

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. MS. BATTUNGALAG GANKHUURAI,
RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MONGOLIA
TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

The 63rd General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency

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Madame President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

Let me join the previous speakers in congratulating you, Ambassador Alicia Buenrostro Massieu of Mexico, on your elections as President of the 63rd General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Madame President, I wish to extend our full support and cooperation.

Madame President,

Mongolia welcomes and congratulates Saint Lucia, the newest member of the Agency. This is a clear reflection of the growing importance of the IAEA.

We would also offer again our sincere condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Yukiya Amano, the late Director General of the IAEA. He left the Agency with an impeccable reputation in his professionalism and impartial work.

Director General Amano believed strongly in the benefits of nuclear science and technology and has led the organization at the forefront of international cooperation to ensure peace and stability through nuclear nonproliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. We shall uphold his legacy.

Madame President,

Mongolia is fully committed to nuclear non-proliferation, as it believes that the nuclear non-proliferation regime based on the Non-proliferation Treaty and the Agency's safeguards system is the cornerstone of international peace and security and indispensable to the sustainable development of nuclear energy.

Over the past years the Agency has made enormous efforts and continues its work to strengthen nuclear security. In this regard, I wish to highlight the importance of

the IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security to be held in Vienna next February.

Mongolia acknowledges the importance of nuclear and radiation safety control systems. We have been improving the national infrastructure in conformity with international safety standards and guidance. We have been also making our efforts to improve the legislative framework and introduced well developed standards, rules and regulations on radiation safety, radiological protection and the safe management of radioactive sources in accordance with IAEA guidance. Last June, the Nuclear Energy Commission of Mongolia adopted the “Regulation on Safe Transport of Radioactive Materials” in accordance with the IAEA Specific Safety Standard No.6.

Madame President,

Mongolia highly values the Technical Cooperation Programme of the organization. The TCP has a crucial role in enhancing responsible development of peaceful applications of nuclear technology and it greatly contributes to the socio-economic development of the country.

The technical assistance provided by the Agency has given a noticeable boost to the development of scientific research, including establishments of various laboratories in Mongolia in the field of nuclear science and technology for peaceful purposes.

We recognize the work of the FAO/IAEA joint Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture in diagnosing and helping to control outbreaks of animal and zoonotic diseases such as avian flu and Ebola.

Improved research and diagnostic capacities using nuclear and nuclear derived techniques have led to successful containment of transboundary animal diseases. This year, in collaboration with IAEA experts, Mongolia has managed to diagnose swine fever and introduced rapid control measures in preventing from its outbreaks.

With the assistance from IAEA, Mongolia has been successfully implementing national projects in the areas of health, food and agriculture, energy, industry, science, geology and mining. Mongolia’s Country Programme Framework (CPF) for the period of 2016-2021 has been a great contribution to the socio-economic development of Mongolia. The installation of Linacs in the National Cancer Center of Mongolia this year is the latest example of such fruitful cooperation.

This year, we will start our work to outline a new CPF for the period of 2021-2026. We believe that we need to pursue the same emphasis on human health, agriculture, environment protection, water management, to name a few.

Madame President,

The Regional Cooperative Agreement (RCA) has been an effective tool in promoting, coordinating and implementing cooperative research, development and training projects in the peaceful application of nuclear science and technology in the region. We assure of our commitment to work with our partners in the region for joint fruitful outcomes.

Mongolia continues developing partnership with various countries to enhance peaceful uses of atomic energy. The Nuclear Energy Commission signed the Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation on the Establishment of the Center for Nuclear Science and Technology in Mongolia with State atomic energy corporation "Rosatom". We are confident that Center for Nuclear Science and Technology in Mongolia will be an important step in the development of the nuclear technology application in our country.

In recent years, uranium deposits of Mongolia have been attractive to uranium exploration and production companies. In this regard, Mongolia is working with the IAEA to improve legal environment on radioactive minerals to be consistent with the best international practices.

Therefore, we requested the IAEA to send "Uranium Production Appraisal Team" review mission to Mongolia. We hopeful that the IAEA will be able to send its review mission very soon. Recommendations of the Review mission will be crucial importance to my Government to improve the operational and safety performance of production facilities.

Last year, we hosted the IAEA's expert mission to assess the practices for nuclear management, human resource processes, training and competence development, knowledge capture and transfer, organizational culture and collaboration. The IAEA Knowledge Management Assist Visit (KMAV) was also conducted in Ulaanbaatar and engaged with 16 relevant organizations including universities, hospitals, research organizations, national laboratories, the nuclear regulatory body and other government entities. We believe that such an inclusive approach is important and should be encouraged further.

Madame President,

In conclusion, I would like to once again assure of our full support and cooperation in achieving the utmost outcome during your presidency.

I thank you.