



**STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AT THE  
60<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL  
CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC  
ENERGY AGENCY  
26<sup>TH</sup> - 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016  
VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

**DELIVERED BY HON. CHARLES KETER, MGH  
CABINET SECRETARY  
MINISTRY OF ENERGY & PETROLEUM**

**ON**

**26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016**

**Mr. President,  
Mr. Yukiya Amano, Director General, IAEA,  
Hon. Ministers,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
All Protocols observed**

**Mr. President,**

It gives me great pleasure on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Kenya and my delegation to congratulate you on your election as the President of the 60<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. We wish to thank the Director General for his supportive opening remarks and articulation of the Agency's achievements in Member States across all the Major Programmes of the Agency.

My delegation would like to take this early opportunity to welcome to the new member states to the agency.

Kenya acknowledges the central role played by the Agency in promoting international cooperation including its efforts to strengthen the global regime on the peaceful use of nuclear applications, nuclear safety, security and safeguards

**Mr. President,**

Kenya identifies the role played by nuclear technology in the provision of competitive, clean and safe electricity. Energy is an important prerequisite to achieve the long-term development agenda for the country and has been

recognized as an economic driver in Kenya's development blue print. Kenya commends the role played by the Agency in enabling countries to undertake objective energy planning to meet future energy requirements. The energy planning process in Kenya resulted in the need for inclusion of nuclear energy in the country's energy strategy.

Kenya acknowledges the Agency's partnership in the implementation of the Technical Cooperation projects to effectively and successfully deploy nuclear science and technology. We are happy to join in the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Agency.

Kenya appreciates the Agency for successfully undertaking the Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review (INIR) Mission for Phase I. The hosting of the INIR Mission was a monumental achievement for Kenya's Nuclear Power Programme. The delivery of the INIR Mission report by the Deputy Director General of the IAEA, Mr. Mikhail Chudakov, was a very important occasion for the country. To this end, Kenya has developed an in-depth action plan to address the recommendations and suggestions given by the experts during the INIR Mission.

Kenya lauds the Agency for the valuable assistance it continues to provide in capacity building and regulatory framework support through workshops, fellowships, expert missions and scientific visits for the country's nuclear power programme as designed in the Agency's Technical Cooperation programme in collaboration with various partners.

Kenya also appreciates the support received from the Agency in the development of the Integrated Work Plan for Kenya's Nuclear Power Programme. This Work Plan is a crucial tool that can be replicated to other embarking countries in consolidating all training programs for a country. Its implementation has benefitted the nuclear programme in Kenya through technical advice and reviews in critical areas such as site selection, reactor technology assessment and grid development and is further expected to provide focused support in other areas towards the successful and safe introduction of Kenya's nuclear power programme.

Kenya has made steadfast progress in the development of its legal and regulatory framework for the nuclear power programme. The National Energy Policy that formally introduces nuclear into the energy mix was adopted by the National Cabinet in September 2015, and the Energy Bill 2016 which seeks to legislate the Nuclear Energy Programme Implementing Organization (NEPIO), has been passed by Parliament.

**Mr. President,**

The accession to the Convention on Nuclear Safety is being placed for consideration by our Cabinet before formal ratification by the National Assembly. We are working on placing Kenya as a signatory to the Convention on Nuclear Safety. Kenya is in the process of finalizing the Draft Nuclear Regulatory Bill 2016. Once the Bill is enacted, partnership with the Agency will be sought in the establishment of a

strong and effective regulatory framework for Kenya's nuclear power programme.

In addition, the Agency conducted an Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) Mission in July 2016. The IRRS Mission provided recommendations and suggestions which are being implemented.

**Mr. President,**

Kenya takes cognizance of the Agency's efforts in human health to address needs related to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases through the application of nuclear techniques. The Director General is focused on cancer control in developing countries and this he made known during the TICAD-VI conference in Nairobi, Kenya in August 2016.

Kenya acknowledges the Agency's support in the area of capacity building in radiation oncology and nuclear medicine. Through the implementation of various Technical Cooperation projects, Kenya has strengthened its national capacity and facilities for delivery of radiotherapy and nuclear medicine services. We wish to express our gratitude to the Agency for the support given and collaboration in equipment supply and capacity building and look forward to continued partnership.

Kenya is pursuing the delivery of sustainable, comprehensive radiotherapy and other cancer treatment services through the Kenyatta National Hospital, Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital and private facilities with

radiotherapy services. Kenya welcomes the assistance offered by the Agency in financing the equipping of the radiotherapy unit with state of the art radiotherapy equipment.

The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), the national organization tasked to provide standardization, metrology and conformity assessment services has benefitted from Agency partnership in capacity building for the Secondary Standards Dosimetry, Radiotracer Measurement Facility and the Non-Destructive Testing facility.

It has also been able to establish a fully-fledged Non Destructive Testing (NDT) Laboratory at the Institute of Nuclear Science & Technology which is now actively used by students for their Masters in Science thesis research projects and for the provision of professional services. More than 90 Level I and II personnel have been trained.

Kenya also appreciates the Agency's partnership in relation to use of isotope techniques to conduct water resources assessment. We have been able to establish and equip a National Isotope Hydrology Laboratory and purchase crucial equipment and associated consumables. This was done through a Government Cost sharing basis with the Agency. Human capacity building was done through fellowships, scientific visits and expert missions which have been a tremendous input to the Country.

**Mr. President,**

The contribution of the African Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology (AFRA) to socio-economic development cannot be overemphasized. AFRA has played a big role in strengthening infrastructure and capacity building in the field of nuclear science and technology in Kenya. At present, Kenya participates in 19 AFRA projects that promote peaceful application of nuclear science and technology in areas of food and agriculture, health, energy, industrial applications, water management, radiation protections and human resource development.

Agriculture remains a key economic and social sector in Kenya. Pests remain a major challenge to optimizing agricultural production in Kenya. On this aspect, fruit flies are currently the leading pests of fruits and vegetables in the country, which is causing between 30 and 70% of fruit and vegetable farm and post-harvest losses. Beginning January 2016, Kenya has been working with Agency to enhance capacity for the country to respond to the fruit fly challenges through the use of Sterile Insect Technique incorporated within an area wide system of fruit fly management.

We are also looking forward to have more trainees participate in this fruit fly capacity building project particularly to empower our agricultural research organization to deal with the fruit fly problem in the country.

In soil and water management, Kenya has managed to train more than 300 farmers on small scale drip irrigation technology. Capacity has also been built on the use of smart phone in receiving water and nutrient management information.

Kenya takes climate change and its impact in food and agriculture seriously. In this regard the country has continued to develop climate smart water and nutrient efficient technologies, one being the smart irrigator ICT technology for delivering water and nutrient information to farmers through mobile phones. We are confident that addressing the issues of smallholder farmers will lead to improved quality of life among many communities. Kenya would like to acknowledge the stand of 'going green' by the Agency for this year's conference. This demonstrates the Agency's commitment to sustainability.

In conclusion Mr. President, I wish to thank the Agency for its sustained commitment and support to Kenya in the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear technology for sustainable development. We applaud all the officials and professionals in the IAEA, whose dedication and hard work continues to strengthen the cooperation between the Agency and Member States, which in turn contributes to enhanced service delivery and promotion of quality of life by Governments.

I wish the 60<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference success in all its deliberations.

Thank you.