

**IAEA 67. GENERAL CONFERENCE:**  
Speech of H.E. Alparslan Bayraktar,  
Minister of Energy and Natural Resources of the Republic of Türkiye

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Dear President,

Distinguished Delegates,

It is an honor to address the audience on the occasion of the sixty-seventh General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

I would like to begin by extending my warm congratulations to you, President, on your election as the president of the sixty-seventh Session of the General Conference.

I would also like to congratulate the newly elected distinguished members of the General Committee.

Türkiye highly appreciates agency's significant assistance and support for the Delivery of Emergency Assistance under the technical cooperation program in the aftermath of the devastating earthquakes in my country. I kindly express our sincere gratitude to the Director General and the Agency for their dedication to ensuring nuclear safety and security in our region through intense diplomatic efforts.

Distinguished Participants,

Our top priorities in the energy sector is to develop sustainable energy policies, and nuclear energy will play a vital role to reach carbon neutrality by the year 2053.

To reach this goal, Türkiye gives great importance to increasing the share of renewable energy sources, as well as continuing its efforts to include nuclear power to its energy mix, as a base load clean source of power.

Our first conventional largescale nuclear power plant in Akkuyu, is currently the largest NPP construction site in the world. The first reactor is planned to be commissioned by the end of 2024.

At this point I would like to thank once again to Mr. Grossi for his attendance to the first nuclear fuel delivery ceremony to Akkuyu NPP on April 27, 2023. According to our long term National Energy Plan, Türkiye aims to add 7.2 GW nuclear energy capacity to its energy mix by the end of 2035, and over 20 GW nuclear capacity by the end of 2050.

Besides conventional large scale NPPs, we've been following the developments in Small Modular Reactors, and we would like to include SMRs to our energy mix.

In the context of review services, we have hosted 5 missions, the Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) was hosted in September 2022 to strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of Türkiye's regulatory framework.

We appreciate the Agency's mobilization of the Core Team across all departments and planned technical assistance through the Integrated Work Plan and Technical Cooperation Projects.

Türkiye is also implementing various activities under its National Technical Cooperation Projects for ensuring the safe use of nuclear technology and ionizing radiation.

I would also like to emphasize our dedication to work closely with the Agency to support the highest standards in nuclear safety, security and safeguards to promote peaceful uses of nuclear technology.

Last year, by ratifying the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on Radioactive Waste Management, as well as the 2004 amendments of the Paris Convention on Third Party Liability.

Türkiye is now a party to all international conventions in nuclear safety and security field and submits compliance reports on a regular basis.

In closing, I would like to emphasize once again our determination to continue close cooperation with the Agency, and I extend my best wishes for the success of this General Conference.

Thank you.