

Sweden
**Statement on the occasion of the ministerial
segment of the International Conference on
Nuclear Security: Sustaining and Strengthening
Efforts**
Vienna, 10 February 2020

This completes the EU Statement. I would now like to make the following remarks in my national capacity.

Excellences,

Climate change is a defining issue of our time. Natural disasters are pestering our planet, more and more frequently, and more and more violently. The time to act is now.

Sweden's ambition is clear – we want to be the first fossil-free welfare state in the world. Our goal is also to reach 100 percent renewable energy in 2040 and a net zero emissions of greenhouse gases by 2045.

We recognise that all states are free to evaluate its own national energy mix, be it fully renewable or including nuclear power. We understand that a number of countries are considering introducing nuclear power, or maintaining and expanding existing nuclear power programmes, as part of their efforts to achieve a reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases. It is of paramount importance that all such programmes are conducted in accordance with the highest standards of nuclear safety and security.

Excellences,

I strongly believe that international cooperation and sharing of best practices are essential in strengthening the nuclear security framework globally. In this regard, I would like to highlight the Agency's review services as vital to development.

Sweden has long been committed to assisting countries in East and Central Europe to upgrade their nuclear security and nuclear safety frameworks. I would like to mention our cooperation with Georgia, Moldova and their neighbouring countries in carrying out emergency preparedness and response exercises involving radioactive material. We have also, in cooperation with regional authorities in the Russian Federation, installed equipment and helped develop infrastructures for detecting the smuggling of radioactive and nuclear materials.

Last week together with Norway, we completed the third phase of an upgrade of the security systems at the Khmelnytsky nuclear power plant in Ukraine.

Excellences,

My Government has contributed generously to the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund as well as to the work of the IAEA through in-kind contributions. We reaffirm our steadfast support for all the Agency's missions which contribute to international peace, health, and security as well as to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

In conclusion, Excellences, Sweden is convinced that both the Agency and its Member States would benefit from gender mainstreaming and gender parity in the nuclear security field

Thank you, Excellences.