

Mr. President,  
Distinguished Delegates,

I am very pleased to address all of you on the occasion of the 66th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

I congratulate you, Mr. President, on your assumption of the Presidency of the Sixty-Sixth Session of the General Conference, as well as the members of the General Committee on their elections.

I also express our appreciation for the Director General Grossi and the Agency's presence and his intense diplomatic efforts to stabilise the nuclear safety and security in the conflict zones.

I would like to emphasize that the Agency has the central role on international nuclear cooperation. We believe that the Agency's critical peer reviews and advisory services will ensure successful commissioning of our first Nuclear Reactor in Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant in a safely manner.

Within the context of review services, so far we hosted 5 missions. Pretty Recently, The Integrated Regulatory Review Service mission was in Türkiye and Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review Phase-III **are expected to be concluded in the year 2023.**

In terms of nuclear safeguards, Türkiye is a part of the Agency's Comprehensive Capacity-Building Initiative. We appreciate the Agency's efforts for the assistance and services tailored to the needs of our country.

This year launching the Nuclear Harmonization Initiative, which provided an excellent opportunity to standardize a global framework for new nuclear plant designs. This initiative is a unique occasion to bring together various nuclear industry stakeholders for the safe and effective deployment of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs). I would like to express our continued commitment for this Initiative and our willingness to contribute.

**Distinguished Delegates,**

Energy security and implementing sustainable energy policies are our main priorities in the field of energy. Nuclear energy will play a significant role to provide clean energy to achieve sustainable development and carbon neutrality goals.

Türkiye as a newcomer is making concrete efforts to establish its nuclear energy infrastructure. Currently simultaneous construction of 4 units are progressing at Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant.

I would like to also emphasize our dedication to work closely with the Agency to support the highest standards in nuclear safety, security and safeguards to promote peaceful uses of nuclear technology.

By ratifying the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and Radioactive Waste Management in July, Türkiye is now a party to all international conventions in nuclear field and submits compliance reports on a regular basis to promote transparency and confidence building.

To conclude, I would like to underline once again our determination to continue to cooperate closely with the Agency and I wish you all a very successful Conference.

Thank you.