

**IAEA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY AND APPLICATIONS AND
THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME
26 TO 28 NOVEMBER 2024
VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

STATEMENT BY SINGAPORE

Co-Chairs,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

1 Six years after the first Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology, Singapore is delighted that we are gathered here again to recognise the remarkable progress that the IAEA has made in enhancing the lives of our citizens through nuclear applications. Singapore is also pleased to endorse the Ministerial Declaration adopted this morning. We thank the co-Chairs, Finland and Ghana, for their hard work in bringing us to consensus on this important document.

2 This second Ministerial Conference is an important milestone. The global community and the Agency have consistently invested effort and resources to achieve three important objectives. First, to widen the peaceful uses and applications of radiation and nuclear technologies to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals on healthcare, environment, energy, and industry. Second, to improve the understanding of nuclear science and enhance the capabilities of countries in building and sustaining a core of expertise. Third, to advance research to improve the efficacy of nuclear technology applications. Singapore commends the IAEA's efforts to forge more collaborative partnerships, including with other UN entities such as FAO and WHO, and setting high standards to ensure the safe and secure applications of radiation and nuclear technologies. This will allow us to foster trust and safeguard the progress made in utilising these technologies.

3 Singapore has benefited from the transfer of valuable knowledge through the Agency's Technical Cooperation (TC) programme since we became an IAEA Member State in 1967. More recently, the Agency has supported Singapore's efforts to build up capabilities in proton beam therapy since 2012, in both the application and regulatory aspects. Today, patients in Singapore have access to such advanced treatment. Singapore also believes in giving back meaningfully to the TC programme. Beyond paying our annual share of the TC Fund, we support the Agency in: (a) hosting scientific visits and attachments; (b)

quality management in nuclear medicine through the QUANUM programme; (c) Sterile Insect Technique for dengue control; and (d) the IAEA COMPASS initiative on nuclear safeguards. Singapore also hosts the National University of Singapore's Centre for Ion Beam Applications, which has been designated as an IAEA Collaborating Centre, and the A*STAR National Metrology Centre, which has been designated as a regional centre under the IAEA-WMO project on Source Attribution of Greenhouse Gases.

4 Beyond country-level technical cooperation, Singapore commends the Agency for forming, as well as supporting, regional platforms, where countries with shared borders and common challenges can cooperate to collectively achieve better results than any individual effort alone. The RCA is one such example of a highly successful regional cooperation platform. Over the past five decades, more than 650 training courses have been conducted under the RCA, with over 10,000 counterparts trained. The Agency has also rendered strong support to the ASEANTOM, notably in the development of a regional Emergency Preparedness and Response protocol for ASEAN, which forms a strong foundation for our regional commitment and efforts to protect the public from radiation or nuclear emergencies. We look forward to doing more with the Agency under the IAEA-ASEAN Practical Arrangements that have been renewed for a further five years, until 2029. These Practical Arrangements build on the Agency's ongoing projects in the region and elevate regional cooperation on nuclear safety and security, among other areas.

Co-Chairs,

5 Singapore is committed to continue working closely with the Agency and fellow Member States through flagship projects such as Rays of Hope, as well as through regional platforms and mechanisms such as the RCA and IAEA-ASEAN Practical Arrangements. Singapore is happy to serve as the ASEAN focal point for the Practical Arrangements to drive the renewal process. Thank you.

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