



**STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE KINGDOM OF
ESWATINI TO THE IAEA**

HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR ZWELETHU MNISI

**TO THE 65th REGULAR SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC
ENERGY AGENCY GENERAL CONFERENCE (IAEA)**

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President of the 65th IAEA General Conference;

Director General of the IAEA;

Honourable Ministers;

Your Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates;

I would like to join other speakers in congratulating you on your election as President of the 65th Session and assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation.

Director General, let me seize this opportunity to applaud the agency under your leadership, for the expeditious way in which you have continued to support countries in responding to the COVID-19 outbreak, through the provision of equipment to detect the virus using nuclear techniques, as well as giving the relevant training and guidance.

The Kingdom of Eswatini continues to benefit from the test kits, reagents and many other items supplied for COVID-19. Eswatini also acknowledges and appreciates the Fellowship awards extended to fellow Eswatini Nationals for training in various fields of discipline; sponsorships for attending meetings, workshops and scientific visits.

We are also grateful for the grant of scholarships for training at master's level in the fields of Nuclear Science and Technology, and

finally, the funding extended to the Kingdom of Eswatini on projects approved under the Technical Cooperation Programme.

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of Eswatini is already expanding its utilisation of nuclear science and technology through the IAEA's Technical Cooperation Programme as reflected in the Country's Programme Framework for the period 2019-2023 which was signed with the Agency on the 6th May, 2019.

Currently, the Kingdom of Eswatini is implementing several projects under the Agency's Technical Cooperation Programme, amongst which, are a project on developing an integrated resource plan for evidence-based decision making in the energy and electricity sector whose main focus is to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

A project on building capacity in the use of stable isotope techniques in the evaluation of interventions to improve infant and young child feeding practices. The Kingdom of Eswatini has been faced by an increase in chronic malnutrition in children under five years of age while key infant feeding practices have been adversely affected by the triple threat of poverty, HIV and recurrent droughts. This project is aimed at addressing these challenges.

A project on preparing for the first radiotherapy facility whose aim is to address the double burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including cancer.

The Kingdom of Eswatini is also participating in the regional project called supporting Member States to increase access to affordable, equitable, effective, and sustainable radiation medicine services within a comprehensive cancer control system.

There are also new projects which the Kingdom of Eswatini is proposing for the 2020-2022 Technical Cooperation Cycle and they are all at the design stage.

Eswatini attaches great importance to the IAEA's core mandate in the fields of nonproliferation, nuclear energy, nuclear safety, nuclear security and technical cooperation and will continue to be fully engaged with the Agency in this regard.

I thank you for your attention!
