## Statement

by

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# Vice President of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of

Iran

at

## the 66<sup>th</sup> General Conference

## of the International Atomic Energy Agency

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# Mr.President, Director-General, Excellencies,

## Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. President, on your assumption of the presidency. I would also like to assure you of my delegation's support and cooperation.

The Islamic Republic of Iran aims its development plans to ensure a sustained progress along with promotion of justice, to achieve sustainable development. In this regard, "The Comprehensive Strategic Document of the Nuclear Industry in prospect of 2040" has been approved at the national level. According to Document, share of nuclear electricity should be increased up to minimum 20% of the country's total electricity, in this line, a plan for creating new capacity of 10000Mwe nuclear electricity has been foreseen for the next 10 years.

The Document also addresses development and application of radioisotopes, vast utilization of radiation in health, agriculture, environment and industry. In this regard the Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes the initiative of "Rays of Hope", which is the top theme of the Scientific Forum for 2022.

The Agency, to achieve the global desire to zero carbon emission by 2050, has a special responsibility. The Director General has highlighted the importance of this issue in the various international fora, including 26<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Glasgow as well as during recent 10<sup>th</sup> NPT Review Conference in New York.

#### Mr. President,

I would like to take this opportunity to make some clarification on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) as a deal. The JCPOA was an outcome of a collective effort which consists of a delicate balance of reciprocal commitments and responsibilities, which includes: Iran limits its nuclear enrichment activities, reduces its capacity, slows its momentum, and accepts a robust verification system for a specified period of time, and in return, the illegal cruel sanctions and the relevant obstacles on the way of Iran's international economic, commercial and financial cooperation and interactions should be removed. Furthermore, the JCPOA, amongst others as a confidence building tool, shall prevent baseless allegations against peaceful nuclear program and activities of Iran.

The United States, against the will of the international community, violated provisions of the JCPOA and United Nations Security Council resolutions 2231, withdrew from the deal and resorted to infamous "Maximum Pressure Policy" which failed miserably.

However, only after 2 and half years of continuing proliferation of economic sanctions against different sectors of Iran's economy by the US and lack of practical remedies by E3/EU in meeting their commitments Iran's Parliament enacted a bill entitled "Strategic Action Plan to Lift Sanctions and Protect the Interests of the Iranian Nation" which required, inter alia, certain actions from the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI).

As it has been stated in various occasions, the Islamic Republic of Iran still adheres to the 2015 deal. Iran's remedial measures have been taken in response to the violation of the obligations of the other side. If the other parties return to their obligations by removing all obstacles and lift the sanctions, the implementation of remedial measures would be ceased pending legal permission from the relevant authorities including the Parliament.

## Mr. President,

The Islamic Republic of Iran as a responsible Member of the IAEA has always rendered its support to the full and non-discriminatory implementation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and its Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement (CSA). Iran has an exemplary record of cooperation with the Agency.

It should be clarified that there is no undeclared nuclear materials and activities in Iran, all allegations are merely based on false and fabricated information provided by the Israeli regime. The Islamic Republic of Iran truly expects the Agency to conduct its reporting on verification activities in a more professional, impartial and independent manner.

#### Mr. President,

It is highly expected that the Agency to preserve its integrity and credibility not to allow certain elements to rise under different guises, old allegations which were closed in 2015. We believe that the Agency must refrain from relying on baseless information from unreliable sources. In this vein, the Agency shall maintain its independence, impartiality and professionalism and to play a constructive role.

Let me also draw your attention to the dangerous consequences of the acts of sabotage by the Israeli regime against Iran's peaceful nuclear facilities and assassination of Iranian scientists. The aim of these malicious acts is not only to devastate nuclear industry of Iran, but also is to undermine any possible political solution. These desperate and criminal actions by the Israeli regime must have been met with firm response from the Agency. This regime by exerting political pressure on the U.S. Administration forced the U.S. government to withdraw from the JCPOA at that time;

#### Mr. President,

To conclude, I would like to emphasize that the Islamic republic of Iran has always cooperated fully with the Agency in order to maintain the continuity of knowledge regarding its peaceful nuclear activities. The Joint Statement between the IAEA and the AEOI, in March 5, 2022 is a clear example of this cooperation. As mentioned above, Iran's current remedial measures, including in connection with the surveillance equipment beyond the CSA and the robust verification system would be reversed only and when the illegitimate sanctions would be lifted and baseless allegations about Iranian peaceful nuclear program would be removed. As always we are ready for dialogue and engagement to constructively address and clarify the ambiguities.

#### I thank you Mr. President.