

## Statement of Norway

**Delivered by Minister of Foreign Affairs HE Ms Ine Eriksen Søreide at the 64th regular session of the IAEA General Conference**

President,

*I congratulate you on assuming the Presidency of this year's General Conference.*

Norway is fully committed in its support of the IAEA.

We applaud the Agency's work, maintaining its statutory functions, even during a global pandemic.

And I thank the Director General and all Agency staff for your perseverance and professionalism.

President,

Norway calls for universal accession to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The Agency's safeguards is an essential part of the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

We call for all Member States to conclude Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements, and to sign and ratify the Additional Protocol as the global verification standard.

*We support State-level Safeguards Approaches, which the Director General is fully mandated to pursue under existing safeguards agreements.*

Norway fully supports the JCPOA and all endeavours to preserve it. We expect full cooperation from Iran regarding all its safeguards obligations.

*We ask the Director General to continue reporting on the Agency's monitoring and verification in Iran.*

*The nuclear weapons program of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea remains an unacceptable violation of international law. We therefore appreciate the IAEA's readiness to take up nuclear verification in the DPRK on short notice.*

President,

Norway recognises the *inalienable* right of all NPT States Parties to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and technology. In this, the highest standards of safety, security and safeguards must be adhered to.

*We urge all States Parties to actively participate in the upcoming reviews of the NPT, the Convention on Nuclear Safety and the Joint Convention.*

*We commend the Agency for hosting the International Conference on Nuclear Security and look forward to the review conference on the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and its amendment.*

As part of my Government's Nuclear Action Plan, we continue to support safety and security activities and address nuclear legacy issues in partner countries. For the past 25 years Norway has allocated more than 200 million dollars for this purpose.

*Norway is also planning to co-host a Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) event in Oslo when conditions allow, focusing on nuclear security incidents in the Nordic-Baltic region.*

President,

The Agency's Technical Cooperation Programme and the Peaceful Uses Initiative are important for the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

*A robust safety, security and safeguards regime is the enabler of the peaceful use of nuclear energy and technology.*

This year, Norway supported the Agency in its prompt response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with a contribution of 2 million euros.

President

We highly commend the Director General's policy on gender parity within the Agency and also efforts for women in nuclear security in general. To this end, Norway was among the first to pledge support for the Agency's Marie Sklodowska-Curie Fellowship Programme.

*It is vital that all core activities of the Agency continue to receive the necessary funding.*

President,

Director General,

Distinguished delegates,

I wish you a successful General Conference.

Thank You