

64th IAEA General Conference, 21-25 September 2020
Statement by Denmark
As delivered by Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Jeppe Kofod

Mr President

Denmark fully aligns itself with the EU statement delivered earlier this week.

This has been a turbulent year in the IAEA and beyond. We are in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, and its full consequences are not yet clear to us.

I would like to congratulate Director General Grossi and his staff on the professional handling of the pandemic and its implications.

We need multilateralism and strong multilateral organisations.

The IAEA has an important role to play, and we strongly support the Agency's work across the spectrum of its mandate. We have recently decided to provide technical experts to Lebanon through the IAEA in the aftermath of the terrible explosion in Beirut.

Mr President

The IAEA plays a decisive role in preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and in upholding the NPT-based regime. We fully support the IAEA safeguards system and its further development.

The JCPoA is a landmark non-proliferation achievement. Denmark remains committed to the agreement. Denmark strongly supports the Agency's verification and monitoring of Iran's implementation of its nuclear-related commitments.

We have provided substantial financial contributions to it. We urge Iran to return to full implementation of the JCPoA.

We are encouraged by the recent agreement regarding IAEA access to the locations identified by the Agency.

Mr President

As you know, the Kingdom of Denmark is preparing the framework necessary for a possible uranium extraction in Greenland. I want to acknowledge the IAEA for the excellent cooperation and assistance provided.

The Danish and Greenlandic governments are committed to ensuring that any uranium extraction in Greenland will be fully in line with IAEA's standards.

This applies to the safeguards area as well as to safety and security.

Mr President

In closing, let me thank the Director General and the dedicated staff of the IAEA for their invaluable contribution to building a safer and more prosperous world.

We will continue our cooperation with them and with other Member States to advance the mandate of the IAEA.

Thank you, Mister President