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Verification and monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran in light of United Nations Security Council resolution 2231 (2015)

Report by the Director General

1. This report of the Director General to the Board of Governors and, in parallel, to the United Nations Security Council (Security Council), is on the Islamic Republic of Iran's (Iran's) implementation of its nuclear-related commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in relation to its enrichment-related research and development (R&D) activities. It provides an update on developments since the Director General's previous reports.¹

Activities Related to Enrichment R&D

- 2. On 19 December 2020, during a design information verification, the Agency verified that Iran had begun installing IR-1 centrifuges in R&D line 5 at the Pilot Fuel Enrichment Plant (PFEP) at Natanz.² In a letter dated 22 December 2020, the Agency requested Iran to clarify the purpose of installing these IR-1 centrifuges and to update the Design Information Questionnaire (DIQ) for PFEP.
- 3. On 13 January 2021, the Agency verified in R&D line 5 at PFEP that a cascade of 10 IR-1 centrifuges was being fed with natural uranium to produce small quantities of uranium enriched to below 2% U-235, which were being accumulated. The Agency verified that other IR-1 centrifuges were also being installed in R&D line 5. In a letter dated 14 January 2021, the Agency reminded Iran of the Agency's request for clarification of the purpose of installing these IR-1 centrifuges in R&D line 5.

¹ GOV/2020/51, GOV/INF/2020/16, GOV/INF/2020/17, GOV/INF/2021/1, GOV/INF/2021/2, GOV/INF/2021/3, GOV/INF/2021/8 and GOV/INF/2021/9.

² R&D line 5 at PFEP is the location where previously a cascade of IR-2m centrifuges had been installed, before it was transferred to the Fuel Enrichment Plant (see GOV/2020/51, para. 13).

- 4. On 30 January 2021, the Agency verified that two intermediate cascades of 10 and 18 IR-1 centrifuges were installed in R&D line 5 at PFEP.
- 5. On 2 February 2021, Iran provided an updated DIQ for PFEP. The DIQ stated that the purpose of installing IR-1 centrifuges in R&D line 5 was the "[p]roduction of LEU, quality control and R&D activities". The DIQ also stated that R&D line 5 could accommodate "single, intermediate or full cascades of any type of centrifuge machine".

³ JCPOA, 'Annex I – Nuclear-related measures', para. 32.