

STATEMENT

OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

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Deputy director of State Regulatory Agency for Radiation and Nuclear
Safety of Bosnia and Herzegovina and NLO for cooperation with IAEA

Vienna, 19 September 2018

Madam President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen

At the outset, on behalf of the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina allow me, Madam President, to extend my warm congratulations on your elections as the President of the 62nd General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. I assure you of the full support and cooperation of the Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in making this Conference a success.

Bosnia and Herzegovina fully associates itself with the Statement of the European Union, delivered on the first day of the Conference. In my national capacity, I wish to address some issues of particular importance to my country relevant to the Agenda of the Conference.

Madam President,

Bosnia and Herzegovina has adopted the most important international treaties, conventions and agreements related to the IAEA's work. As a member of the IAEA since 1995 we continue to support the Agency's mandate in promoting nuclear safeguards and verification, safety and security and cooperation in field of science and technologies.

Current challenges to the nuclear non-proliferation regime reaffirm necessity of achieving the highest standards in the field of nuclear security and non-proliferation regime. We are committed to achieve universalization and effective implementation of the comprehensive Treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT) and we recognise that the IAEA safeguard system is the only mechanism to verify non-diversion of nuclear activities to military purposes and that assures compliance with non-proliferation obligations undertaken by States Parties to the NPT.

Madame President,

Bosnia and Herzegovina believes that the IAEA Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) is an essential part in the interaction between the Member States and the IAEA. The TCP, which is also one of the principal instruments for transferring nuclear science and technology to Member States, in order to promote social, economic and integral development has been highly valued by Bosnia and Herzegovina. Over the years Bosnia and Herzegovina has benefited from different projects in many fields, and with the assistance of the IAEA, we have been constantly upgrading our capabilities in field of use of nuclear technologies, radiation protection and nuclear safety and security compliance with IAEA standards. We need to emphasize great values and importance of IAEA additional support to Bosnia and Herzegovina in past few years in equipment, which came as result of our hard work and significant insisting on importance for upgrading our institution capabilities in all field where radiation processing technologies are in use. This support was visible especially in health protection, but also in veterinary and food safety control. Our gratefulness goes to IAEA TC also for the number of trainings, scientific visits and other educational events, as very important aspect of improvement of our capacities.

When talk about improvement of our cooperation with IAEA and especially with its TC department, we need to emphasize the importance of visits to Bosnia and Herzegovina of his Excellency Director General Mr. Amano in May 2017, then visit of DD TC for Europe Mr. Ying Zhang in January 2018, and finally we are looking forward to the visit of TC Europe Director Ms. Ana Raffo Caiado in October this Year. Along with committed work of Bosnia and Herzegovina PMO, these visits prove real care and commitment of IAEA representatives to support MS in our hard work while improving our radiation and nuclear protection capabilities.

Bosnia and Herzegovina expresses its strong commitment to continue our cooperation with the Technical Cooperation Department in order to improve and strengthen our national capabilities in the use of nuclear technology in medical, industry, agriculture, veterinary and radiation protection and nuclear safety and security.

Madam President,

Bosnia and Herzegovina participated in the Sixth Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, held in May this year and successfully presented its National Report. As a state party of the above mentioned Joint Convention Bosnia and Herzegovina reaffirms its position concerning activities conducted by one of our neighbouring countries, regarding the construction of storage and disposal for radioactive waste low and intermediate activity, near the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina. We once again express our concern over the environmental impact of those activities on Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Madam President

In conclusion, I would like to thank Director General Amano and Agency staff for their diligent work and professionalism over the past year.

I wish you, Madam President, and to all of us a successful General Conference.

Thank you!