

STATEMENT

by

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Head of the Delegation of Viet Nam to

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The International Atomic Energy Agency

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Madam President,

On behalf of the Delegation of Vietnam, I would like warmly congratulate you on your election as the President of the fifty-third Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference. We are convinced that with your excellent leadership, you will lead the General Conference to a great success.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Republic of Rwanda as new Member States of the Agency.

I would like to express our sincere thanks Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei for his distinguished service and valuable contribution to the Agency over past quarter century and twelve years as Director General; and would like to congratulate Dr. Yukiya Amano on his appointment as new Director General of the Agency and wish to express the Vietnamese Government's full supports to him on this very important position.

Looking back on the Agency's activities from the last General Conference, the Delegation of Viet Nam highly appreciates the commendable efforts and remarkable achievements made by the Agency in the performance of its mandate in the fields of technical co-operation, nuclear safety and security, and verification.

Madam President,
Distinguished delegates,

Viet Nam acknowledges the great importance of the effective and efficient implementation of the IAEA Technical Co-operation Program and considers it as a very important resource for the development of national nuclear science and technology capability. In the cycle 2009-2011, Viet Nam has been implementing seven new TC projects, of which three projects are related to nuclear power development. In addition, Viet Nam has also actively participated in many regional and non-regional projects.

We are pleased to note that the cooperation between the Agency and Viet Nam has been fruitful and cost-effective in the development of nuclear human resource, the enhancement of national technical infrastructure for nuclear applications, radiation and nuclear safety, and the promotion of nuclear applications on healthcare, agriculture, industries, and natural resources and environment, effectively contributing to the socio-economic development of the country.

Madam President,

Taking this opportunity, I am pleased to inform you that on 14th September 2009, a Bhabhatron II therapy unit donated by the Government of India through IAEA/PACT program has been transported to Can Tho Oncology Hospital in Viet Nam. The Bhabhatron II Therapy Center will be inaugurated in the next month and our people in Mekong delta region will benefit from this donation for their health cares. Viet Nam highly appreciates and sincerely thanks the Government of India and the IAEA/PACT Program for this valuable assistance.

Madam President,

Recognizing the vital role of nuclear energy in the development of the

country, over the past years, the Government of Viet Nam has conducted policies on promotion of research, development and uses of nuclear energy, strengthening nuclear regulatory infrastructure and extending international co-operation. The Viet Nam Atomic Energy Law, which has come into force since the 1st January 2009, reaffirms Viet Nam's consistent policy on the safe, secure, and peaceful uses of atomic energy and this is an important milestone in the development of Viet Nam's legal framework in the atomic energy field. In addition, along with the implementation of its international obligations and commitments, Viet Nam is considering to participate in the other nuclear international instruments.

For the past years, Vietnam has developed and successfully applied the radiation technology in the fields of healthcare, agriculture, industries, natural resources and environment. The advanced techniques in nuclear medicine (PET, PET/CT) have been applied such as new cyclotron centers, therapy equipment and industrial irradiation facilities. In agriculture, more than fifty radiation-mutant varieties, including rice (VND-95-20), soybeans (DT84, DT 86) have been cultivated. Nuclear techniques have also been applied in the national important industries, such as oil and gas industry, shipbuilding, cement production, transportation, and construction in order to improve productivity and quality of product.

At present, Viet Nam is actively developing the infrastructure necessary for the successful implementation of nuclear power program, including development of legal system, establishment of effective regulatory body, research & development, and technical support organizations, development of education and training system and supporting industries.

Madam President,

Viet Nam has fully fulfilled its obligations and commitments to the Agency, including the provision of necessary resources to the TC projects,

payments to National Participation Cost (NPC) of the cycle 2008-2009, to the Regular Budget, and the contribution pledged to the Technical Cooperation Fund of the year 2009. In addition, Viet Nam has been in close cooperation with the Agency to successfully host a number of IAEA/RCA workshops and training courses.

The Delegation of Viet Nam would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the close cooperation and effective assistance that the Agency has extended to Viet Nam over the past years, and wishes to continue receiving closer and more effective cooperation from the IAEA, other concerned international organizations and all Member States in the coming time, especially for the introduction of nuclear power in Viet Nam.

Madam President,
Distinguished delegates,

In conclusion, the Delegation of Viet Nam wishes to commend and thank to all the staff of the Agency for their dedicated efforts and effective work. We would like to reaffirm Viet Nam's full support to the activities of the Agency in the enhancement and promotion of the application of nuclear science and technology for a world of peace, stability, cooperation and prosperity.

Thank you for your attention.