

**Statement by the Republic of Moldova at the 60th IAEA General Conference  
Vienna, September 26-30, 2016**

Presented by Mr Ion Apostol,  
Director of the National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities

Mr. President, Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,  
On behalf of Moldovan Delegation, I am pleased to join the previous speakers in congratulating you, Mr. President, on your election as the President of this 60<sup>th</sup> General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency and to assure you on Moldovan delegation full support in the performance of the duties of the secretariat. I would like also to congratulate Director General Mr. Yukiya Amano and all staff of the Secretariat on Agency's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, to thank them for their professional work.

The Republic of Moldova welcomes the applications for membership by Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Islamic Republic of Gambia.

Republic of Moldova reiterates its firm support for the full, complete, and effective implementation of the Treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons as the cornerstone of the international non-proliferation regime and the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament, in accordance with Article VI of the NPT, and vital for further development of nuclear energy applications for peaceful purposes.

Among other countries, Republic of Moldova condemns recent nuclear tests in DPRK, which are undermining the international norms against proliferation of nuclear weapons that put under the danger all our world.

Recognising the growing threat of terrorism, which has nuclear materials and installations as part of potential targets, our country has undertaken political commitments to apply such international instruments as the Code of Conduct, United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 and International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism.

Republic of Moldova makes firm steps in increasing its capacity to prevent and combat illicit trafficking of nuclear material. Taking into account several confirmed cases of illicit traffic involving nuclear material, Moldova establishes a national nuclear forensics laboratory for performing analysis and characterization of seized nuclear and radioactive material. It will be a part of a dedicated regional network aimed to combat illicit trafficking jointly with our neighbouring partners.

The Republic of Moldova welcomes the entry into force this year Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) which was signed in May 2005. I am pleased to note that this year the Moldovan Government has approved the Regulation on Physical Protection of Nuclear and Radioactive Materials, which is in full compliance with the IAEA INFCIRC/225/Revision 5. It implements requirements and additional obligations of CPPNM and amendment to it, being a big step forward for ensuring high level of nuclear security at national and regional levels.

Mr. President,

Republic of Moldova has collaborated with the IAEA in strengthening national health institutions, building capacity to implement new technologies in nuclear medicine, radio-diagnostic and radiotherapy, in prevention and control of cancer and here I wanted to mention the Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT), which should be maintained active in the future. Regional TC projects have helped many professionals involved in these fields to benefit from valuable for us training programs.

My country is making efforts to support IAEA's initiatives building capacities through education and training of personnel. In July 2016 the Republic of Moldova hosted the IAEA Regional Workshop on the Use of the Graded Approach when Establishing and Implementing an Inspection Programme. This event brought together 27 inspectors from the region and allowed to increase the level of knowledge through experience sharing and discussing existing problems. On December 5-9 one more IAEA Regional Workshop on Implementation of GSR Part3 Requirements for Technical Service Providers will be hosted in Chisinau, our capital city.

Mr. President,

Republic of Moldova appreciates IAEA continuous effort in supporting member states to implement projects aimed to strengthen safety and security of radioactive wastes. I would like to express my country's gratitude to the IAEA for provided support in this field. Due to implemented projects radioactive wastes repository in Moldova has now adequate conditions for a proper management of collected wastes from different facilities all around the country.

During the last 3 years, with the assistance of OSCE, US DoE, Swedish RSA, we managed to put under regulatory control over 3500 radioactive sources from bankrupted facilities most of them being situated in Transnistrian region of our country. This considerably increased radioactive safety and security in the region.

Implementing the National Policy on Radioactive Waste Management in my country, a National Strategy on Radioactive Waste Management for the next ten years was developed and submitted for approval to the Government. It states steps to be taken to ensure safety and security of the radioactive wastes.

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm Republic of Moldova's commitment to the goals and objectives of the IAEA and assures the Agency and our partners on full support and positive engagement.

We look forward to contribute together with the IAEA and our colleagues from other countries to establish a safe and secure world.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.