

**Statement by Mr.XU Dazhe, the Head of the Chinese Delegation
to the 58th IAEA General Conference**

September 22, 2014 Vienna

Mr. President,

It's a great pleasure for me to lead the Chinese delegation to the IAEA General Conference for the first time. First of all, please allow me to extend my warm congratulations to you on your election as President of this conference. I'm confident that your rich diplomatic experience and outstanding leadership will make this conference a great success.

I'd also like to welcome the Union of the Comoros, the Republic of Djibouti, the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Republic of Vanuatu to become agency members.

Today, I'm greatly honored to convey to you a congratulatory message from Mr. LI Keqiang, the Premier of the Chinese State Council. Please allow me to read the message here on his behalf:

“On the occasion of the convening of the 58th session of the IAEA General Conference, I would like to extend on behalf of the Chinese government the warmest congratulations!

Over the past 30 years since China became a member of the IAEA, both sides have carried out close cooperation consistently and achieved fruitful results in the fields of nuclear energy development, R&D on nuclear science and technology, nuclear safety and security, among others, which have greatly contributed to promoting the wide use of nuclear energy and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in the world.

Now the Chinese government is endeavoring to achieve green, recycling and low-carbon development so as to build a beautiful China. We have always

adhered to the policy of energy conservation, control of the aggregate energy consumption, optimization of the energy mix, enhancement of the clean energy proportion and development of nuclear power efficiently on the basis of ensuring safety. China is willing, together with the IAEA and other member states, to broaden the scope improve the level of cooperation, deal with challenges hand in hand, and make joint efforts to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for mankind.”

Mr. President,

The Chinese government has always attached great importance to the position and role of the IAEA in the world’s nuclear community, and consistently supported the Agency’s work. China has voluntarily accepted IAEA’s safeguards on its nuclear facilities, and strictly fulfilled our international non-proliferation obligations; China has enhanced the development of nuclear security capability, and supported the leading role of the IAEA in the field of nuclear security; China has provided assistance within our capacity to new nuclear power states through financial aid and personnel training. China has made its due contributions to the IAEA implementing its functions specified in the Statute. I would like to take this opportunity to announce that in order to celebrate the 30th anniversary of China’s accession to the IAEA and to show our support to the Agency’s work, China will donate a 2.5 million US dollars new-type irradiation device for the Agency’s ReNuAL (the Renovation of the Nuclear Applications Laboratories) Project. We hope the device is useful for the Agency to spread the application of nuclear technology.

Thirty-years ago, cooperation between China and the IAEA started; today, that cooperation has borne fruitful. Thirty-years ago, nuclear power in mainland China started to grow from scratch; today, notable results have been achieved in our nuclear power construction. Thirty-years ago, nuclear safety regulatory system was just taking shape; today, a complete safety regulatory system is in place. Thirty-years ago, Chinese nuclear technology was comparatively lagging; today, Chinese technology has many independent innovations. During

the General Conference Week, a special exhibition entitled “30 years for peace and prosperity - to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of China’s Accession to the IAEA” will be held at the Rotunda in C Building. We welcome you all to visit the exhibition.

Thirty years’ cooperation between China and the IAEA has witnessed and supported the development and progress of China’s nuclear industry. Thanks to nearly 60 years of unremitting exploration, China’s nuclear industry ushers in its golden autumn harvest season. We firmly stick to the technical line of closed nuclear fuel cycle and steadily advance the development of nuclear fuel cycle industry by following the policy of “growth in scale, indigenous technology, market participation and international cooperation”. A complete and independent nuclear fuel cycle system has taken shape, with enhanced industrial level and capability. The overall technical scheme of “Hualong No.1”, which has independent intellectual property rights and meets the requirements of third generation nuclear power technology, has passed appraisal recently. HTGR of fourth generation technology has been studied and mastered, and a demonstration project is currently under construction. The preliminary safety analysis report on the self-developed CAP1400 PWR technology has passed review, which is ready for construction. China is willing to share experience with those countries with the intension to develop nuclear power, to provide all-round support and assistance to them in fields of nuclear power construction and nuclear fuel processing service, etc., and to make our due contributions to the world’s nuclear energy development.

Mr. President,

In March this year, Chinese President XI Jinping expounded China’s views on nuclear security at the Nuclear Security Summit held in the Hague, i.e., laying equal importance on development and security, rights and obligations, independence and cooperation, and temporary and permanent solutions, and made a solemn commitment to firmly enhance our safety and security capability. At present, China has set up a fairly complete nuclear safety

regulatory system and an emergency management system compatible with international practice. Satisfactory safe operation records have been maintained for all operating nuclear power plants in China. In the future, all new plants to be built are required to meet the world's strictest and third-generation safety requirements.

While improving our own nuclear security capability and level, China has actively carried out international cooperation in this regard. In October 2013, construction of the China-US Center of Excellence on Nuclear Security commenced. The main buildings of the center were domed in July 2014, and the center is expected to be operational by the end of 2015. The center will act as an important platform for personnel training, technical exchange and international cooperation in the nuclear security field for China and the Asian-Pacific region. In addition, in the course of this conference, China will conclude an Agreement with the IAEA and Ghana for assistance in securing low enriched uranium for a research reactor, with a view to contributing to the enhancement of nuclear security worldwide.

Mr. President,

Over the past three years since the Fukushima nuclear accident, the perception of nuclear power development in various countries has been back to rational. It is well recognized that nuclear energy plays an important role in promoting the reform of energy production and utilization, creating a safe, economical, clean and modern energy system, and ensuring sustainable socioeconomic development. Nearly 40 countries have expressed their intension to build new nuclear power plants, and it is obvious that global nuclear power industry is revitalizing.

China has unwavering confidence in nuclear power development, persists in safely and efficiently developing nuclear power and has made steady progress in the industry. In the past year, Unit 2 of the Hongyanhe NPP, Unit 2 of the Ningde NPP, Unit 1 of the Yangjiang NPP and Unit 1 of the Fuqing NPP successively went into operation. At present, a total of 21 units are in operation

in mainland China, with a total installed capacity of 19.02 GW. And another 27 units are under construction, with a total installed capacity of 29.53 GW, accounting for nearly half of the units under construction worldwide. According to China's revised medium- and long-term nuclear power development program, the total installed capacity of operating nuclear power plants will reach 58 GW while another 30 GW under construction by 2020. In August 2014, the State Council at a regular meeting put forward a plan calling for major efforts in clean energy development and construction of a series of coastal nuclear power projects. It clearly showed China's firm confidence in steady and orderly nuclear power construction, which will give a strong impetus to nuclear energy development worldwide.

Mr. President,

The Chinese government has always opposed proliferation of nuclear weapons, and advocated the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons. China has acceded to major international non-proliferation systems including the NPT, NSG and Zanger Committee. China has taken the lead among the nuclear weapon states to bring the *Additional Protocol to the Safeguards Agreement* into effect, and established comprehensive nuclear material control, and import and export control systems. China has long supported the Agency to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of its safeguards system, and taken an active part in international and regional non-proliferation processes.

China has steadfastly advocated the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, maintenance of peace and stability on the peninsula, and a peaceful solution of DPRK's nuclear issues through dialogue and negotiation. This serves not only the interests of all concerned parties, but also the common interests of the Asian region and the world community as a whole. The Chinese government has made active efforts to promote the Six-Party Talks, and will continue to play its due role in the future.

China always believes that dialogue and negotiation is the only right path for

resolving the Iranian Nuclear Issue. We have consistently followed an objective, impartial and responsible approach in an active effort to promote peace and encourage dialogue and have played a constructive role in promoting the negotiation process. China is ready to maintain close contacts with all parties and make its own contribution to the international community's common efforts for a comprehensive, lasting and proper solution to the Iranian Nuclear Issue.

Mr. President,

Over the past 30 years, China and the Agency, working together through adversity and difficulties, have moved forward hand in hand. We believe that China's nuclear power development would not have been achieved without the support of the Agency; meanwhile the future growth of the Agency also needs China's participation. Our cooperation, like a man at 30, has an even brighter future ahead. China is willing to work with the Agency and other member states, in our continued commitment to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, to make greater contributions to realizing the Chinese Dream, and to peace, safety and prosperity for mankind.

Thank you for your attention.