

STATEMENT

by

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Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
to the International Atomic Energy Agency

Head of the Viet Nam Delegation to the Sixty-fifth
Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference
(*Vienna, Austria, 20-24 September 2021*)

Mr. President,

1. On behalf of the Delegation of Viet Nam, I would like to extend our warm congratulations to you on your election as the President of the 65th Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference. I am confident that the General Conference will achieve a great success under your distinguished leadership.

Mr. President,

2. Viet Nam appreciates the tremendous efforts and remarkable achievements of the Agency in fulfilling its mission in using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes to develop, and to ensure safety and security throughout the world, particularly under the circumstance of many challenges posed by COVID-19 pandemic.

3. Viet Nam is pleased to express our sincere gratitude to the IAEA for its timely support to provide RT-PCR equipment with necessary supplies and materials for SARS-CoV-2 virus diagnosis and testing in early 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic broke out, as well as to continue sponsoring mobile PCR testing equipment and biological products developed on the basis of advanced nuclear technology to assist our national efforts in responding to the pandemic.

In this regard, Viet Nam reaffirms its commitment to promote the application of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and sustainable development, especially in solving problems and global issues through the

IAEA initiatives such as the Zoonotic Disease Integrated Action (ZODIAC) project and Nuclear Technology for Controlling Plastic Pollution (NUTEC Plastic) project in which Viet Nam will cooperate with the Agency to implement. We congratulate the Agency on completing the first phase of a modern laboratory named Yukiya Amano to improve capacity in supporting countries to fight and prevent transboundary zoonotic diseases and addressing challenges related to climate change and food safety. Viet Nam will contribute financially to the second phase of this important project.

Mr. President,

4. Despite of the challenges from the pandemic, the IAEA continues the implementation of its missions and programs in nuclear safety, security and safeguards. Viet Nam welcomes the First International Conference on Nuclear Law, which will take place in February 2022. It would be an important opportunity to exchange views on how to consolidate the international legal framework governing the development and application of nuclear science and technology.

From national perspective, we would like to affirm that the cooperation and support of the IAEA through technical cooperation projects play an important role, helping Viet Nam to implement its new research reactor project and to gain important achievements in the application of nuclear energy in various field, such as health-care, agriculture, industry, environmental protection, water resources development, response to climate-change, radiation & nuclear safety infrastructure development, etc. For the cycle 2020-2021, besides implementing 6 national technical cooperation projects, Viet Nam also participates in 10 regional and inter-regional projects. For the cycle 2022-2023, 6 national projects have been developed and finalized under the Agency assistance. For the new cycle 2022-2027, the Agency is helping Viet Nam to prepare the Country Programme Framework which identifies the priorities of support that the Agency could provide to our country. Also under Technical Cooperation Programme, Viet Nam has made great efforts to implement the Practical Arrangements for Triangular Cooperation of Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam in which resources and contribution from Viet Nam are supporting the implementation of the IAEA's TC programme and promoting greater technical cooperation among developing countries.

*Mr. President,
Distinguished delegates,*

5. In conclusion, Viet Nam appreciates and wishes to thank all IAEA staff for their dedication and efficient performance; I sincerely thank the Agency for its valuable cooperation and assistance. Under the mandate of the IAEA and the guidance of the Board of Governors, the Agency can count on the full support of the Vietnamese Government.

Thank you for your kind attention./.