

**STATEMENT**

**REPUBLIC OF POLAND**

**delivered by Mr. Piotr Naimski**

**Secretary of State at the Chancellery of the Prime Minister**

**Government Plenipotentiary for Strategic Energy Infrastructure**

**to the 63. General Conference**

**of International Atomic Energy Agency**

**Vienna, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**Madam President**

On behalf of the Polish Government, I would like to congratulate you on your election as the President of the sixty-third session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. You have the assurance of my full support and close cooperation of delegation of Poland to achieve common success of the General Conference.

The Polish delegation fully shares the comments made by the distinguished representative of Finland on behalf of Member States of the European Union.

**Madame President, distinguished Delegates,**

With great sorrow we received in July the news about passing away of H.E. Yukiya Amano – late Director General of the Agency. Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland has conveyed his deepest condolences to the IAEA and the family.

I would like to emphasize that his cooperation with Poland was friendly and effective. Not only in the technical field, but also in political and diplomatic dimensions with the best example of the NPT review cycle in which the IAEA team of experts professionally supported our Chairmanship in 2018.

I hope that the ongoing process to elect the successor of Director General Amano will be both swift and smooth and the new Director General will be ready to take over his(her) duties as soon as possible, provided the immense challenges ahead of the IAEA and the whole non-proliferation process, including the NPT Review Conference next year.

**Madame President, distinguished Delegates,**

Government of Poland is preparing transformation of energy sector. A roadmap for all actions necessary to take this challenge is included in the draft document of Polish Energy Policy until 2040, published last year.

The goal of the Polish Energy Policy until 2040 is energy security, while ensuring the competitiveness of the economy, energy efficiency and reducing the impact of the energy sector on the environment, with optimal use of own energy resources. As a one of eight policy directions, the implementation of nuclear power has been indicated. The first nuclear reactor

with a capacity of approximately 1-1.5 GW will be launched by 2033, and the next five every two years until 2043.

Poland has chosen this direction because nuclear power plants ensure the stability of power generation with practically zero emission of air pollutants and greenhouse gases. At the same time, thanks to nuclear power, it will be possible to diversify the structure of energy production at a reasonable cost, which ensures national energy security and competitiveness of the economy. We need such a stable, reliable source that will respond to the forecasted growing demand for energy and will replace the upcoming capacity retirements in Poland's energy system.

Draft of the Polish Energy Policy until 2040 contains the actions which have been undertaken since 2014, when the Polish Nuclear Power Program was adopted, and for which the Ministry of Energy is preparing an update.

**Madame President, distinguished Delegates**

Poland continues to improve its nuclear safety and security framework. Undertaking nuclear power program, we understand the priority to assure regulatory readiness to oversee safety and security of new nuclear build in Poland. In cooperation with the Agency, the Regulatory Cooperation Forum and bilateral partners we launched in 2018 the Advanced Licensing Exercise Project. The so called ALEP project will allow verifying and further refining our national regulatory process for licensing nuclear power plants. Just a month ago we completed a licensing simulation during which our regulatory team exercised safety assessment and evaluation of sample application for construction license. A large number of observations has been collected during the exercise that will be analyzed and used to develop action plan to further improve Polish regulatory framework for nuclear safety.

**Madame President, distinguished Delegates**

Poland recognizes the great value of Agency Technical Cooperation Program. We continue to provide support to the Program, including hosting TC meetings and fellowships in Poland as well as providing national experts for Agency events. I would like to underline that participation in TC national, regional and interregional projects is a visible support for development of peaceful applications of nuclear energy in Poland.

I would like to add that Integrated Working Plan is another important tool for cooperation with the Agency supporting embarking countries like Poland in implementing nuclear power

programs. We highly value cooperation with IAEA with this regard. It allows us to build and enhance nuclear capabilities for implementation of nuclear power.

**Madame President, distinguished Delegates**

In political terms – regardless the technical nature of the IAEA – Poland strongly supports the IAEA in its endeavors in implementing the verification dimension of the JCPOA as well as the sophisticated scrutiny and monitoring of the nuclear program of the DPRK regardless the absence of the Agency on the spot since 2003. The high technologies in the sphere of surveillance and data processing serve the IAEA and all of us in a very productive manner.

In the next year we`re particularly looking forward to the two events of the utmost importance for the IAEA. The third Ministerial Conference on the Nuclear Security (ICONS) to be held in February and the NPT Review Conference.

In both events Poland is ready to play the constructive role to reach consensus on the final documents to be adopted. By chairing the Main Committee II at the NPT Review Conference we will spare no efforts to highlight the indispensable role of the IAEA in the non-proliferation process, in particular regarding the importance of safeguards system being covered by portfolio of the Main Committee II which deals with the non-proliferation affairs.

**To conclude, Madam President,** on behalf of the Polish Government, I am pleased to convey the full support of our country for the IAEA` activities.

**Thank you for your attention.**