

**Statement by
H.E. Ms. Morakot Sriswasdi
Ambassador and Resident Representative of Thailand
at the 65th Regular Session of the General Conference of the IAEA
Vienna International Centre
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Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. At the outset, I would like to express my sincere congratulations on your assumption as the President of the Conference. With your guidance and able leadership, I am certain that the Conference will conclude with a successful outcome. Please rest assured of my delegation's full support.

2. I wish also to express my gratitude to H.E. Mr. Azzeddine Farhane of Morocco, the President of GC64, as well as the Director General and the Secretariat for their efforts and hard works over the year.

3. Thailand welcomes Saint Kitts and Nevis as a new member of the Agency.

Mr. President,

4. This past year international community has to confront with different challenges, not only those revolving around COVID-19 but also socio-political uncertainties that put multilateralism and diplomacy to test. Against this backdrop, the IAEA remains strong in supporting international peace and security and in carrying out its mandates to promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy, with commitment and professionalism.

5. Thailand attaches importance to the Agency's central role in bridging development needs of Member States through the uses of nuclear science and technology. The nuclear science and technology and its applications contribute significantly to sustainable development and the enhancement of human welfare and livelihood. The assistance provided to Member States in the case of COVID-19 pandemic as well as the early response to such pandemic with the initiative on ZODIAC demonstrate the continued relevance of the Agency's works on peaceful uses. The NUTEC Plastic is also another initiative that responds to the pressing global environment degradation with nuclear solution on plastic pollution, which is a direct threat to sustainable development. The Agency's technical cooperation is therefore very important for Member States to build their needed capacity and expertise as well as to provide increased access to nuclear science and technology for peaceful uses in a safe and secure manner.

6. The Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) is an essential mechanism in the delivery of the Agency's technical mandates and reaching out to Member States on the nuclear for peaceful uses agenda. We will continue to promote the TC Programme at national and regional levels and joins others in the efforts to raise public awareness of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

7. As a Chair of this year's Regional Cooperative Agreement (RCA), Thailand highly appreciates the IAEA's contribution in enhancing the region's socio-economic development through various innovative cooperation. Moreover, Thailand is of the view that, upon its endorsement, the ASEAN Protocol for Preparedness and Response to a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency will considerably improve the region's radiation safety, which will further reaffirm the significance of the IAEA-ASEAN Practical Arrangements.

Mr. President,

8. Thailand reaffirms its commitment to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and underscores the Agency's central role in strengthening global nuclear non-proliferation regime, promoting peaceful uses, and discharging its safeguards mandates under the NPT through the verification and monitoring activities. Thailand stands ready to engage meaningfully in the NPT Review Conference to achieve concrete outcomes in all three pillars.

9. The evolving situations in the non-proliferation context are of serious concerns. Thailand reiterates the importance of the JCPOA and the urgent need for its preservation. We encourage all parties to exert their full efforts to revitalise the JCPOA and look forward to the earliest resumption of the Vienna's negotiations.

10. On DPRK, Thailand appreciates the Agency's continued efforts in monitoring the development of the DPRK's nuclear programme and in maintaining its readiness to resume its verification mandates once the diplomatic and political solutions are reached. Thailand calls upon the DPRK to comply fully with relevant UNSC resolutions and international obligations. We also encourage all parties to continue the necessary dialogue, which is an essential pathway towards peace and stability and a denuclearized Korean Peninsular.

11. The entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) in January this year is an important milestone in the pursuit of a world free of nuclear weapons. The Treaty was created to advance nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. Both the TPNW and the NPT would benefit from the Agency's constructive involvement as they all share the same aspiration: a world free of nuclear weapons. Thailand looks forward to its first Meeting of States Parties, to be held here in Vienna in March next year.

Mr. President,

12. In closing, Thailand wishes to reaffirm its steadfast commitment to the obligations under the IAEA Statute as well as related international instruments on nuclear safeguards and safety. We are determined to support the ruled-based Agency in its deliberation and stand ready to cooperate constructively with the Agency and Member States.

Thank you.
