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**65th GENERAL CONFERENCE
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)
Honduras Participation.**

Thank you, Mr. President,

First and foremost let me express my sincere congratulations on your appointment as President of the Sixty-fifth General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, we trust that with your experience and direction in this meeting, we will be able to advance in the different topics of the agenda of this event . (sec 27)

I take this opportunity to thank on behalf of the people of Honduras the IAEA General Director. (Sec 38)

Mr. president,

Honduras recognizes the valuable work of the Agency, its contribution to peace and security in the peaceful use of nuclear applications for development, in which my country and all those present at this conference are implementing to address different development challenges. (1:03)



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The IAEA's work has a direct impact on the lives of millions of people, by contributing to the fulfillment for Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda, among them SDG2- Zero Hunger, SDG3- Good Health and Well-being, the SDG4- for Quality Education and SDG6- for Clean Water and Sanitation, among others. (1:31)

On behalf of the People and Government of Honduras, I want to thank the Agency's continuous support to my country, through the technical cooperation program, with which we have strengthened national capacities and mainly the strengthening of Human Resources, to work on the safe use of nuclear technology in its different applications, mainly in the areas of health, agriculture, isotope hydrology, radiation safety. (2:04)

Likewise, I wish to highlight the cooperation received in the framework of the Covid-19 Pandemic; and more recently the support to help thousands of people who suffered the effects of hurricanes ETA and IOTA. All these equipment have been of great contribution to strengthening the institutions, especially to help the people who need it most. (sec 2:32)



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I want to emphasize that the IAEA is a very important partner for Honduras, thanks to the support of the agency, we have strengthened the capacities of some hospitals in the country to care for cancer patients, we have increased the number of trained specialist in the use of the technology and nuclear medicine, and soon we will have the opening of the first nuclear medicine ward in a public hospital in the country. (3:04)

As we move forward with the implementation of applications of Energy and Nuclear technology for development, we are convinced that it will help us solve problems that we have faced for years, particularly those related with the effects of climate change. (3:24)

I know that we will also advance with the Nutec Plastic Initiative and Honduras has a lot to work on in this matter, to protect marine biodiversity, which is one of our tourist attractions and one of our greatest riches. (3:45)

Honduras will continue to implement nuclear technology, within the framework of the technical cooperation program, in strict compliance with IAEA international standards, adhering to the Safeguards program to guarantee the use of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and for development. (4:09)



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Director General Grossi, I want to express my country's commitment to actively participate in regional programs as well as coordinating actions with different public and private actors, academia and with regional instances, such as the Central American Bank for Economic Integration. (4:31)

Finally, Mr. President, I would like to point out that the pandemic has changed our work environment, poses enormous challenges for us to advance in development, and it is important to continue strengthening the alliance with the IAEA, as mandated by SDG 17, to continue serving the most vulnerable and seek joint solutions to global challenges, leaving no one behind.

Thank you very much Mr. President (5:06)