

58th IAEA General Conference, 22-26 September, 2014
Statement by the Leader of the Pakistan Delegation

**Mr. President,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

1. Let me begin by congratulating you on your election as President of the 58th Session of the IAEA General Conference. I assure you of the full support and cooperation of my delegation. Your wisdom and vast experience will be invaluable for guiding the deliberations of this Conference.
2. We welcome Union of the Comoros, Republic of Djibouti, Co-operative Republic of Guyana and Republic of Vanuatu as the new members of the International Atomic Energy Agency. I am confident that their membership will be beneficial for them and will also broaden the scope of the Agency's program.

Mr. President,

3. Pakistan has historically enjoyed a very productive and mutually beneficial relationship with the IAEA. Guided by the past interaction, we remain committed to synergizing our efforts with those of the Agency to harness the vast potential of nuclear technology---the most significant aspect of which for Pakistan is nuclear power given our limited conventional energy resources.
4. For Pakistan the significance of nuclear power was apparent even decades ago, when the Karachi Nuclear Power Plant

(KANUPP) was set up in 1972 making Pakistan only the 15th country in the world to have done so. KANUPP has continued to function for more than four decades even though the vendor support for the plant was withdrawn very early in its life. The safe and successful operation of KANUPP gave us the confidence to further pursue the nuclear power option.

5. The opportunity came with some delay when the 325 MWe Chashma Nuclear Power Plants, units 1 and 2 were built. Because of the performance and economics of C-1 and C-2, nuclear has won support from our decision makers. Two more units, C-3 and C-4 with a power rating of around 340 MWe each, are under construction at the same Chashma site, and are expected to be completed within cost and on schedule. All the four units have been built with the assistance of the Peoples Republic of China under a long-term cooperation agreement between the two countries.
6. In November 2013, Pakistan took a big step forward when the ground-breaking ceremony for two large nuclear power plants of 1100 MWe each was held near Karachi. With the completion of these two units, nuclear power will begin to make a sizable contribution to electricity generation in the country. At this occasion, Pakistan's Prime Minister announced Nuclear Energy Vision-2050, which envisages nuclear power generation of 40,000 MWe for a strong, prosperous and dynamic Pakistan.

Mr. President,

7. Pakistan is committed to keep all its current and future civilian nuclear power facilities under IAEA safeguards, but as the nuclear power program expands, so must the emphasis on the safety and security of the nuclear installations. The new plants being acquired for the Karachi site are Generation III plants with enhanced safety features. The “Fukushima Response Action Plan (FRAP)”, to reassess and upgrade the safety of our nuclear power plants, initiated immediately after the Fukushima Daiichi accident is being undertaken and the immediate and mid-term actions have already been implemented.
8. Pakistan’s Centre of Excellence for Nuclear Security (PCENS), has been established to conduct specialized training courses in physical protection of nuclear materials and facilities, material control and accounting, personnel reliability, transport security and other security related areas. In coordination with IAEA, the PCENS has planned a Regional Training Course on security of radioactive sources in November, 2014.
9. The Pakistan Institute of Engineering and Applied Sciences (PIEAS), the premier institute for education and training in nuclear science and technology in Pakistan, and rated as the number one university of the country also offers special courses on nuclear security and physical protection as part of its curriculum on nuclear engineering. Pakistan offers these facilities as regional and international hub for training.

10. Our interaction with IAEA, WANO and COG in the area of safety of NPPS is also continuing successfully. As a party to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, Pakistan participated in the Sixth Review Meeting of the Convention that was held in Vienna in March-April this year.

Mr. President,

11. Pakistan has a firm regulatory infrastructure in place. Set up in 2001, the Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority (PNRA) enjoys complete autonomy from the promoters of nuclear energy. PNRA, which has based its regulations on the IAEA safety standards, also offers itself for independent peer reviews. An IAEA IRRS mission was conducted this year in April-May. The IRRS team comprised more than twenty experts from fifteen different countries.

12. PNRA has also established a National Institute of Safety and Security (NISAS) for facilitating national and regional training courses on nuclear security. The Institute is equipped with the state-of-the-art laboratories for training in nuclear and radiation safety, nuclear security and physical protection.

13. Pakistan is voluntarily contributing to the IAEA information resources including Incident and Trafficking Database (ITDB). We are also deploying Radiation Portal Monitors at several exit/entry points.

14. Pakistan has also consistently supported international endeavors for enhancement of nuclear security at the national

level. We have participated in all the Nuclear Security Summits (NSS) since 2010 at the highest governmental level. During the inaugural NSS held at Washington D.C. in 2010, Pakistan, as an advanced nuclear state, offered its nuclear fuel cycle services under IAEA safeguards to other countries. During the last Summit, held at The Hague in March 2014, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, while commending the NSS process for generating high level commitments to foster national nuclear security culture, highlighted the fact that it has enabled the participating states to coordinate and synergize the work of the international community, while avoiding duplication. He further reaffirmed the central role of the IAEA in these efforts.

Mr. President,

15. Besides nuclear power, the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission has also been making other important contributions to the socio-economic sector of our society. A vital service to the nation is being provided through its nuclear medical hospitals. During 2013, three such hospitals were added, bringing the total number of nuclear medical centers working under the administration of PAEC to eighteen. These hospitals serve more than 700,000 patients each year. PAEC plans to further expand its services by setting up more nuclear medical centers.

16. In December, 2013 an imPACT–Integrated Mission on Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy came to Pakistan which visited several nuclear medical hospitals in the public and

private sector. We have now received the draft report of the Mission and are in the process of implementing its recommendations.

17. The Moly production plant at PINSTECH is functioning smoothly to produce Molybdenum-99, the precursor of Technitium-99m, a vital ingredient for many important radiopharmaceuticals. We have had extensive interaction with experts from IAEA for establishing another Molybdenum-99 production facility based on low enriched uranium, and look forward to IAEA support on this issue. We also continue to produce most of the other radioisotopes required by our hospitals.
18. We have also established a very broad educational and training program in specialized areas such as radiation oncology, nuclear medicine and medical physics, and our education Centre PIEAS runs a masters program in these disciplines. With extensive experience in these fields, we can provide expert services and training facilities to other countries embarking in this area. The IAEA could provide a forum for planning and undertaking such joint ventures.
19. Pakistan is also making efforts to broaden its scientific horizon by participating in the activities at the global level. After more than two decades of interaction with the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) based in Geneva, Pakistan applied for its Associate Membership in February 2013 and last week has been admitted as its Associate Member.

20. We are also actively participating in the activities of SESAME based in Jordan. These partnerships have the promise to boost scientific activities in Pakistan.

Mr. President,

21. Pakistan greatly values the contribution of IAEA for the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The Agency has supported Pakistan in diverse areas, including nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, nuclear security, application of nuclear technology in agriculture, medicine, industry and nuclear energy. This spirit of mutual cooperation has been demonstrated by the visits of dignitaries and officials of IAEA. During the last three years, four Deputy Director Generals of the IAEA have visited Pakistan, and especially important has been the visit of the IAEA Director General, H.E. Yukiya Amano, in March this year.

22. During his stay in Pakistan, Mr. Amano held meetings with the President, the Prime Minister, Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Advisor to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs and other dignitaries. He also visited several PAEC facilities including the Chashma Nuclear Power Plant, the Pakistan Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology and PIEAS. He visited the Headquarters of the national nuclear regulatory body – PNRA and the Pakistan Centre of Excellence in Nuclear Security (PCENS) at Chakri, near Islamabad that I mentioned earlier. During his visit to PNRA, Mr. Amano inaugurated National Institute of Safety and Security (NISAS)

being setup by PNRA. Mr. Amano's visit has been appreciated not only at the governmental level but has also been very heartening for the scientific community in Pakistan working in the nuclear field.

23. Mr. President, as reflected in my statement, Pakistan has the experience, the credentials and the potential to become a recipient and supplier of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. Pakistan aspires to play its part at international level as mainstream partner, including as full member of export control regimes, particularly the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG). Pakistan considers this to be a mutually beneficial proposition for international community as well as for itself.

24. In conclusion, I would once again express my appreciation for the positive role played by the IAEA in fostering the peaceful applications of nuclear technology around the world. Pakistan has greatly benefited from this cooperation, and I am very glad that we have also been able to make some modest contributions towards the Agency's activities by sharing our experience and providing services of experts in several technical areas.

Thank you, Mr. President.