

Statement by H.E. Dr. iur. Damos D. Agusman Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary/Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia Head of Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia At the 67th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency Vienna, 25-29 September 2023

Madam President,

- Let me begin by congratulating you on your election as the President of this General Conference. I am confident that under your able leadership the Conference will attain all its objectives. Allow me also to congratulate all members of the Bureau. Rest assured of our full support and cooperation throughout the sessions.
- 2. I would also like to congratulate DG Rafael Mariano Grossi on the approval by this General Conference to serve a second term in office. Indonesia looks forward to continuing our strong and constructive relationship with DG Grossi and his team to further strengthen cooperation between the Agency and Indonesia. Please rest assured of Indonesia's full support.

Madam President,

3. Indonesia welcomes the significant progress made by the Agency in its pivotal role in strengthening disarmament and non-proliferation efforts, while also promoting international cooperation for the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

- 4. However, it is very unfortunate that the world continues to grapple with persistent global tensions and an uncertain security situation. It is disconcerting that Some nuclear-possessing states prioritize their nuclear arsenals over efforts towards non-proliferation and disarmament.
- 5. We also witnessed the lack of consensus at the 2022 NPT RevCon and at the following NPT Preparatory Committee and the ongoing distrust between nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon states. These worrying trends require immediate action.
- 6. We must maintain a strong focus on advancing global disarmament efforts as outlined in Article VI of the NPT, while restoring confidence in nuclear safety, security, and safeguards. We must continue to support the IAEA's crucial role in assisting Member States in fulfilling their obligations. Furthermore, promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy remains vital for the global welfare.

Madam President,

- 7. The agency's work extends to promoting clean energy, tackling the issue of plastic waste, and strengthening cooperation in food safety and health, which are critical aspects of sustainable development. Notably, the IAEA's involvement in ZODIAC, in response to post-Covid-19 pandemic needs, highlights its proactive approach to combating future outbreaks.
- 8. Indonesia proudly supports the IAEA in fostering a culture of safety, security, and promoting peaceful uses of nuclear energy. We are actively engaged in the IAEA's flagship programs, including ZODIAC, Nuclear Technology (NuTec), and Rays of Hope, where we are industrializing nuclear technology.
- 9. We also express our gratitude for the IAEA's involvement in the Rays of Hope program, which was highlighted by the signing of a Letter of Intent (LoI) in March 2023 between the Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia and the Director General of the IAEA, signifying our shared commitment to advancing the positive impact of nuclear technology on global health and well-being.

Madam President,

- 10. While we prioritize nuclear security, it is essential to maintain a comprehensive approach that doesn't impede international cooperation in peaceful nuclear activities. We must preserve the inalienable right of States to develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes to achieve their development goals, without hindrance.
- 11. Indonesia emphasizes the significance and effectiveness of global nuclear security initiatives and commits to further strengthening its nuclear security infrastructure. This will be achieved in collaboration with the IAEA through the Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP), focusing on improving coordination, capacity building, cybersecurity, and national detection capabilities at entry points and borders, ensuring a safe and secure nuclear environment.
- 12. On nuclear safety, as a State Party to the Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS), Indonesia underlines commitment to maintaining the highest standards of nuclear safety. We have established and adhere to fundamental safety principles in the operation of our research reactors, ensuring the well-being of our people and the environment.
- 13. We are also fully committed to the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, and we actively follow the Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources. Our dedication to these international agreements underscores our proactive approach to managing the risks associated with high-activity sources in a cooperative and responsible manner, promoting safety and security on a global scale.
- 14. Indonesia has also pledged to continue supporting the Agency's Nuclear Harmonization and Standardization Initiative (NHSI) efforts to develop global standards for nuclear energy infrastructure that can use advanced reactor technology, while prioritizing the highest safety and security standards and technology transfer to all member states. Our experts have actively developed Technical Documents under Working Group 1 and Working 2 of the Regulatory Track. After the establishment of a national Nuclear Regulatory Forum in 2022,

Indonesia will also develop pre-licensing regulations and technical guidelines based on international standards and best practices.

Madam President,

- 15. Indonesia is of the opinion that Safeguards should continue to be an essential component of our nuclear governance, and we would like to emphasize the critical part that the Agency plays in ensuring that they continue to be effective.
- 16. We notice that the topic of Nuclear Naval Propulsion (NNP) has undergone significant development in recent years, particularly under the auspices of the IAEA. Indonesia therefore has also been cautiously and actively following the discussions on this issue in the IAEA, including in the last Board of Governors' Meeting, and encourages the Agency to work in full adherence to its safeguards statutory mandate in order to find legal, procedural, and technical answers when addressing this issue, and to maintain the highest standards of safeguards verification and monitoring.
- 17. We would like to underline that the discussions regarding NNP should be aimed at strengthening safeguards verification mechanisms under the IAEA framework in a transparent, inclusive, and accountable manner. We believe that such an approach is vital not only for current NNP programs but also for all future NNP programs.
- 18. Furthermore, Indonesia calls for international cooperation to ensure that the development of NNP is in line with existing international norms and legal frameworks under the IAEA.
- 19. To conclude, Madam President, my delegation wishes to reiterate Indonesia's commitment and readiness to continue supporting the work of the Agency.

I thank you.

Vienna, September 2023