



*Statement by*

*H.E. Ms. Natasha Meli Daudey*

*Ambassador & Permanent Representative of Malta*

*64<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference*

*21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020*

Mr President, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I convey my congratulations to you, Chair, on your election as President, and assure you of my delegation's cooperation and support.

Malta associates itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union. I would, however, like to add a few additional observations in my national capacity.

Mr President,

Malta would like to commend the IAEA for its unrelenting effort despite the COVID-19 pandemic. We remain grateful that, despite the ever-changing circumstances and restrictions the Inspectors of the Safeguards Department, managed to maintain safeguards inspections in supporting our aim to stop the spread of nuclear proliferation. Malta also commends the IAEA for rising to the challenge and providing aid, to more than 120 Member States, to try and stop the spread of the pandemic. Malta is proud to have played its part by voluntarily contributing to the Agency's programme for its fight against COVID-19 and looks forward to continue working with the Agency in our efforts against zoonotic diseases.

As the main sponsor of the International Day of Women in Science, Malta firmly supports the Agency's aim to create a more inclusive workforce in the nuclear field. We are pleased to note that the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Fellowship Programme will grant a scholarship and the possibility of an internship with the Agency, to up to 100 female students.

Malta would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Agency for its assistance, cooperation and technical support within the IAEA's Technical Cooperation Programme, which continues to produce tangible and important benefits, as confirmed by my own country's TC programme outcomes, in fields such as radiation therapy techniques for medical purposes, cultural heritage, and water treatment.

Mr President,

Malta reiterates its unwavering support to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the cornerstone of the international non-proliferation regime and continues to unequivocally call for its universalisation. In this regard, Malta is proud to have recently also signed and ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Malta also reiterates its commitment to the JCPOA and calls on all countries to refrain from taking actions that impede further implementation of JCPOA commitments. Malta commends the Secretariat for their continued professional work in verifying and monitoring Iran's nuclear related commitments, also in the uncertain times of the past months.

We also reiterate our calls upon the DPRK to fully comply with the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions and with IAEA General Conference Resolutions. Likewise, Malta calls upon Syria to cooperate fully and promptly with the IAEA, to address all unresolved issues, and bring into force an Additional Protocol without delay.

Mr President,

Before I conclude allow me to also express my country's support to the appeal made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco, calling upon those Member

States that have not yet accepted the amendment to Article VI of the Statute, which calls for the enlargement of the Board of Governors, to consider doing so.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate once again Malta's full support for the work and activities of the IAEA across various international levels, and to wish all delegations a most successful Conference in the spirit of positive cooperation and in pursuit of our common goals.

Thank you.