



Statement

by

the Republic of San Marino

to the 58th IAEA General Conference

as delivered by H.E. Dr. Elena Molaroni Berguido

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Head of Delegation

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Mr. President,

I wish to congratulate you on your election as President of the 58th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. I am positive that under your able guidance this General Conference will have a very satisfactory and fruitful outcome.

A few weeks ago, I was bestowed to represent my Country at the Agency and I presented my letters of credence to H.E. Yukiya Amano, Director General, last August 14th.

Today, I represent my Country as Head of Delegation to our very first General Conference, since San Marino became a full member last November.

Mr. President,

I have the honor to convey the best wishes and greetings of my Heads of State and of my Government to you and to all the distinguished participants.

It is a pleasure for me to welcome the new members of the Agency: the Union of the Comoros, the Republic of Djibouti, the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the Republic of Vanuatu.

I avail myself of this opportunity to salute Director General Amano. The Republic of San Marino appreciates the extensive work done since the beginning of his first mandate and expresses its thankfulness and its complete support as new Member of the Agency.

Mr. President,

San Marino is a neutral and peaceful Country, with no army.

We are members of the United Nations since 1992 and of a number of international organizations aiming at peace, stability, and improvement of living conditions for all mankind.

The Republic of San Marino reaffirms its support to the initiatives aiming at maintaining or re-establishing peace and security, at fighting the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and at protecting peoples. We underline the need to reach a complete and final nuclear disarmament, through the respect and full implementation of multilateral treaties.

San Marino is a State Party to NPT and to CTBT because it is convinced that only through their universalization we can attain world peace and security.

On the occasion of the first and second Sessions of the Preparatory Committee to the 2015 Review Conference of NPT, our Republic was among the co-sponsors of the Joint Declaration on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. I can assure you that we will take part with interest and involvement to next year's Conference.

We deemed therefore appropriate to become a Member State of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Its pivotal role in the reduction and control of nuclear arsenals is for us very relevant, as well as its activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications. All of the above is essential to improve mankind living conditions.

Mr President,

Safe energy production, research in the fields of medicine, agriculture, water and climate change, and technical cooperation are the activities the Agency deals with and in which it excels. The Republic of San Marino endorses, supports and promotes them.

San Marino supports the ReNuAl Project aimed at renovating the Seibersdorf Laboratories. We are encouraged by the very interesting and promising results of IAEA research in peaceful nuclear applications obtained in the Laboratories – for instance, I think of the Rinder Pest eradication in 2011. We believe that it is very useful and profitable for all to increase activities and further cooperation with FAO.

We celebrate this month the 50th anniversary of partnership between FAO and IAEA in working on food safety and sustainable agriculture. The Joint Division FAO/IAEA already offered assistance to a number of Member States and contributed to the improvement of living conditions of peoples.

The Republic of San Marino believes that the Seibersdorf Laboratories will continue to be a guiding light in world research in this field.

The Agency verification regime proved its crucial importance in the efforts of the international community towards preventing and stopping nuclear weapons proliferation. We support the Agency in this endeavors and task, and we recognize its high professionalism and impartiality. We call on all Member States to implement their obligations and commitments.

The Agency safeguards are an essential component of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and to the implementation of the NPT.

San Marino has always supported the establishment of Nuclear Weapons Free Zones and in particular it supports the work being done in order to achieve such a zone in the Middle East.

As far as negotiations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, San Marino continues to be confident in the dialogue and assistance offered by the Agency with a view to achieve the full implementation of the framework for Cooperation.

The Republic of San Marino associates itself to the appeal launched by the Director General to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. We hope that the dialogue interrupted more than 5 years ago will soon resume.

In the same vein, on the implementation of the NPT Safeguards Agreement in the Syrian Arab Republic, we hope to see a deeper commitment and cooperation with the Agency.

Mr. President,

The Republic of San Marino would like to reassure the Agency that it will duly consider the possibility of concluding an Additional Protocol. The current delay is only due to the limited staff and infrastructure of our small Country that hinder the swift implementation of a number of international agreements.

Before I conclude, I am pleased to inform that we are close to the completion of the procedure for the accession to the Convention on the physical protection of nuclear material and to the International Convention on the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism.

I thank you for your attention.