

**Statement by Director General of the State Corporation “Rosatom”
S.V. Kiriyenko to the 53rd Session of the IAEA General Conference**

Madame President,

I would like to congratulate you with your election to the high post of the President of the 53rd Session of the IAEA General Conference.

We are confident that under your guidance the forum will successfully fulfill the tasks facing it. You can fully count on support and cooperation of the Russian delegation, which has arrived to this Session of the IAEA General Conference tuned to active and concrete work.

We welcome the Kingdom of Cambodia and Rwanda as new Member States of the Agency.

Madame President,

It is my pleasure to extend personally and on behalf of the Government of the Russian Federation, gratitude to Dr. M. El Baradei for his 12-year service in the capacity of the IAEA Director General. His achievements at this high position have received universal recognition and the authority of the Agency under your leadership has increased.

We welcome the election of the new Director General, an experienced diplomat, Ambassador Yukiya Amano and assure him of our full support.

Madame President,

For over half a century the IAEA has been an acknowledged world center of nuclear cooperation. In the current conditions, considering new challenges and threats the global community is encountering, the role of the IAEA as the sole international organization that ensures the necessary balance of safe and peaceful use of nuclear power and conformance with the norms of nuclear non-proliferation is ever increasing. We have a high regard of the Agency’s activities in the period reported and are committed to strengthening its potential.

Madame President,

Russia as always considers its nuclear power development in close interaction with the IAEA as a priority, which is a part of five areas of modernization and technological development of the entire Russian economy in the framework of the ad hoc commission under the leadership of the President of the Russian Federation.

We have identified a number of priority projects.

The first project is the optimization of the currently used VVR technology. Today, it is the dominating technology in civil nuclear power in Russia and generally in the world.

The second mid-term project is the development of infrastructure for the new nuclear power technology platform based on fast neutron reactors and closed nuclear fuel cycle. Proceeding from the accumulated experience and expertise of fast sodium reactors with capacity of 350 and 600MW we have completed the construction of a higher capacity BN-800 fast reactor, and currently we are developing a relevant MOX-fuel fabrication facility. The Government of Russia has approved a Program entitled “The Nuclear Power Technologies of New Generation” where the central place is accorded to the development of fast neutron reactors and closed nuclear fuel cycle. We are open to relevant international cooperation.

The third long-term project is the continuation of activities on mastering the controlled fusion technology. The cooperation format in this area is well-known: it is the construction of the experimental thermal nuclear reactor implemented in Cadarache, France. Seven parties, including Russia are the members of the ITER Project.

In parallel, we attach significant importance to the development of basic studies. We confirm our commitments regarding the participation in the establishment of a European Center on the ion and antiproton research (FAIR) in Darmstadt, Germany. In July, the Government of the Russian Federation issued a directive to join the Framework Agreement on Generation IV Nuclear Energy

Systems.

Madame President,

The number of effective government-to-government agreements signed by the Russian Federation in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy is steadily growing. Over the two incomplete recent years we have concluded 21 government-to-government and 22 interagency agreements. This year such agreements have been concluded with Japan, Jordan, Byelorussia, Mongolia, Nigeria, and Turkey. Two light water reactors have been put on line in China; two reactors are being constructed in India, with an agreement signed to build four more units there; a nuclear power plant construction is nearing completion in Iran; and construction of two reactors has begun in Bulgaria. There is another Russian project that is of apparent international significance - the Baltic NPP in the Kaliningrad Region, which we regard as a broad integrating and international project designed to meet both Russian and common European energy related challenges. We confirm our readiness for transparent and mutually beneficial cooperation with foreign partners in all areas of peaceful uses, while strictly observing all norms of the international law.

Madame President,

In circumstances when the role of nuclear power is growing worldwide and new nuclear process and power generation capacities are being introduced, the IAEA inspection activities will be increasing, as well. In this regard we have to start thinking how to make the Agency's technical capabilities compatible with the growing number of facilities placed under safeguards. In this context, we welcome the work of the Agency Secretariat on practical application of the integrated safeguards concept in the Agency's inspection activities. The Russian Federation will continue to facilitate the enhancement of the IAEA safeguards through financing the national program of scientific and technical support of the IAEA safeguards.

By now we have contributed significant effort to the development of an effective international "safety net" to prevent nuclear weapons and

nuclear materials from getting into the hands of terrorists. In this regard it is necessary to note the importance of consistent efforts being made by the IAEA to reinforce the nuclear security regime in the world. We support the IAEA Nuclear Security Plan for 2007-2009, as well as the adoption of the new Plan for 2010-2013. I would like to inform you that in accordance with a decision made by the Government of the Russian Federation a voluntary contribution of US\$1.5m to the extra-budgetary IAEA Nuclear Security Fund is planned to be made in 2010 and US\$1m of annual contributions in 2011-2015.

The Technical Cooperation Program is an important area of the Agency's activities. The Russian Federation contributes and intends to contribute its voluntary share in full. This year we have contributed RUB23.6m to the TCF. Besides, under the IAEA Technical Cooperation Program we contributed RUB240m to assist the Republic of Armenia in safety upgrades of the Armenian NPP in 2008, and we take most active part in the implementation of these projects.

Thereat, the Russian Federation assures an appropriate level of safety regulation related to nuclear power use in accordance with the international conventions and recommendations of the IAEA. In 2009 Russia will host for the first time the IAEA mission to evaluate the nuclear power use related activities of the nuclear safety regulatory authority.

The Russian Federation has made a decision to assist Ukraine in safety upgrades of the Chernobyl NPP site and accelerate the decommissioning of the facility. The Russian Government has been contributing US\$10m to the Nuclear Safety Account for these purposes in 2009. In 2010, additional US\$7m will be transferred to the Chernobyl Shelter Fund.

We are repatriating HEU spent nuclear fuel to Russia, a non-proliferation and environmental safety related urgent activity under the joint projects with the US, the IAEA and partnering countries. As of September 1, 2009, over 470 kg of fresh HEU fuel from 12 countries and 415 kg (recalculated for uranium) of

irradiated HEU fuel have been shipped to Russia from Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Romania, and Uzbekistan. In 2009 relevant government-to-government agreements have been concluded with Poland, Romania and Serbia.

I am pleased to report to the High Assembly that today, September 14, under the above program spent nuclear fuel containing over 500 kg of highly enriched uranium has been delivered to one of the Russian seaports from research reactor in Poland. After reprocessing these kilograms will become regular low enriched fuel and will pose no proliferation threat. Though, theoretically, they would have been sufficient to manufacture 7 to 8 nuclear warheads.

Tomorrow, September 15 a contract to ship to Russia spent nuclear fuel from the research reactor “Vincha” in Serbia will be signed in Vienna under the IAEA auspices. The IAEA and a number of countries are the donors of this project.

The Russian Federation is consistently building up its nonproliferation efforts. For example, in 2008 two Russian weapons grade plutonium production reactors were shut down. The third and the last production reactor is planned to be shut down already next spring.

Finally, Russia conducts its surplus defense-related HEU disposition in a consistent and transparent manner. By now 370t. of HEU have been reprocessed into power uranium, which is equal to elimination of 14800 nuclear warheads. This program will be fully implemented by 31 December, 2013, as has been planned under the HEU-LEU Agreement. Russia is committed to eliminate entirely 500t. of HEU.

Madame President,

Advancement of nuclear power in many countries raises the issue of assured fuel supply. Development of fuel fabrication capacities is very expensive in terms of economics. We believe that the most effective solution to this “knot” of problems is the application of multi-lateral approaches to nuclear fuel cycle with the IAEA playing the leading role. We have a high regard of the Agency’s related

efforts and assure our support. We are ready to work with all interested countries to clarify and harmonize the existing initiatives in the field of multi-lateral approaches to nuclear fuel cycle, where it is possible and feasible.

While consistently implementing the relevant initiative put forward by the President of Russia, in 2007 jointly with the Republic of Kazakhstan we have established the International Uranium Enrichment Center (IUEC) at the Angarsk Electrolysis and Chemical Complex. In 2008 the JSC IUEC was granted all required permits and licenses to operate as a supplier of products and services. In 2009 Armenia joined the IUEC, and Russia has received a diplomatic note from Ukraine expressing its intent to join the IUEC. The consent has been granted.

We continue working on the establishment of an assured HEU fuel bank sufficient for two full charges of 1000-megawatt reactors; to be stored at the IUEC, as agreed with the IAEA. At the 2008 General Conference we presented our proposals regarding the principles for fuel banks establishment. In 2009 we further developed our initiative and gave its detailed presentation at the March and June IAEA Board of Governors' meetings. Its detailed description has been released as a communication document of the IAEA (GOV/INF/2009/1 of February 23, "Development of the Russian Federation Initiative to Establish a Bank of Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) for the Supply of LEU to the IAEA for its Member States").

I would like to emphasize that the Russian proposal is based on Article IX of the IAEA Statute. The rights of the IAEA Member States are neither violated nor prejudiced, including those associated with the development of their own capacities in the field of nuclear fuel cycle. We ask nothing from anyone, we impose nothing and we set forth no conditions. The IAEA Member States are not required to give up their right to develop nuclear fuel cycle in exchange for the right to obtain LEU from the assured fuel bank. We do not set forth such condition. The assured fuel bank is an answer to the concerns of those careful of putting themselves in full dependence of the political situation.

We are ready to provide additional clarification to those who have not made their minds yet or feel doubts as regards the support of our initiative. I would like to stress that the Russian proposal is independent in nature, does not contradict other well-known initiatives and does not compete with them. I am referring to the DG's proposal and the US initiative to establish LEU bank under the IAEA custody, and other relevant proposals made by Germany, UK and others. We are hopeful that our proposal will be supported at the next meeting of the Board of Governors.

One of the examples of international cooperation, successfully conducted under the auspices of the IAEA, is the implementation of the IAEA International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles (INPRO) initiated by Russia. Now, after the publication of the INPRO-developed "Methodology for the Assessment of Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles", the second phase of the project has begun. So the INPRO members may commence practical work to develop inherent safety nuclear technology.

We supported the IAEA Secretariat's effort to arrange for a budgetary funding of the project and urge all participating countries to start sharing the cost of this project. The Russian Federation has made a decision of a long-term funding of the project in 2008-2012 in the annual amount of RUB23m.

Madame President,

The Agency is a powerful, high-profile international organization, with huge potential, an organization without which it would be impossible to imagine further development of global nuclear power.

The Russian Federation, as one of the founders of the Agency, is ready to render a comprehensive support to the IAEA and the newly elected Director General.

Thank you for attention.