

# **Ukrainian Statement at the International Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Power in the 21st Century**

**(Speech made by Mr. Shavlakov – First Vice-President –  
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**Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,**

One of the fundamental goals humanity must deal with in the XXI century is providing access to cheap and low carbon electricity. Despite the Fukushima accident and decrease of public confidence in nuclear power, nuclear power plants remain a global leader as a cost efficient, reliable and, foremost, clear energy source.

Ukraine is the 5<sup>th</sup> country in the world by number of nuclear reactors and total nuclear capacities. At present, Ukrainian nuclear power is represented by four operating NPPs combined under single National Nuclear Energy Generating Company “Energoatom”, which has been defined by the Ukrainian Government as operating organization and bears full responsibility for NPP safe operation.

On 18 September, 2017, the Ukrainian Government issued a decree approving a new Energy Strategy of Ukraine till 2035. One of the major tasks of the new Energy Strategy is de-carbonization of energy sector to be solved based on an unchanged position of Ukraine on feasibility of nuclear energy use.

According to the new Energy Strategy nuclear power in Ukraine is considered to be one of the most cost-efficient low carbon energy sources. Further development of nuclear energy sector is projected backed by a firm statement that nuclear share will make up 50% by 2035 in the total electricity production.

The highest priority in operation of Ukrainian NPPs is currently given to safety enhancement. Since the Chernobyl accident Ukrainian NPPs have implemented significant scope of works in modernization and safety enhancement of power units, including lessons learned from the accident at Fukushima NPP.

Since then Ukrainian NPPs have not exceeded the controlled level of emissions and effluents to environment, as well as individual exposure doses of personnel.

Another important area of Ukrainian nuclear industry demanding significant financial and human resources – is lifetime extension of NPP units. At present, based on the outcomes of the periodic safety reviews the lifetime was extended for 6 power units, works are underway for another 4 units. A strategic task for the next ten years is to take decision on extending lifetime of remaining power units of Ukrainian NPPs.

No doubt that the key issue of prospective development of nuclear energy sector are new builds and investments. In this view one of the major projects is completion/construction and commissioning of Khmel'nitsky Units №3,4 with total installed capacity of 2 GW.

At present, an increasing attention in the world is given to innovative development of nuclear energy industry. One of the most spreading area in reactor technology development is small modular reactors. Ukraine also actively explores potential for deployment of small modular reactors to meet future demand, in particular for replacement of TPP capacities to be retired.

In conclusion I would like to note that an important element of a foreign policy implemented by our industry – is its communication with international institutions of countries with developed fuel and energy potential in order to seek scientific and technical support, financial assistance, investments, as well as the best practice of partner companies ensuring implementation of the strategic goals of the industry.

It is my hope that this event will provide a great forum and opportunities to continue this dialogue and promote development of mutually beneficial business links.

**Thank you for attention.**