

International Atomic Energy Agency

67th General Conference

Vienna, September 2023

Statement by

H.E. Luca Beccari

Minister for Foreign Affairs

of the Republic of San Marino

Madame President,

I congratulate you on your election as President of the General Conference and I assure you of my Country's continued full support and cooperation.

The Republic of San Marino firmly believes in the essential role of the IAEA, which work is of "incalculable importance" as said by the Norwegian Nobel Committee when it awarded the Agency with the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005.

I commend Director General Grossi, and all his staff, for the capable, immediate, effective and concrete work they are capable of, and the Agency for increasing nuclear safety and security throughout the world, and for continuing to foster nuclear peaceful applications in cancer research, obesity, human and animal health and agriculture, as well as for tackling climate change and water quality.

We praise the NUTEC program that can contribute to the elimination of plastic pollution on our planet for future generations.

We highly appreciate the activities carried out in the Seibersdorf Laboratories, including the ZODIAC program. IAEA scientists cooperate around the world to provide us with better preparedness for current and future challenges.

Finally, we deem absolutely essential the control and support on all nuclear facilities, in particular the Ukrainian power plants, as the situation continues to be at very high risk for our continent and the globe.

San Marino reiterates the condemnation of the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine. The respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of States is a fundamental principle enshrined in international law.

We appeal to all parties to find peace as soon as possible, through dialogue and diplomacy. The strength of a country does not reside in its armaments and violence but in its ability to establish cooperation and friendship with its neighbors.

Madame President,

We reiterate our concerns about the lack of willingness to cooperate with the Agency of a number of Countries and we appeal to them to comply with their commitments. The system of safeguards is fundamental for international security.

Madame President,

San Marino is a neutral country. We do not dispose of an army nor weapons of mass destruction, just as there are no nuclear power plants.

San Marino is party to the most important disarmament and non-proliferation treaties. We are convinced that these treaties could bring us closer to the final elimination of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction and to peace. Therefore, we encourage all countries to consider signing and ratifying these important instruments in order to reach that goal.

Thank you for your attention.