

GERMANY

Rede

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anlässlich der
60. IAEO-Generalkonferenz

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Uhrzeit: ca. 11 Uhr

in Wien

Es gilt das gesprochene Wort!

Mister President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I.

Mr. President,
On behalf of my government,
I congratulate you on your election as
President of the sixtieth IAEA General
Conference. I can assure you of the
full cooperation of my delegation in
order to make this General
Conference a success.

I fully endorse the statement made by
the European Union.

Germany welcomes the approval by the General Conference of the application for membership by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Islamic Republic of the Gambia.

II.

Mr. President,

The IAEA plays a central role in nearly every question that arises in the context of nuclear technology and Germany will continue to be a constructive partner of the Secretariat and all Member States.

Germany decided to phase out nuclear power by the end of 2022.

At the same time, Germany respects the sovereign right of every country to choose its own energy mix and supply, whether with or without nuclear energy.

Our energy policy goals remain very ambitious.

In the future, Germany's energy supply is to be based predominantly on renewable resources.

Transforming our energy system consists of three pillars:

- Increasing the share of renewables,
- increasing energy efficiency,
- and making future grids more flexible

However Germany will continue to be involved in nuclear power for years. Nuclear power plants in Germany will produce electricity until 2022. At the same time, nuclear safety remains highly relevant including the continuing view to foreign nuclear power plants. Thus / However safe nuclear technology and cooperation with our partners in this area will remain highly important for Germany.

Let me stress that Germany will continue to attach particular importance to nuclear security. Our high level of nuclear security will be maintained and, if necessary, strengthened and enhanced.

Germany is now focussing on the back-end of the fuel-cycle.

The Federal Government had appointed a commission with representatives from different groups of society to review the financing for the nuclear-energy phase-out. Our aim was to secure the funding of decommissioning and dismantling and of the waste disposal in times of

economic instabilities experienced by the nuclear power plant operators.

In April this year the commission proposed in its final report to combine the operational obligations with the financial responsibility for the nuclear waste. This means that the operators remain responsible for organising and funding of decommissioning, for proper packing of the nuclear waste and for dismantling of the power plants. The government shall organise storage and disposal of radioactive waste and spent fuel. The power plant operators will provide the necessary financial means for storage and disposal by paying a lump sum to a newly launched public fund. The lump

sum consists of the accruals established by the operators for these tasks plus a reasonable risk premium.

At the moment we are working on a legislative package and other regulations to implement the system I just described. We chose a very ambitious timeframe and plan to finalise the process in the foreseeable future. We are confident that this consensual allocation of responsibilities will ensure the funding of the nuclear-energy phase-out in power production.

Beyond power production the use of nuclear technology in other areas in particular in industry, medical and other research will further increase and Germany will continue to strive for a leading position. The Research Reactor of the Technical University in Munich is a backbone in this respect. I encourage you all to visit this year's exhibition of the Munich Reactor in the VIC-Rotunda.

Innovative high-tech components and materials for nuclear applications are developed and produced in Germany. Basic research, material development, medicine, energy storage and semiconductor production are just some of the fields for nuclear applications.

III.

Mr. President,

Budget negotiations are always important.

As you know, Germany has been advocating a nominal zero-growth line in all international organisations in order to appropriately balance public expenditure in times of continuing global financial uncertainties and additional budgetary burdens.

Mr. President,

Beyond its share to the regular budget Germany contributes to specific needs of the IAEA:

Since 2011 Germany donated around 5 million euros to the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund and we are prepared to contribute one more million euro for IAEA nuclear security projects until the end of this year. In addition, Germany contributed more than 6,5 million euros to the ECAS project to modernize the Safeguards Analytical Laboratory in Seibersdorf.

The Agency is still promoting the sophisticated investment project called ReNuAL [Renovation of IAEA Nuclear Application Laboratories]. - the initiative to modernize and renovate the laboratories of the Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications in Seibersdorf. The German Permanent

Representative is co-chairing the working group of Member States for this matter.

Germany had supported the modernization of the Agency's Nuclear Applications Laboratories at Seibersdorf since 2014 with an extrabudgetary contribution of almost 2.3 million euros.

We appeal to all Member States who are in the financial position to do so, to make a financial contribution to ReNuAL.

IV.

Mr. President,

I would like to underline the extraordinary importance of effective and efficient IAEA-safeguards.

That is why Germany funds one of the first national support programmes for IAEA safeguards. This autumn the German Support Programme is to celebrate its 39th anniversary.

It contributes successfully to state-of-the-art verification methods and techniques and provided training, expert advice and consultancy to the IAEA Secretariat and Member States.

In addition, with regard to the Secretariats initiative to expand the Network of Analytical Laboratories, the German Government nominated the Forschungszentrum Jülich as a candidate for membership in the International Atomic Energy Agency's Network of Analytical Laboratories (NWAL).

Mr. President,

Germany is pleased, that to this day the IAEA applies safeguards in 181 States. And we note that in the meantime 128 States with Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements also have an Additional Protocol in force.

For these States the Agency can provide assurances that there are no indications of undeclared nuclear material or activities [in the respective State].

We welcome the fact that more countries have joined this group since the last General Conference.

And we urge all other States that have not done so yet to enter into an Additional Protocol.

In the light of the continuing growth in verification demand worldwide and the need for cost-effectiveness we welcome the efforts of the Secretariat to improve the implementation of safeguards.

At the same time, we support the further evolution of individual state-level approaches in a structured and objective manner, considering both the technical situation as well as the legal and institutional structures within a State.

This should also lead to more cost-effective safeguards measures within each state.

V.

Mr. President,

Nuclear safety will remain a top priority for Germany, even after Germany's NPPs will have been shut down. Germany strongly encourages cooperation between regulators and a worldwide system of mutual controls as they have proven to be an important pillar in the international nuclear safety regime.

Self-assessments and international peer-reviews conducted in cooperation with the IAEA service

known as integrated regulatory review service (IRRS) missions are of particular importance. Therefore, Germany actively supports the revision of the IRRS Guidelines and the revision of the questionnaire for the self-assessment and welcomes the completion of this revision in January 2017.

Furthermore, Germany highly appreciates the Agency's activities in the framework of the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS) and the Safety Standard Committees. The common technical results of the implementation of the Vienna Declaration under the Convention of Nuclear Safety (CNS) shall be discussed in the safety standards

committees. Germany has actively supported all these activities and will continue to do so in the future.

VI.

Mr. President,

On nuclear security, we have witnessed this year's Nuclear Security Summit in Washington which has generated worldwide attention to a very pressing issue, particularly in the face of evolving terrorist threats. The Nuclear Security Summit stressed, inter alia, the central role of the IAEA in coordinating global efforts to enhance and bolster nuclear security. Germany welcomes IAEA activities in that field and stand ready to

continuously support the Agency in this regard. With the long awaited entry into force of the amended Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials (CPPNM) in May this year, Nuclear Security has finally found a legally binding basis. We highly appreciate the successful efforts undertaken by the IAEA and many individual governments to make the amended CPPNM operational. The international community should continue its efforts to broaden the number of signatories and to strive for a real universalization of the amended CPPNM as the most important instrument for enhancing nuclear security worldwide.

Germany highlighted during the Nuclear Security Summits the considerable dangers which can arise from the malicious use of radioactive sources.

For this reason, adequate security measures must be in place in the mostly public areas where such sources are handled – for instance, hospitals, sections of industry and research. We highly appreciate and fully support the IAEA's efforts to strengthen the international framework for the security of radioactive sources. In this context Germany hosted an international workshop on the "Code of Conduct on the Security of Radioactive Sources" just two weeks ago in Berlin.

Computer security and the protection against cyber attacks remains one of the most important challenges in nuclear security. In this context, Germany would like to bring to mind the results of the successful International Conference on Computer Security in June 2015. Some progress has been made to develop additional computer security guidance - in particular at the recommendations level. In light of the steadily growing cyber threat we should do everything to harden all nuclear facilities against this threat and to develop and implement the necessary guidance. We will continue to remain actively engaged in that field. Germany maintains a high standard of nuclear

security and is ready to share experiences in that field with others. In that context, I am happy to announce that my country will host an IPPAS mission to one of our power plants in 2017.

Germany's efforts to maintain and, if necessary, to strengthen an up-to-date and sustainable nuclear security regime will in no way be affected by phasing out nuclear energy in 2022.

VII.

Mr. President,

Once again I would like to underline that Germany greatly appreciates the valuable assistance that the Agency's

Technical Cooperation Programme provides to Member States in areas like health – especially cancer treatment –, water management, agriculture and environmental protection.

We will continue to support the Agency's efforts in this regard. One aspect is our support for ReNuAL and we will continue to try to increase cooperation in specific projects.

VIII.

Mr. President,

The International Project on Innovative Reactors and Fuel Cycles (INPRO) was established in 2000 with

Germany as a founding member. We once again commend the INPRO team for their achievements.

In coordination with other international initiatives, INPRO serves as an essential forum for exchange on national approaches to nuclear infrastructure, emphasising the importance of long term strategic planning and global dialogue.

IX.

Mr. President,

The implementation of Multilateral Approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle remains an important task.

Germany very much welcomes that with the conclusion of the Host

Country Agreement between Kazakhstan and the IAEA in 2015, the cornerstone of the so-called “LEU-Bank” of the IAEA was laid. Germany commends the IAEA and Kazakhstan for their sustainable commitment to progress in that important project. We trust that the “LEU-Bank” will eventually convince decision-makers that the worldwide supply of LEU will be sustained and that there is no need to rely exclusively on national enrichment capabilities.

X.

Mr. President,

We all remember the Vienna Agreement between the E3plus3 and Iran of July 2015 – a rare success of diplomacy in the Middle East, a unique agreement built on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. On 16 January 2016, the IAEA confirmed that Iran fulfilled its obligations for Implementation Day to be reached, key financial and economic sanctions were lifted. This will enable the international community to restore lost confidence. The IAEA plays a key role in this process: Through its monitoring and verification activities it can

reassure the world of the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme. Tight monitoring, verification and reporting by the IAEA remains crucial to ensure that the Vienna Agreement is implemented in all its aspects. Adequate funding is necessary for the IAEA to fulfil its tasks and activities. Under the Geneva Joint Plan of Action, Germany contributed 2,35 million euros. Under the Vienna Agreement we provided for additional 0.75 million euros in 2016. We are aware of our responsibility and will continue making substantial contributions in the future.

XI.

Mr. President,

Since the last General Conference, North Korea has conducted its fifth nuclear test and continues to test ballistic missiles. North Korea continues to deliberately violate relevant UN Security Council resolutions through its ongoing nuclear and missile-related activities and its trade of related technologies with third countries. Germany will not accept these provocations. We repeat our call to North Korea to immediately abandon its nuclear capabilities, ballistic missiles and weapons of mass destruction

programmes in a verifiable manner that complies with international law and that comes without delay.

XII.

Mr. President,

Nuclear technologies need intensive international collaboration and oversight.

We are grateful for the successful work of the IAEA.

In this context we appreciate that DG Amano would be available for a third term. We very much support his candidature.

We look forward to continuing our successful cooperation with the Secretariat and with [all] Member States.

Thank you, Mr. President.