

**STATEMENT BY MR. MANLAIJAV GUNAAJAV,  
SECRETARY OF THE NUCLEAR ENERGY COMMISSION, MONGOLIA  
AT THE SIXTY-SEVENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

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**Madam President,**

On behalf of the Mongolian delegation, please accept our congratulations on your election, as President of the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference. We are confident that under your leadership and with the support of all delegations, the current conference will attain its objectives.

**Excellencies,**

**Distinguished delegates,**

I would like to congratulate and welcome the Gambia and Cabo Verde as Member States of the IAEA.

Let me warmly congratulate Director-General Rafael Grossi on his re-appointment as Director-General of the IAEA. We have no doubt that under his leadership, the work of the Agency will be further strengthened and developed.

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the membership of my country to the Agency. Taking this opportunity, I would like to convey the gratitude of the Government of Mongolia to the IAEA for its significant contribution to the development of social and economic sectors of Mongolia and confirm its commitment to the fruitful cooperation in the future.

**Madam President,**

Mongolia fulfills its obligations and commitments under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the IAEA Safeguards Agreement and its Additional Protocol. Mongolia supports and seeks to closely collaborate with the Agency in its activities to ensure safeguards implementation.

On 23 August this year, the Government of Mongolia made a decision to submit its accession to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the Modified Small Quantities Protocol for ratification by the Parliament.

Last June, the IAEA conducted a mission to Ulaanbaatar to advise on the significance and benefits of the country's adherence to the above-mentioned four international legal instruments. The event was jointly organized by the Executive Office of the Nuclear Energy Commission of Mongolia and the IAEA Office of Legal Affairs together with the IAEA Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, and the Department of Safeguards.

### **Excellencies,**

Mongolia meets its obligations to ensure nuclear and radiation safety and security, in accordance with international agreements, which Mongolia is a party to.

Mongolia adheres to the activities, standards, and recommendations of the IAEA in developing the infrastructure for radiation protection, safety, and security, as well as in improving the national legal framework.

Last month, Mongolia indicated its interest and intention to effectively ensure and maintain the safety and security of radioactive sources at the international level by expressing political commitment to the Agency to follow and support the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, Guidance on the Management of Disused Radioactive Sources and Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources.

In November 2022, based on the Agency's recommendation and support, we have reviewed and updated our Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan. Furthermore, last month, the Nuclear Energy Commission of Mongolia approved the Integrated Nuclear Security Support Roadmap and its Action Plan.

**Distinguished delegates,**

Mongolia actively supports global efforts to address climate change. Combating climate change is inextricably linked to soil protection, food supply and security and human health. In that regard, we call on all Member States to advance their efforts towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

To further fulfill our Sustainable Development Goals, by the initiative of the President of Mongolia, we are conducting the national campaigns "Healthy Mongolians" and "One Billion Trees".

As nuclear energy is a zero-emission clean energy source, Mongolia is studying the possibility of using nuclear energy, in accordance with our national specifics. The working group, which was established by the Joint decision of the Minister of Education and Science, the Minister of Energy, and the Minister of Mining and Heavy Industry of Mongolia, reviewed the national infrastructure for the nuclear energy programme and developed proposals for further measures. Hence, a consultation meeting was held with the IAEA and a roadmap for the nuclear power programme of Mongolia was developed. In this regard, we would like to work closely with the IAEA and learn good practices from both advanced and developing countries with nuclear energy programs.

Mongolia intends to utilize its radioactive minerals for the benefit of its development. We are confident that the Uranium Production Site Appraisal Team (UPSAT) Review mission conducted by the IAEA has made a significant contribution to the exploration, mining and processing of radioactive minerals using environmentally friendly technologies and to strengthening the legal and regulatory framework. Hence, we are implementing an integrated work plan, in accordance with the final mission report.

**Madam President,**

Mongolia highly values the IAEA Technical Cooperation Programme, which has a crucial role in enhancing responsible development of peaceful applications of nuclear technology. The Programme greatly contributes to the socio-economic development of my country.

Within the framework of the Country Programme Framework for the period of 2022-2027, national projects are being implemented in the areas of food and agriculture, human health, water and environment, nuclear science and technology, nuclear and radiation safety, and security, energy and industry. These projects have been making a significant contribution to improving the livelihood of many Mongolians.

Nuclear technology is playing a key role in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer in Mongolia. Therefore, the Government of Mongolia is taking necessary steps to improve quality and access to healthcare, in line with international standards through strengthening and enhancing the national capacity of nuclear diagnosis and treatment. In this regard, we are grateful to the IAEA and the Republic of Korea for their cooperation in implementing a national project to improve cancer care management in Mongolia, within the framework of the “Rays of Hope”.

The President of Mongolia Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh initiated a national campaign "Food Supply and Food Safety" to strengthen the implementation of the sustainable development goals related to the human health and nutrition. We appreciate that the IAEA is launching a new initiative “Atoms for Food”, aimed at supporting Member States in increasing food production, food safety, agricultural planning, and nutrition programming, using nuclear and isotopic techniques.

Mongolia will continue to actively support, and engage in, the work of the “Rays of Hope”, “Atoms for Food”, “ZODIAC”, and "NUTEC Plastics" initiatives.

**Madam President,**

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm our full commitment and our readiness to work closely and constructively with the Agency in all aspects of its activities. Thank you.