



REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE

STATEMENT

BY

**H. E. Dr. ILESH VINODRAI JANI,
DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE, TO
THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)**

AT

67th SESSION OF THE IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE

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**Madam President, Ambassador Vilawan Mangklatanakul,
Director General of International Atomic Energy Agency,
Ambassador Rafael Mariano Grossi,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

On behalf of the Delegation of the Republic of Mozambique, it is my privilege to address the 67th Regular Session of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

I join other speakers to warmly applaud you, Madam President, on your election to lead the 67th General Conference. We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Director General of the IAEA for his appointment for a second term to lead the Agency.

At outset, let me assure you of Mozambique's full cooperation in all decisions taken at this event, with a view to promoting international peace and security.

Mozambique reaffirms its commitment to consolidate the peaceful use of nuclear science and technology through the IAEA Technical Cooperation Program. In this regard, our third Country Program Framework (CPF) 2024-2029 will be signed next December.

Allow me to thank the IAEA for the collaboration in all areas of Technical Cooperation with Mozambique: human and animal health, agriculture, water and mineral resources, environment, and capacity strengthening of the Regulatory Authority.

The use of nuclear techniques has become increasingly important in the health sector, especially for cancer diagnosis and treatment. In our country, cancer is the first cause of mortality among people older than 50 years of age. In this context, we would like to congratulate the IAEA Director General on his Rays of Hope Initiative, which Mozambique has recently joined with the ambition of expanding cancer diagnostic and treatment services across the country.

Mozambique seeks to continuously build capacity in the field of Nuclear Science and Technology, including Training, Research and Development. In addition to the cooperation with the IAEA, the country also collaborates at a regional level with other African countries through the African Regional Cooperation Agreement for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology (AFRA).

To guarantee a strong regulatory framework for nuclear safety and security, we participate in the Regulatory Authority Information System (RAIS) and in the IAEA's Radiological Safety Information Management System (RASIMS). As an example, this year we established the National Dosimetry Laboratory to improve the safety of occupational exposure.

Mozambique is aiming to implement an energy transition program based on a diversified matrix, with cleaner and environmentally friendly sources, in line with our country's development agenda. Although one of the least carbon emitters, Mozambique has been bearing the blunt of recurring extreme weather events because of climate change. These extreme events are increasingly more frequent and more severe. For example, in the last four years our country was affected by some of the more powerful cyclones in the Southern Hemisphere, including Idai (2019), Kenneth (2019), Eloise (2021) and Freddy (2023) – the latter hitting Mozambique twice. Therefore, we salute the theme of the scientific forum: “Nuclear Innovation for Net Zero”.

Madam President,

In 2023 we hosted two Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP) workshops. The events focused on the Nuclear Security Detection Architecture and the Finalization of the INSSP for the next three years. We look forward to the implementation of this plan through the IAEA mechanism of assistance.

For better execution of the nuclear security mechanism, Mozambique is party of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials (CPPNM) and its Amendment. We are presently developing national Nuclear Security Regulation.

We are also currently cooperating with the US Department of State's Office for Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Fund (NDF). Our aim is to improve the safety and security of radioactive sources, through the construction of a national bunker to store radioactive sources. We would like to express our commitment to the Guidance on the Management of the Disused Radioactive Sources, regarding the establishment of a national policy and strategy for the management of disused sources.

Our country supports the signing of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as a treaty that complements existing international agreements, in particular the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Treaty on an African Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone. At national level, the proposed ratification of the Treaty has been approved by the Government and submitted to the Parliament for ratification.

We are especially pleased to note continental efforts for peaceful use of nuclear science and technology in Africa, through the initiatives of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union.

To conclude, the Government of Mozambique commits to worldwide peace, and to global cooperation in the nuclear field within the true spirit of multilateralism.

Thank you!