



SOVEREIGN ORDER OF MALTA

PERMANENT OBSERVER MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN VIENNA

Statement by H. E. Ambassador Prof. Günther A. Granser
Permanent Observer of the Sovereign Order of Malta
to the United Nations and other International Organizations
at the
67th session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy
Agency (IAEA)

Vienna, 25-29 September 2023

President, Director General, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Sovereign Order of Malta, I would like to congratulate you on your election to President of the 67th session of the General Conference. My delegation is confident that under your able leadership the Conference will accomplish its business successfully and my delegation assures you all of its support and cooperation.

We also would like to congratulate Director-General Rafael Mariano Grossi for his re-election and would like to assure him all our support and cooperation.

The Sovereign Order of Malta, as an over 950 years old institution (state, entity) inspired to help those in need, and with a mission to care without distinction, is neutral, impartial and nonpolitical. Because of these characteristics the Order can act as a mediator.

It is recognized as a sovereign subject of international law, has diplomatic and official relations on ambassadors' level with more than 113 states, most of them are IAEA Member States, and multilateral relations with the European Union, the United Nations, where it has permanent observer status as other Entity through a General assembly resolution 30 years ago supported by all members.

Noting with appreciation the Agency's activities on safety and security in close alignment with the 2030 Agenda, we welcome the Director General's commitment to tackle global issues, such as health and climate crisis by means of nuclear technology.

The Order would like to express its appreciation for the work and achievements of the Technical Cooperation Programme, in particular in the field's agriculture, food security and medicine and encourages the Agency to continue to strengthen these areas, in particular in the field of human health.

Consequently, with "Rays of Hope, Cancer Care for All", the Agency will continue to support countries in enhancing their capabilities to better diagnose, stage and treat cancer, and will support global research, education and innovation.

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Through Rays of Hope the Agency will support countries in enhancing treatment of cancer using radiation medicine -giving them a fighting chance and the Order of Malta fully supports this initiative.

The Order carries out hospitaller and charitable missions throughout the world with “Malteser International”, the Order’s relief organization for medical and humanitarian aid.

The Order do share with the Agency many agendas, in human sciences and health care where we support financially efforts for early cancer diagnosis, focusing on facilitating training in hospitals in the Western Balkan region.

Furthermore, in the context of “Rays of Hope, Cancer Care for All”, the Order is working together with other Member States and in cooperation with the IAEA on a project for training on radiotherapy in Africa.

In conclusion, the Order of Malta would like to express appreciation for the important and significant technical role the Agency under the leadership of Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi is carrying out favoring the securing of peace and security and the promotion of development of people, in particular for those in need.

President, thank you for your attention.