

Republic of Mozambique

Statement by

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At

the 63rd IAEA General Conference

Madam President,
Mr Acting Director General of the IAEA,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I wish to start by expressing on behalf, of my delegation and the government of Mozambique, our most heartfelt sympathies on the untimely demise of Mr Yukiya Amano, Director General of the IAEA.

The late Director - General devoted his life to the cause of this Organization's goals. His work will be recorded in gold letters in the annals of IAEA history.

Let me express my shock and deep feelings of regret for premature death of Deputy Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy of South Africa, Ms. Bevelile Hlongwa. We convey deep condolences to our South African brothers and sisters.

I also take this opportunity to salute the IAEA Acting Director General, Mr Cornel Feruta, to whom we will give all necessary support in the discharge of his duties.

Allow me to congratulate you Madam Ambassador Alicia Massieu for your appointment to chair the 63rd General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Madam President,

The motto of this Conference "A Decade of Action on Cancer Control and the Way Forward" underlines the need for us to reflect and take concrete steps to apply the benefits of radiotherapy and nuclear medicine to cancer control and treatment, whose global data show an exponential increase in this pandemic that is slowly but steadily destroying our global society.

The Sustainable Development Goal number 3: "Ensure a healthy life and promote well-being for all at all ages" focuses on maternal and child health and reduced HIV rates. However, from this third objective, it can be inferred that the promotion of healthy living and well-being for all, at all ages, necessarily involves addressing the problem of cancer in our society. This disease has no age and reaches everyone, indiscriminately.

Madam President, Distinguished Delegates,

Let me brief the Conference on the cancer situation in our country which is a public health problem and is compounded by the increased life expectancy of Mozambicans.

In response to this problem, the National Cancer Control Plan 2019-2029 has been prepared by the Government and it contains objectives and strategies that will guide Health Care System in six main areas: Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Palliative Care, Cancer Registration and Systems of information.

In addition to the radiograph of the cancer situation in Mozambique, the Government, through the Ministry of Health, has launched this year the first Radiotherapy Service in Mozambique, which will benefit citizens from all over the country and will contribute to promoting health and well-being, as one of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Madam President,

The implementation of cancer prevention and combat actions through the launch of the first Radiotherapy Service in the Republic of Mozambique results from the approval of the Atomic Energy Law in 2017 and the maintenance of the Technical Cooperation Program with the IAEA, in strengthening capacity of the Regulatory Authority of Mozambique.

Let me take this opportunity to thank the IAEA for its prompt collaboration in all areas of Technical Cooperation with Mozambique: human and animal health, agriculture and strengthening capacity of the Regulatory Body, which outcomes of the implementation of Technical Cooperation projects are very encouraging.

On the other hand, we are pleased to inform that Mozambique is committed to the reactivation of the safeguards process and has signed the initial declarations. Alongside safeguards, the aim is to improve and implement the Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP).

Madam President,

Ladies and Gentleman,

Mozambique reaffirms its commitment to consolidating the peaceful use of nuclear science and technology through the IAEA Technical Cooperation Program, and in the margins of the Conference, the second Country Program Framework (CPF) 2019-2023 was signed.

The CPF 2019-2023 proposal for Mozambique was drafted in accordance with national priorities and is aligned with the main guiding instruments for socio-economic development policy in the country, as well as with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2017-2020.

Madam President,

Distinguished Delegates,

In addressing the promotion of safe and peaceful use of nuclear science and technology, Mozambique continues resolved to contribute to a world free of nuclear weapons.

In concluding, Madam President, I would like to express our sincere thanks for the support provided by the IAEA, with particular emphasis on the training of technicians and the provision of nuclear security assistance equipment for Major Public Events, focusing on His Holiness Pope Francis visit to Mozambique. We reaffirm the commitment in peacekeeping, through the safe and peaceful use of nuclear technology.

I thank you all for the attention!