



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**COUNTRY STATEMENT BY
THE HEAD OF THE UGANDA DELEGATION,
HON. ENG. SIMON D'UJANGA
MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENERGY
MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT
DURING THE 62ST REGULAR SESSION OF THE IAEA GENERAL
CONFERENCE, SEPTEMBER 17TH – 21ST, 2018
VIENNA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE, VIENNA AUSTRIA**

Madam President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government of Uganda and my delegation, I join the previous speakers in congratulating you on your assumption of the Presidency of the 62nd Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference. My delegation assures you and the members of your bureau support and cooperation in discharging your duty.

Madam President,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Director General Yukiya Amano for accepting the invitation to visit my country in January this year. During his visit, Mr. Amano held high level consultations on enhancing Agency's Technical cooperation with His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the President of Uganda.

Mr. Amano, also participated in the official commissioning ceremony of the radiotherapy center at Uganda Cancer Institute. I take this opportunity to commend the Agency for the support towards the restoration of radiotherapy services in my country.

I take this opportunity to commend the Agency for its assistance to Member States in advancing the use of nuclear energy for social economic development. Undoubtedly, the Agency's contribution towards safety, security and safeguards will go a long way in supporting the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals in the areas of food and agriculture, water resources management, industry and energy development.

Madam President

In furtherance of the national development agenda, the Government of Uganda continues to prepare for the introduction of nuclear power as part of the diversification strategy for meeting future electricity needs. With nuclear power prospects and the significant rise of atomic energy applications, Uganda reaffirms her commitment towards developing the nuclear power infrastructure and strengthening national nuclear Safety, Security and Safeguards regime. We welcome Agency's assistance towards this end.

Madam President

During the 28th Meeting of Representatives of the **African Regional Co-operative Agreement for Research, Development and Training related to Nuclear Science and Technology (AFRA)** in September 2017, Uganda assumed the Chair of AFRA. Allow me, Madam President to express my Government's appreciation to the AFRA Member States and the IAEA Secretariat for giving Uganda full support and cooperation as Chair of AFRA. During this term of office considerations were made to review the operability of the AFRA Agreement which was last revisited in 2007 in Aswan, Egypt. We believe much has changed over the years and hence I wish to encourage AFRA Member States to support efforts geared towards reviewing this Agreement.

Uganda believes that development cannot be sustained without peace and security. We wish therefore to applaud the Agency for its international coordination role in enhancing nuclear security regime and for monitoring and safeguarding nuclear material to ensure that peaceful nuclear endeavours do not result in nuclear terrorism and nuclear weapons proliferation.

In conclusion, we look forward to a stronger partnership with the Agency in furtherance of “***Atoms for Peace and Development***”. I wish to once again thank Ambassador Yukiya Amano, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for his leadership and I wish him quick recovery.

I thank you, Madam President.