



*Стална мисија Босне и Херцеговине при ОЕБС, УН и другим међународним орг. у Бечу  
Stalna misija Bosne i Hercegovine pri OSSE, UN i drugim medjunarodnim org.u Beču  
Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the OSCE, United Nations Office and other  
International Organizations in Vienna*

**STATEMENT**  
**OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**  
**Delivered by H.E. Mr. Igor Crnadak,**  
**Minister of Foreign Affairs**

Vienna, 18 September 2019

Madam President,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen

Before I start I would like to pay tribute to the late Director General Yukiya Amano and express deep appreciation for his work and dedication to the safe, peaceful and sustainable use of nuclear science and technology. Mr. Amano's visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina in May 2017 we understood as confirmation of his commitment to formulate an IAEA policy following situation in Member States, but he has also given us strong support to all our efforts in establishing the safe and secure use of radiation and nuclear technologies and encouraged us that IAEA would give full support for regional cooperation among and between member states. His legacy is the best proof of his deeds. Hereby we do express support to the Draft of a resolution Tribute to the late Director General Yukiya Amano, submitted by Germany, Japan and South Africa

Madam President,

At the outset, on behalf of the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina allow me, Madam President, to extend my warm congratulations on your elections as the President of the 63<sup>rd</sup> General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. I assure you of the full support and cooperation of the Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in making this Conference a success.

Bosnia and Herzegovina fully associates itself with the Statement of the European Union, delivered on the first day of the Conference. I particularly need to emphasize here, part of this statement which quoted importance of cooperation and transparency "In addition, the process of planning and construction of nuclear facilities should be underpinned by dialogue with neighbouring countries and effective and transparent public communication." We want to confirm our commitment to this part and to reiterate that already, at the 59th IAEA General Conference, Bosnia and Herzegovina expressed our concerns about decision of our neighbour, the Republic of Croatia to establish storage and after that disposal of a radioactive low and intermediate activity waste from NPP Krsko half of it and institutional waste of R Hrvatska very near to the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Natural Park of beautiful Una river. The Plan is to place radioactive waste from operation and decommissioning Krško NPP, which scheduled to be closed down in 2043. This location is only three kilometres far from Novi Grad, a town in Bosnia and Herzegovina whose 30 000 inhabitants unanimously oppose the project, as well as the citizens of 9 other counties who are also in danger.

We are strongly against the construction of this facility and we do hope that the Republic of Croatia would find other solution which will not jeopardize good neighborly relations. Along with all professional impact we do care for very negative socio-economic impacts on this already suffered region and people.

Allow me here in my national capacity to address some issues of particular importance to my country relevant to the Agenda of the Conference.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has already adopted the most important international treaties, conventions and agreements related to our radiation and nuclear international obligations. We continue to support the Agency's mandate in radiation and nuclear safety and security as well as role of promoting nuclear safeguards and verification. Considering as very important to have an independent review of our capabilities we have applied for IRRS mission, which we expect to have in 2022.

Current challenges to the nuclear non-proliferation regime reaffirm necessity of achieving the highest standards in the field of nuclear security and non-proliferation regime. We are committed to achieve universalization and effective implementation of the comprehensive Treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT) and we recognise that the IAEA safeguard system is the only mechanism to verify non-diversion of nuclear activities to military purposes and that assures compliance with non-proliferation obligations undertaken by States Parties to the NPT. As a part of our obligations we have hosted safeguard inspectors at the beginning of September this year.

Madame President,

We especially need to emphasize importance of IAEA Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) as an essential part in the interaction

between the Member States and the IAEA. The TCP, which is also one of the principal instruments for transferring nuclear science and technology to Member States, in order to promote social, economic and integral development has been highly valued by Bosnia and Herzegovina. Over the years Bosnia and Herzegovina has benefited from different projects in many fields, and with the assistance of the IAEA we have been constantly upgrading our radiation and nuclear infrastructure, our capabilities in field of use of nuclear technologies, radiation protection and nuclear safety and security compliance with IAEA standards.

In this context we particularly greet and value an EU TC IAEA additional support to Bosnia and Herzegovina in past few years in equipment, which came as result of our hard work and significant insisting on importance for upgrading our institution capabilities in all field where radiation processing technologies are in use. For the many years this support was visible in health protection and safety infrastructure, but now we have additional support in veterinary and food safety control as well.

When talk about improvement of our cooperation with IAEA and especially with its TC department, along with all I have mentioned previously, it is important to mention the visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina by the TC Europe Director Ms. Ana Raffo Caiado in October 2018.

Bosnia and Herzegovina expresses its strong commitment to continue our cooperation with the Technical Cooperation Department in order to improve and strengthen our national capabilities in the use of nuclear

technology in medical, industry, agriculture, veterinary and radiation protection and nuclear safety and security.

Madam President,

Bosnia and Herzegovina as Contracting Party to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management at every our common meeting use opportunity to warn all parties and to express our concern over the environmental impact of Croatian activities on Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Madam President

In conclusion, I would like to thank Acting Director General Cornel Feruta and Agency staff for their diligent work and professionalism in preparation of this conference.

I wish you, Madam President, and all the participants a successful General Conference.

Thank you!