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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 indicated in the Director General's previous quarterly report, Iran plans to install and use a total of six cascades of IR-2m centrifuges at the Fuel Enrichment Plant (FEP) in Natanz to enrich natural UF₆ up to 5% U-235.² As previously reported: in November 2020, the Agency verified that Iran had begun feeding natural UF₆ into a cascade of 174 IR-2m centrifuges that had been transferred to FEP from the Pilot Fuel Enrichment Plant (PFEP) in Natanz;³ on 30 January 2021, the Agency verified that Iran began feeding natural UF₆ into a second cascade of 174 IR-2m centrifuges at FEP;⁴ on 7 March 2021, the Agency verified that Iran had begun feeding natural UF₆ into a third cascade of 174 IR-2m centrifuges

¹ GOV/2021/10, GOV/INF/2021/17 and GOV/INF/2021/19.

² GOV/2021/10, para. 20.

³ GOV/INF/2020/16, para. 2.

⁴ GOV/INF/2021/8, para. 3.

at FEP;⁵ and on 15 March 2021, the Agency verified that Iran began feeding natural UF₆ into a cascade of 174 IR-4 centrifuges at FEP.^{6,7}

3. On 31 March 2021, the Agency verified at FEP that: Iran had begun feeding natural UF₆ into a fourth cascade of 174 IR-2m centrifuges; that two other cascades, each of 174 IR-2m centrifuges, had been installed but had yet to be fed with natural UF₆; and that installation of a second cascade of IR-4 centrifuges had yet to begin.

4. In summary, as of 31 March 2021, the Agency verified that Iran was using 5060 IR-1 centrifuges installed in 30 cascades,⁸ 696 IR-2m centrifuges installed in four cascades and 174 IR-4 centrifuges installed in one cascade to enrich natural UF₆ up to 5% U-235 at FEP.⁹

⁵ GOV/INF/2021/17, para. 3.

⁶ GOV/INF/2021/19, para. 4.

⁷ Notwithstanding the use of this cascade to enrich natural UF₆ at FEP, the Agency has verified that Iran has continued to operate the cascade of IR-4 centrifuges at PFEP, which Iran had previously intended to transfer to FEP.

⁸ The 5060 IR-1 centrifuges installed in 30 cascades remained in the configurations in the operating units at the time the JCPOA was agreed.

⁹ JCPOA, 'Annex I – Nuclear-related measures', para. 27.