

**STATEMENT**

**REPUBLIC OF POLAND**

**delivered by Mr. Adam Guibourgé-Czetwertyński  
Undersecretary of State**

**International Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Power  
in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
of the International Atomic Energy Agency**

**Washington D.C., USA, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

*Mr. Director General, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I would like to thank the International Atomic Energy Agency, for organizing this very important and timely conference and I would like to thank the Government of the United States of America for hoisting our event.

Poland participated actively in former IAEA ministerial conferences on the perspectives of nuclear power development which contributed significantly to the global debate on the role of nuclear energy in the transition to clean energy sources, and its contribution to sustainable development and climate change mitigation.

This year conference is held at the very difficult time for energy sector and many regions of the world due the brutal aggression of Russia on Ukraine and unprecedented energy crisis provoked by Mr. Putin policy.

I am convinced that despite of this enormous challenges and circumstances the Participants of the conference will discuss and exchange views on the key issues related to the future development and deployment of safe and modern nuclear energy.

Nuclear power is going to play a critical role globally as we all work to address the needs of our economies and take care of the changing climate in a sustainable way. More and more reputable organizations and states, recognize that nuclear is indispensable to 'reach' the climate-neutrality goals and what is important, more and more nuclear projects are going to be undertaken every year.

We can say that we are currently at the brink of the renaissance of nuclear energy with the raising bunch of new innovative, modern technology and I am sure that we will be talking about that during three days of the Conference.

Let me say view words about Poland's nuclear power program.

***Ladies and Gentlemen, Esteemed Delegates, Dear Friends,***

Poland remains committed to the implementation of nuclear power, which is one of the strategic directions of Energy Policy of Poland until 2040”.

The roadmap for the process, stemming from the Polish Nuclear Power Programme, provides that 6 to 9 GW of nuclear power capacity will be put into operation by 2043 and will represent around 15% of the future generation capacity in the national system.

The upcoming months will be significant for the implementation of the Polish Nuclear Power Programme. It is scheduled, to select of the technology provider for the first nuclear power plant, to obtain the Decision on Environmental Conditions and Location Decision for the first nuclear power plant, as well as sign an agreement with the vendor of technology and the EPC contractor.

In addition to the Polish Nuclear Power programme, prepared and adopted by the Government in October 2020, there is a growing interest among the Polish large energy-intensive corporations in the SMR technology. It can complement the Government programme and contribute to faster decarbonization of the Polish energy system, especially in areas such as industrial and district heating, as well as hydrogen production.

***Distinguished Participants,***

The 2050 net zero target is a huge challenge for Poland – a country with a unique energy mix across the EU, with approx. 70% of electricity still produced from coal. Although the transformation will be lengthy and challenging, Poland is determined to change its energy mix, while maintaining security of supply of the energy and at the same time competitiveness of Polish economy.

To achieve a clean energy system by 2050, we must deploy all zero-and low emission, available technologies, including nuclear, solar, wind and hydrogen.

The fast deployment of renewable energy sources has to be accompanied by the development of zero/low-emission baseload capacities, to ensure security

of supply and keep the costs in check. Otherwise intermittent renewable energy sources without a proper balancing by stable sources will dramatically increase system costs what will result in de-industrialization of our economy.

Having in mind all benefits of nuclear energy we have to remember that nuclear power plants can facilitate this transformation if they are built and operated on a cost-price formula. This why we need this conference to discuss about innovations, emerging new technologies, streamlining and harmonization of regulatory environment, role of governments to enable successful deployment of energy power. Concluding my remarks I would like to underline that Poland expresses its strong concern about the Russian Federation's violent attack on Ukraine and unprecedented violation of all international law and key principles of nuclear safety, security and safeguards. Therefore, Russia's reprehensible policy should be condemned in the strongest possible terms and reflected in appropriate activities on the international forums, including IAEA which should assess the current Russia membership status and position in the organization. In this context I would like to renew Poland's call to suspend Russian Federation as a member of the IAEA. I would like to call upon members states to support this request.

***Mr. Director General, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,***

I would like again stress our plans and commitments to deployment of nuclear power in Poland and continuous support for International Energy Agency activities with which we closely cooperate. I have absolutely no doubt that nuclear power should be continuously included in the global climate and energy security debate and this event offers such an opportunity.

Again, I would like to thank IAEA and US Government for organizing this important conference, which I believe all Participants will benefit from. I wish us all fruitful discussions and many valuable take-aways.

Thank you for your attention.