

**STATEMENT BY  
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REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**

**At the Fifty-Third Annual Regular Session of  
The General Conference of  
The International Atomic Energy Agency**

**On Agenda Item 8:  
General Debate and Annual Report for 2008**

**Vienna, 15 September 2009**

**Madam President,**

At the outset allow me, on behalf of the Indonesian delegation, to congratulate you on your election as the President of the Fifty-third Session of the General Conference. I am confident that under your able leadership, the Conference will be able to achieve a fruitful outcome. Let me assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation. I would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to the outgoing President of the General Conference, Ambassador Ghisi of Italy, for his hard work and capable guidance of the affairs of the General Conference.

My delegation wishes to extend our warm welcome to Cambodia and Rwanda as the new Members of the Agency, and we believe that this will enhance the Agency's legitimacy and effectiveness.

Allow me also to take this opportunity to extend our warmest congratulations to H.E. Ambassador Yukiya Amano on his appointment as Director General of IAEA for the term of 2009-2013. Both personally and professionally, we have known him as a friend for a long time during our engagement in various multilateral disarmament and non-proliferation fora. We are confident that the Agency, under his skilled and able leadership, and thanks to his many years of profound experience in nuclear issues, will contribute to the successful promotion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and technology. We look forward to working closely with Ambassador Amano and to continuing the excellent cooperation between Indonesia and the Agency. We would like to convey our best wishes and hopes for his success.

Likewise, we also wish to extend our gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei for his outstanding contributions to the work of the Agency. We commend his achievement in securing the Agency's spot as the most competent and well-recognized body to deal with nuclear-related issues. His tenure comes at a time when manifold and complex global challenges are confronting us, and we therefore extend our gratitude and admiration for his long years of excellent service to the Agency, during which he has shaped the IAEA to meet the challenges ahead. We are grateful for Dr. ElBaradei's impartial, effective and professional manner in managing the Agency's affairs. The Nobel Peace Prize in 2005 was indeed a worthy recognition of the Agency's and his achievements and their important contribution to world peace and development. Let me take this opportunity to once again express my appreciation and gratitude for the assistance and cooperation he and the Agency have extended to Indonesia. I would like to convey my best wishes for his personal welfare and continued success.

**Madam President,**

The past few years have been successful years for the IAEA. Indonesia commends the results of the IAEA's activities in supporting progress in nuclear applications, promoting socio-economic development and maintaining world peace and security. We also commend the role that the Agency plays in promoting nuclear technology for peaceful purposes under the three pillars of its mandate, particularly through technical cooperation between the IAEA and its Member States.

Technical cooperation is vital to the transfer of nuclear science and technology to Member States, and serves as the basic instrument for promoting peaceful uses of atomic energy for sustainable socio-economic development in Member States. Moreover, the demand for technical cooperation among Member States continues to grow, especially from the developing states. Therefore, Technical Cooperation should be sustained and funded in a sufficient, assured and predictable manner. However, we share the concern about the current funding system for Technical Cooperation, which relies on voluntary contributions. The IAEA should pursue a more balanced distribution of the budget, in order to reflect the equal importance of the three pillars of the Agency, thereby maintaining a balance among the Agency's various statutory activities. The recent trend towards making the Agency primarily a tool for verification and safeguards could weaken promotional activities and is therefore a cause of concern. Indonesia is also worried that the growing trend to emphasize one core function over others could lead to a problematic imbalance in funding and a loss of equilibrium between the three pillars, obscuring the real issue, which is how best to find sufficient, assured and predictable resources for Technical Cooperation.

As part of our commitment for the successful of the Agency's Technical Cooperation Programme, Indonesia has consistently met its pledge of its annual share of the TCF targets. For the TCF for 2010, Indonesia has pledged US\$ 131,750. We hope this will help ensure the smooth implementation of Technical Cooperation activities.

**Madam President,**

Indonesia has long advocated promoting nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and places a priority on working with the IAEA to apply nuclear science and technology to improve the quality of human life, including through the work of the IAEA in the field of human health, which has for years been the largest Technical Cooperation sector in Asia and the Pacific region. Indonesia is particularly committed to developing an integrated and comprehensive

approach to cancer, and continues to support the IAEA's Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT) in developing countries.

We commend the Agency's efforts at enhancing capabilities of Member States in sustainable food security and productivity through the application of nuclear technology. We fully support the Agency's cooperation projects promoting new food crop mutant varieties in all regions.

We are pleased with the Agency's work in radiation-induced breeding of new varieties of plants, which resulted in the release of new and improved varieties of staple crops in 2009. Two high yielding and high quality rice mutant varieties produced by irradiation techniques have been planted in Indonesia on more than three million hectares. Three mutant varieties of rice produced by the Indonesian National Nuclear Energy Agency (BATAN) were inducted into the National Paddy Consortium (Konsorsium Padi Nasional) of the Ministry of Agriculture earlier this year.

**Madam President,**

Following the impact of global energy crises throughout the world, including in Southeast Asia, nuclear power is emerging as one of the primary energy resources to meet a huge increase in power demand for the medium and longer term, while mitigating the negative effect on the climate caused by the combustion of fossil fuels. This, in turn, puts a significant demand on the nuclear fuel cycle and the assurances of nuclear fuel supply, and could motivate some countries to develop their own nuclear technology for uranium enrichment.

However, some claim that the rising demand for nuclear energy and the spread of nuclear technology could also bring a proliferation risk, particularly if States plan to build indigenous uranium enrichment and plutonium reprocessing capabilities. In order to minimize this risk, there have been efforts to introduce proposals to build multilateral nuclear fuel cycle mechanisms and assurances of nuclear supply. Indonesia is of the opinion that the creation of a multilateral fuel cycle arrangement, which would also guarantee the assurance of nuclear fuel supply, is a complementary mechanism for strengthening the existing non-proliferation regime.

In our view, any proposal brought forward should not in any way hinder the rights of all States to develop all aspects of nuclear science and technology for peaceful purposes, including in the field of the nuclear fuel cycle. Indonesia appreciates the discussions and current proposals on the issue of assurance of nuclear fuel supply. However, Indonesia concurs with the view that this complex issue requires our cautious consideration to ensure all of the

associated technical, legal, economic and political aspects are thoroughly addressed and taken into account before any final decision is made. Any future decision in this regard has to be taken by consensus, taking into account the views and concerns of all Member States.

**Madam President,**

During a regional meeting with safeguards authorities from Asian Pacific countries in Seoul last April, the Asia-Pacific Safeguards Network was formally founded. This network will enhance safeguards implementation in the Asia-Pacific region and promote regional cooperation in nuclear safeguards. The first APSN meeting will be held by the Nuclear Energy Regulatory Agency (BAPETEN) in Indonesia, in April 2010. Membership in the APSN is open to any country in the Asia Pacific that uses nuclear materials.

Indonesia is deeply satisfied with the role of the Asian Nuclear Safety Network (ANSN) as the sole network promoting nuclear safety in the Asian region. At the Second Meeting of Nuclear Safety Strategy Dialogue held in Seoul last April, it was agreed that the ANSN should be a platform for regional capacity building and a centre of knowledge management for nuclear safety in Asia.

My delegation reiterates the importance of nuclear safety and security and commends the Agency's measures and improvements in strengthening them. However, such measures should not hamper international cooperation in the field of peaceful nuclear activities, or the utilization of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. Indonesia is also pleased to note that the IAEA has addressed the issues of natural events and seismic safety, and welcomes extrabudgetary programmes in numerous areas of scientific and technical research and development to address the safety issues arising from Tsunami and seismic events. We look forward to the completion of a safety report being developed by the Agency on emergency preparedness and capabilities to respond to nuclear or radiological emergencies triggered by natural disasters.

**Madam President,**

While recognizing the Agency's work in implementing and strengthening safeguards and verification pursuant to the provisions of the NPT, Indonesia is of the view that the safeguards system is both a fundamental part of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime and an essential element of the pursuit of nuclear disarmament. As a party to the NPT and to the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free-Zone (SEANWFZ), Indonesia has put into force both a comprehensive safeguards agreement and an additional protocol, as well as implemented an integrated safeguard with the Agency. However, we remain concerned that progress has not been as fast as we would have expected on the

universalization of safeguards agreements and additional protocols. In our view, universalization should be applied equally both to non-nuclear and nuclear-weapon states. In this regard, we are concerned at the failure to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East due to a single country refusal to place its nuclear installations under IAEA safeguards. This country acquisition of nuclear weapon poses a serious threat to the security of the region. We therefore call for the early implementation of IAEA resolutions on “Application of IAEA Safeguards in the Middle East.” And we should consider passing a resolution on this issue.

Turning to Asia Pacific region, we are very much dissatisfied with the on-off mode of the six party talk in resolving the DPRK nuclear issue caused by non cooperative attitude of the DPRK. We therefore urge the DPRK to resume its cooperation with the IAEA, return to the six party talks and adhere to the NPT. We believe that there are concerns of the DPRK that need to be addressed, but it is also important for the DPRK to positively address the genuine concern of the international community, and to show its courage to act as a responsible member of the community of nations.

As for the Iranian nuclear issues, we recommend the Agency to continue its verification process with respect to the Iranian nuclear programme. All Member States must support the Director General’s efforts in addressing and resolving this issue. It is also important to note that we must resolve the Iranian nuclear issue through dialogue, cooperation, diplomacy and other peaceful means, while on the part of Iran, it is their obligation to provide the Agency with all necessary support and cooperation to enable the Agency to perform its task in accordance with its mandate and statute and relevant resolutions.

**Madam President,**

I hope that our deliberations in this conference will help make the Agency more effective. The challenges facing us are enormous, and require a collective effort. In addressing these challenges, the Agency will rely on Member States. We in Indonesia fully support the efforts of the IAEA and the Director General in advancing the cause of nuclear disarmament and the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

I thank you, Madam President.