

IAEA GC64
Statement by Mr. Ion Apostol
Director of the National Agency for Regulation
of Nuclear and Radiological Activities
of the Republic of Moldova

Mr. President,

The Republic of Moldova fully associates with the statement of the European Union. We meet at this 64th General Conference under the pressing challenges caused by COVID -19 pandemic affecting the life of our countries and international organisations. On behalf of my country I would like to commend Director General Rafael Grossi for his leadership in difficult circumstances of COVID-19 pandemic. We highly appreciate the quick actions taken by the Agency in ensuring the continuation of its activities under these difficult circumstances including assistance provided to my country in strengthening its national capacities in rapid detection of SARS-CoV-2 virus.

In this context let me express my deepest appreciation to the Department of Technical Cooperation and to the Department of Safety and Security of the IAEA for the valuable assistance provided to my country, including during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. President,

I would like to emphasise the key role of the Agency in strengthening capacities worldwide for the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technology. The IAEA's safeguards system represents a fundamental tool for international security and plays an essential role in fulfilling the goals of the NPT.

The Republic of Moldova remains fully committed to strengthening the international, regional and national nuclear security framework and non-proliferation regime. Moldova strongly supports the JCPOA and preservation the agreement given its importance to non-proliferation and security.

The Republic of Moldova being a nonnuclear country, inherited legacy radioactive waste stored in the RADON-type disposal facility, which is of important concern for our Government. In our efforts to implement requirements of the National Strategy for Management of Radioactive Waste and its Action Plan for the next 10 years, we are performing the decommissioning of the above-mentioned facility. Here I would like to express my country's gratitude to the IAEA TC Department, Swedish Radiation Safety Authority and Swedish SIDA Project for their important support in this matter.

Mr. President,

Currently, my country is implementing the recommendations and suggestions of the IAEA's Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission, which took place in our country in 2018 benefiting from the IAEA and US NRC assistance.

In closing, Mr. President, let me assure you of our continuing strong support for the Agency in implementing its important mandate.

Thank you.