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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) on activities related to fuel manufacturing for the Tehran Research Reactor (TRR) using indigenously-produced uranium enriched up to 20% U-235. It provides an update on developments since the Director General's previous reports.¹

Activities related to production of uranium metal for TRR fuel

2. As previously reported,² on 23 June 2021, Iran informed the Agency that it intended to transfer UF₆ enriched up to 20% U-235 from Natanz to the Fuel Plate Fabrication Plant (FPFP) at Esfahan for the purpose of producing fuel assemblies³ for the TRR. On 28 June 2021, Iran informed the Agency about a four-step process by which it intended to produce new TRR fuel, which included the use of uranium metal enriched up to 20% U-235.⁴ On 6 July 2021, Iran informed the Agency that the UO₂ enriched up to 20% U-235 that had been produced in step two of the four-step process would be

¹ GOV/2021/28, GOV/INF/2021/32 and GOV/INF/2021/36.

² GOV/INF/2021/36, para. 4.

³ A standard fuel assembly comprises 19 fuel plates and a control fuel assembly comprises 14 fuel plates.

⁴ GOV/INF/2021/36, para. 5.

transferred to the research and development (R&D) laboratory of FPDF, where it would be converted to UF_4 and then to uranium metal (in step three of the four-step process).^{5,6}

3. On 14 August 2021, the Agency verified at the R&D laboratory at FPDF that Iran had used 257 g of uranium enriched up to 20% U-235 in the form of UF_4 to produce 200 g of uranium metal enriched up to 20% U-235.

⁵ GOV/INF/2021/36, para. 9.

⁶ JCPOA, 'Annex I – Nuclear-related measures', paras 24 and 26.