

**IAEA. 64th GENERAL CONFERENCE
ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY OF BRAZIL
BENTO ALBUQUERQUE
VIENNA, 21 SEPTEMBER 2020**

**MR. PRESIDENT, AMBASSADOR AZZEDDINE FARHANE,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY CONDOLENCES FOR ALL THOSE WHO LOST THEIRS LIVES IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES.

I RETURN ONCE AGAIN TO VIENNA TO REAFFIRM BRAZIL'S UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO NUCLEAR POWER AND ITS FUNDAMENTAL ROLE IN DELIVERING A CLEAN, SAFE AND SECURE ENERGY MIX FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT IS STEPPING UP MEASURES TO CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IN NUCLEAR ENERGY. WE ARE PAVING THE WAY FOR A VIRTUOUS CYCLE OF GROWTH CENTERED ON OPEN MARKET AND ENHANCED COMPETITION.

NEW LEGISLATION WILL FOSTER PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT IN URANIUM MINING, FUEL FABRICATION AND NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION.

OUR LONG-TERM PLAN FOR THE ENERGY SECTOR FORESEES UP TO 10 GIGAWATTS IN NEW NUCLEAR PLANTS BY 2050, AS PART OF THE ONGOING EXPANSION OF POWER GENERATION IN BRAZIL.

OUR THIRD NUCLEAR PLANT REMAINS A PRIORITY. THE BIDDING PROCESS FOR ITS COMPLETION IS UNDERWAY.

WE ARE SETTING UP A NATIONAL NUCLEAR SAFETY AUTHORITY FOR REGULATION, INSPECTION AND SAFEGUARDS ACTIVITIES. THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT SO FAR BY THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR ENERGY COMMISSION. IN ITS NEW ROLE, THE COMMISSION WILL FOCUS ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

IT WILL EXPEDITE IMPORTANT PROJECTS, SUCH AS THE BRAZILIAN MULTIPURPOSE REACTOR.

ALL THESE INITIATIVES ARE LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR A NEW CHAPTER OF NUCLEAR POWER EXPANSION IN BRAZIL.

SUCH AMBITIOUS GOALS REQUIRE REINFORCING OUR OUTSTANDING COOPERATION WITH THE IAEA. BRAZIL WISHES TO CONTINUE BENEFITING FROM ITS EXPERTISE, INCLUDING THE ASSISTANCE TO MEMBER STATES IN DEVELOPING PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS.

MISTER PRESIDENT,

BRAZIL ADDS ITS VOICE IN PRAISE OF THE AGENCY'S TIMELY ASSISTANCE TO MEMBER STATES DURING THE OUTBREAK.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE COMMEND THE AGENCY FOR PROMPTLY FULFILLING ITS SAFEGUARDS OBLIGATIONS DESPITE THE ONGOING RESTRICTIONS. ONE ASPECT OF GREAT RELEVANCE IS: EACH AND EVERY ACTIVITY PLANNED BY THE AGENCY WAS CARRIED OUT IN BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA IN FULL COLLABORATION WITH ABACC, UNDER UNPRECEDENTED CONDITIONS.

FOR ALL THESE REASONS, WE PAY TRIBUTE TO THE IAEA'S RENOWNED CREDIBILITY AND PROFESSIONALISM, NOW UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF DG GROSSI, AND CONFIDENTLY LOOK FORWARD TO ITS GROWING ROLE IN PROMOTING GREATER SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS GLOBAL PEACE AND SECURITY.

THANK YOU.