



*Stalna misija Bosne i Hercegovine pri Uredu Ujedinjenih naroda u Becu,
OSSE i drugim medjunarodnim organizacijama, B E C
Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations Office
in Vienna, OSCE and other International Organizations, V I E N N A*

58th IAEA General Conference
Statement by H.E. Tomislav Leko
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International Organizations in Vienna
Head of the Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, on behalf of the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, I would like to congratulate to H.E. Aliyar Lebbe Abdul Azeez, Ambassador of Sri Lanka, for being elected as President of the 58th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). We believe that under his able leadership we shall be in a position to successfully accomplish the work ahead of us, and please be assured of our full cooperation. Also, we would like to thank the outgoing President, H.E. Ambassador Xolisa Mabhongo from South Africa, who guided as so successfully through the 2013 General Conference. In the same vein, we commend the work of the IAEA Director-General, Mr. Yukiya Amano and of the IAEA Secretariat for their impartial, comprehensive and professional approach in complex circumstances. We hail the applications for membership by the Union of Comoros, the Republic of Djibouti, the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the Republic of Vanuatu and welcome them as the new members. The IAEA family increases in the number of its members and by significance as a global intergovernmental organization.

Mr. President,

BiH fully associates with the statement of the EU, delivered on the first day of the Conference. As IAEA member state, but also as a member to the Board of Governors of IAEA, we are committed to utilization of NPT and call the remaining countries to join the Treaty, in order to achieve our goals of a safer world. Likewise, we fully endorse the budget proposal for the forthcoming period, expecting that the budget overall framework will be affordable for all activities specified to be undertaken.

Mr. President,

In continuation we would like to emphasize a couple of issues particularly pertinent to BiH. Bosnia and Herzegovina is a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency since 1995, and ever since we have initiated a series



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of activities in order to strengthen nuclear and radiation safety and security, and safeguards in connection with the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. With generous assistance from IAEA, through the technical cooperation projects, we are building our own system of nuclear and radiation safety and security. BiH is a non-nuclear country, without nuclear facilities and without the plans to build some, since we have ample hydropower potentials and notable coal deposits. However, various types of ionizing radiation sources are used in the country, mostly in medicine and in smaller volume in industry, agriculture and other fields. Therefore, it is our obligation to make the sources safe and secure for our citizens. For this reason, the Law on Radiation and Nuclear Safety in Bosnia and Herzegovina was swiftly adopted and is in force since 2007. The law incorporates the highest international technical and legal standards in this field. Under its provisions the country's regulatory body – State Regulatory Agency for Radiation and Nuclear Safety - has the pivotal role in radiation safety; adoption of regulations; issuance of licenses; inspection monitoring, conduct of the register of radiation sources; implementation of international obligations; cooperation with the IAEA, and many others. In accordance with the law, the regulatory body has enacted a number of regulations governing radiation safety, the use of radiation sources, nuclear security and others under their competencies. Concurrently with developing of the regulations, the regulatory agency took account of its harmonization with international standards, principally IAEA standards and EURATOM directives. In addition, in 2013 the "Law on liability for nuclear damage" was adopted. It was designed in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage and 1997 Protocol to Amend the Vienna Convention. Talking of domestic legislative and regulatory framework, it is also important to mention the "Policy on the safety of ionizing radiation sources in Bosnia and Herzegovina," adopted by the Council of Ministers in 2012. This document is based on fundamental safety and security principles, with the main objective of establishing an effective and transparent system to ensure protection of public health and the environment from harmful effects of ionizing radiation for both, present and future generations. On this basis, the Council of Ministers passed the "Strategy of the radioactive waste management in Bosnia and Herzegovina." Bosnia and Herzegovina has accepted many legally binding international instruments of great importance for safety and security, including the CNS, Joint Convention, Amendment to the CPPNM, Amendments to Article VI and Article XIV.A of the IAEA Statute, Protocol to Amend the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage. Herein, we want to particularly emphasize that Bosnia and Herzegovina has brought an Additional Protocol into force.



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Bosnia and Herzegovina is regularly fulfilling all obligations arising from and envisaged by the above international instruments. Besides, we have expressed full and unequivocal political support to the implementation of legally non-binding IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive sources and supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources. Bosnia and Herzegovina initiated activities to adopting the Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan. Its adoption and implementation will improve nuclear security, as well as security of other radioactive materials in our country. All being said distinctly emphasizes our determination to implement assumed international obligations and commitments, thus providing our modest contribution to the international system of nuclear safety and security, non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, and civil liability for nuclear damage. Bosnia and Herzegovina will persist on this road, and will spare no efforts to strengthen primarily its regulatory body, but also the other institutions that constitute our nuclear safety and security system, for the wellbeing of our population. In doing so, we certainly need continuation of IAEA's technical cooperation program and its implementation through national and regional projects, as well as support from the EU and other international partners. This is inextricably linked with our national priorities in the next period, which, inter alia, envisages the continuation of the activities relating to the safety of sources, radioactive waste safety, and implementation of the emergency plan and strengthening nuclear security, including prevention, detection and response to security events.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, BiH fully supports the work and mission of IAEA and will continue to act actively, both as a member state and as a member of IAEA's Board of Governors for the period 2013 – 2015. We stand firmly committed to IAEA's commitments and devotion towards the peaceful use of nuclear energy in a safe and secure manner for the benefit and development of the human kind and the world community.

I thank you,