

GERMANY

Rede

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The spoken word applies!

Retention period: Start of speech!

Madame Chair,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I. Introduction

Madame Chair,
On behalf of my government,
I congratulate you on your election as
President of the sixtyfirst IAEA
General Conference.
I fully endorse the statement made by
the European Union.

Germany welcomes the approval by
the General Conference of the
application for membership by
Grenada.

II. Energy Transition in Germany

Madame Chair,

The IAEA plays a central role in nearly every question that arises in the context of nuclear technology and Germany will continue to be a constructive and reliable partner of the Secretariat and all Member States.

Germany decided to phase out nuclear power by the end of 2022.

At the same time, Germany respects the sovereign right of every country to choose its own energy mix and supply.

Transforming the German energy system consists of three pillars:

- Increasing the share of renewables,
- increasing energy efficiency, and

- making future grids more flexible.

In the German nuclear sector this year new regulations for the backend of the fuel cycle entered into force.

On the one hand a new search for the location for final disposal was started on the other hand NPP-operators contributed more than 24 billion Euros into a public fund. This fund will finance the cost of interim end final disposal. The NPP-operators will remain responsible for the decommissioning of the plants.

Beyond power production Germany will continue to strive for a leading position in the use of nuclear technology, medicine and research.

III. Budget

Madame Chair,

beyond its share to the regular budget, Germany contributes to specific needs of the IAEA:

Germany has supported the modernization of the Agency's Nuclear Applications Laboratories at Seibersdorf in the framework of ECAS, ReNuAI as well as ReNuAI plus since 2011 with extrabudgetary contributions in an amount of 10 million Euros.

(Add. voluntary contribution in 2017)

We appeal again to all Member States in a position to do so, to make a financial contribution to ReNuAL.

IV. Safeguards

Madame Chair,

I would like to underline the extraordinary importance of effective and efficient IAEA-safeguards.

That is why Germany funds one of the first national support programmes for IAEA safeguards. Next autumn, 2018, the German Support Programme is to celebrate its 40th anniversary.

Madam Chair,

Germany highly welcomes the fact that more countries have Additional Protocols in force since the last General Conference.

At the same time, we support the further evolution of individual state-level approaches in a structured and objective manner.

V. Safety

Madame Chair,

Nuclear safety will remain a top priority for us. Germany strongly encourages cooperation between regulators and a worldwide system of mutual controls as they have proven to be an important pillar.

Self-assessments and international peer-reviews conducted in cooperation with the IAEA service are of particular importance.

At the invitation of the German government, the IAEA will conduct an IRRS mission to review the German nuclear safety oversight system in 2019. Moreover, Germany will be subject to its first ARTEMIS peer review with particular emphasis on decommissioning and waste management.

Furthermore, Germany highly appreciates the Agency's activities in the framework of the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS) and the Safety Standard Committees.

With regard to spent fuel and high active waste I expect an extension of domestic storage periods until disposal options become available. For the extended long-term storage and subsequent transportation further efforts are required in R&D.

VI.

Madame Chair,

On nuclear security, Germany is going to host an IPPAS mission this month.

Last year Germany hosted an

international workshop on the “Code of Conduct on the Security of Radioactive Sources”. Still, the security of radioactive sources in civilian use, particularly in research, medicine and industry continues to be a challenge for years to come.

Computer security remains one of the most important challenges.

Germany would like to bring to mind the successful International Conference on Computer Security in June 2015. Some progress has been made to develop additional computer security guidance. In light of the steadily and fast growing cyber threat much remains to be done.

VII. LEU-Bank Kazakhstan

Madame Chair,

Germany congratulates the Agency and Kazakhstan to the recent official opening of the IAEA-Bank for Low Enriched Uranium, the LEU-Bank. This is a major incentive to secure worldwide LEU supply.

VIII. Iran

Madame Chair,

The Vienna Agreement between the E3plus3 and Iran of July 2015, the JCPoA, is a great achievement for nuclear non-proliferation built on the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty. It has proven that diplomacy can solve political and security challenges of highest complexity.

I commend the IAEA for its professional work in conducting comprehensive verification and monitoring of Iran's nuclear related commitments.

This is the basis for ensuring that Iran's nuclear program can only serve peaceful purposes now and in the future, which is essential for building mutual trust and confidence. Iran needs to strictly abide by all its commitments under the Nuclear Agreement, and all parties should fulfill theirs in good faith.

Germany is committed to the full and sustained implementation of the JCPoA. We have substantially contributed to the IAEA's activities under the JCPoA and the JPA, with more than 4 Mio. Euro of extra-budgetary funding, so far.

And we are prepared to continue making substantial contributions in the future. We likewise encourage all Member States to ensure that the IAEA is able to conduct its long-term verification and monitoring mission.

IX. North Korea

Madame Chair,

North Korea has recently conducted its sixth nuclear test and continues to test ballistic missiles.

We condemn the ongoing violation and flagrant disregard of the Security Council's resolutions by the DPRK. The DPRK's nuclear- and ballistic missile-related activities represent a clear threat to international peace and security.

We strongly urge the DPRK to abandon immediately all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs in a complete, verifiable and

irreversible manner, and immediately cease all related activities.

The international community needs to stand united in order to face this challenge - Germany will support these efforts in order to help find a peaceful solution to the conflict.

X. Conclusion

To sum up my remarks:

Nuclear technologies need intensive international collaboration and competent oversight.

Germany is most grateful for the successful work of the IAEA.

Thank you, Madame Chair.

