfilment of the tasks assumed within the scope of technical cooperation.

During the current year 5 missions have been carried out by staff and experts with the aim of:

- Verifying the level of implementation, advising on and discussing aspects associated with the projects in progress;
- Identifying our projects of national and regional scope (AFRA);
- Preparing an action plan for the three-year period 2009/2011, placing particular emphasis on the following tasks:
 - Revision of the statutory legislative framework;
 - Preparation of the regulations and guidelines; and
 - Recruitment and training of the staff for the Regulating Authority.

The Angolan State has engaged in the development of nuclear technology and science. Consequently, in use of its legal capacity, the Atomic Energy Act and Atomic Energy Regulating Authority Statute were approved in 2007; at the end of last year the regulating body for controlling all activities associated with atomic energy was created, which will mean greater fulfilment of the requirements for cooperation with the Agency.

Madam President,

With regard to the Programme and Budget for 2010-2011 we verify with satisfaction the results of the negotiation process within the scope of preparation of the budget. We stress the rationality in the management of financial resources, the creation of the Major Capital Investment Fund as a Reserve Fund to support major infrastructure investments.

As for the Technical Cooperation Fund, we support the new approach, which from 2012 will be synchronised with the ordinary budget programming cycle; this will facilitate its negotiation.

Angola, as a Member State, has complied with its financial obligations, and made voluntary contributions to the Technical Cooperation Fund. We call on the other Member States to reinforce the financial support for our Organisation.

Madam President,

Finally, the Government of the Republic of Angola takes the opportunity to once again present to the Agency and its Director-General, its profound recognition of the support it has been afforded by the Organisation. We reiterate the wish that the 53rd Session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency will take pertinent decisions, leading to better performance of the Organization, which will be to the benefit of the Member States.

Thank you very much.

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