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Verification and monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran in light of United Nations Security Council resolution 2231 (2015)

Report by the Director General

1. This report of the Director General to the Board of Governors and, in parallel, to the United Nations Security Council (Security Council), is on the Islamic Republic of Iran's (Iran's) implementation of its nuclear-related commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in relation to its enrichment-related activities. It provides an update on developments since the Director General's previous reports.¹

Activities Related to Enrichment

2. As previously reported,² Iran has informed the Agency that the operator of the Pilot Fuel Enrichment Plant (PFEP) at Natanz intended to transfer three production cascades, including a cascade of IR-4 centrifuges, from PFEP to the Fuel Enrichment Plant (FEP) at Natanz. On 21 February 2021, the Agency verified that Iran had installed a cascade of 174 IR-4 centrifuges at FEP but had yet to begin feeding it with natural UF₆.³

3. On 9 March 2021, Iran provided the Agency with an updated design information questionnaire for FEP in which Iran indicated its plan to install a second cascade of IR-4 centrifuges at FEP.

¹ GOV/2021/10 and GOV/INF/2021/17.

² GOV/INF/2020/10.

³ GOV/2021/10, para. 19.

4. On 15 March 2021, the Agency verified that Iran began feeding the cascade of 174 IR-4 centrifuges already installed at FEP with natural UF₆.⁴ The Agency also verified that installation of the second cascade of IR-4 centrifuges at FEP had yet to begin.

5. In summary, as of 15 March 2021, Iran was using 5060 IR-1 centrifuges installed in 30 cascades,⁵ 522 IR-2m centrifuges installed in three cascades and 174 IR-4 centrifuges installed in one cascade, to enrich natural UF₆ up to 5% U-235 at FEP.⁶

⁴ Notwithstanding the use of this cascade to enrich natural UF₆ at FEP, on 14 March 2021 the Agency verified that Iran was continuing to use the cascade of IR-4 centrifuges at PFEP - which Iran had previously intended to transfer to FEP - to enrich natural UF₆ up to 5% U-235.

⁵ The 5060 IR-1 centrifuges installed in 30 cascades remained in the configurations in the operating units at the time the JCPOA was agreed.

⁶ JCPOA, 'Annex I – Nuclear-related measures', para. 27.