



**STATEMENT BY HE GANESON SIVAGURUNATHAN
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF MALAYSIA TO THE 62nd REGULAR SESSION OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
18 SEPTEMBER 2018, VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

Madam President,

1. First and foremost, the Malaysian delegation would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your election as the President of the 62nd regular session of the IAEA General Conference. Please be assured of our fullest support and cooperation to you and your distinguished team in reaching a productive session.

Madam President,

2. In the face of globalization, peaceful uses of nuclear energy had and will continue to make contributions to Member States in meeting their developmental needs and goals. Consequently, the challenges and risks associated with the use of nuclear science, application and technology are real and increasingly evident.

Hence Malaysia firmly believes that the responsibility to address such challenges and risks rests on Member States while the IAEA's role is of paramount importance in facilitating and guiding Member States towards the use of nuclear energy in a safe, secure and peaceful manner.

3. As a member of the IAEA since 1969, Malaysia continues to benefit from its extensive participation in the technical assistance and cooperation program with the IAEA. The cooperation between Malaysia and the IAEA in various fields have been fruitful and encouraging, and for this reason, Malaysia reiterates its commitment towards building further cooperation with the IAEA and interested partners in areas of mutual benefits.
4. In this regard, Malaysia fully supports the implementation of various activities related to peaceful uses of Nuclear Technology through the IAEA's Technical Cooperation Programme and the Peaceful Uses Initiative . A feasibility study conducted has shown that the applications of nuclear science and technology have indeed had positive contributions towards Malaysia's socio-economic development. Our competitiveness and capacities have been enhanced in a wide range of sectors including medical and healthcare as well as agriculture.

5. Hence, Malaysia looks forward to participate in the 2018 International Ministerial Conference of Nuclear Science and Technology at the highest level, which will provide the opportunity for Malaysia to share its experience and knowledge on, inter-alia, radiation processing and Non-Destructive Testing (NDT). Additionally, we are honoured to have the recognition of the IAEA and FAO towards our expertise in the area of agriculture and set a promising path for Malaysia's gamma greenhouse to be an IAEA Collaborating Centre.
6. In this respect, research and development plays a critical role in realising Malaysia's long-term goals and hence Coordinated Research Projects (CRP) have contributed to building Malaysia's capacities and capabilities in various fields. On the same note, Malaysia fully supports the Agency's efforts to modernise the nuclear applications laboratories under the ReNuAL project as it brings benefits to member states.

Madam President,

7. Malaysia places great importance towards strengthening nuclear safety, by providing strong support and active participation in various training and capacity-building programmes aimed at improving radiation, transport and waste safety. In 2018, Malaysia successfully hosted the 15th IAEA Post Graduate Education Course (PGEC) in Radiation Protection and the Safety of Radioactive Sources and aspires to be the regional training hub for Post-Graduate Course on Medical Physics.
8. Additionally, Malaysia is fully committed to the strengthening of global nuclear security and support the central role of the IAEA in this field. As a regional Nuclear Security Support Centre (NSSC), Malaysia recently hosted a Trilateral Exercise jointly with Indonesia and the Philippines on Detection and Response to Nuclear Security, held in August 2018 and successfully featured in a video, to be applied as a model in future IAEA training.
9. Malaysia has recently enhanced its National Center for Nuclear Response Management (NCNRM), which has forged closer interface between the National Security Council (NSC) for nuclear security and National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA) for radiological emergency in an effort to promote synergies between nuclear safety and security.

Madam President,

10. Malaysia recognises the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as being the foundation for the pursuit of general and complete nuclear disarmament. The adoption of the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was a historic milestone, which further complements and drives the momentum to meet our long-standing NPT obligations. As the 2019 NPT Prep-Com Chair, Malaysia looks forward to undertaking consultations and engage with all stakeholders in moving forward the current discourse within the NPT framework and prepare the ground for the 2020 NPT Review Conference. In this regard, Malaysia recognises the IAEA safeguards as the fundamental

pillar of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in fulfilling its safeguard obligations, Malaysia has recently reviewed its unmodified SQPs and will jointly host an expert mission with the IAEA on the State System of Accounting for Control of Nuclear material in 2019.

11. Since its implementation the JCPOA (Joint Comprehensive Programme of Action) has been recognised as a significant verification gain. Malaysia commends the Agency and remaining parties for their tireless efforts and cooperation towards the implementation of Iran's nuclear deal. Their continued dialogue and transparency are pivotal to enhancing the trust and confidence of international community that Iran's nuclear activities are exclusively peaceful in nature.
12. The US-DPRK summit held earlier this year in Singapore reflects the collective commitment of DPRK and parties concerned to address the situation in the Korean Peninsula amicably through dialogue. In light of this positive development, we join others to call on DPRK to meet its international obligations and return promptly to NPT and offer undivided cooperation to the Agency for the full and effective implementation of IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards.

Finally, Madam President,

13. Malaysia appreciates continuous efforts to promote transparency, efficiency and accountability of the Agency and the importance of providing the IAEA with sufficient, assured and predictable resources. On this note, Malaysia reiterates its support to the effective functioning of the Agency through its timely and full contributions to both the IAEA regular budget and the Technical Cooperation Fund.

Thank you.