



- Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Mr President,
- On behalf of my government, I congratulate you on your election as President of this General Conference.
- Germany expresses its gratitude to the Director General and the IAEA staff for their steadfast commitment to nuclear safety, security and safeguards.
- From the very beginning let me stress we associate ourself with the EU statement as it has been digitally published.
- This applies in particular to the courage and professionalism displayed by the Agency in order to ensure nuclear safety and security in Ukraine in the face of Russia's war of aggression.
- Germany urges Russia to immediately end this unjustified, unprovoked and illegal war in order to restore full control of the Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant to its rightful sovereign owner, Ukraine.
- We strongly condemn any acts compromising the safety and security of nuclear facilities.
  - ↳ The seizure of Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant poses a serious threat. It significantly increases the risk of a nuclear accident and endangers the population of Ukraine and neighbouring states.

- IAEA staff therefore must be given access to all areas of Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant, and be able to engage directly and without interference with local personnel.
  - ↳ The safety of all individuals implementing these efforts must be guaranteed.
- Germany has decided to contribute the considerable amount of 1.8 million euros in 2024 to ensuring a continuous presence of Agency experts at Ukraine's nuclear power plants, and maintaining the generic Ukraine support bilaterally and by the Agency.
- We encourage all Member States to support the IAEA efforts in this regard.
- Iran's continued escalation of proliferation-sensitive activities moves the country even further away from its Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action commitments.
- Much of Iran's nuclear programme is unprecedented for a state without a nuclear weapons programme - it lacks any plausible civilian purpose.
  - ↳ We therefore call on Iran to reverse this trend and lay the foundations for a diplomatic solution, to which Germany remains committed.
- We also call on Iran to return to full implementation of its obligations under its Safeguards Agreement and to co-operate with the IAEA.
  - ↳ We commend the IAEA for its professional work with regard to verification and monitoring in Iran.

- The build-up of North Korea's nuclear programme demonstrates the importance of continued monitoring. Germany supports the Agency's efforts to enhance readiness for verifying North Korea's nuclear programme.
  - ↳ We call on North Korea to comply with its obligations under UN Security Council resolutions, to abandon all nuclear weapons and existing programmes, to stop its dangerous rhetoric and return to full compliance with the Non Proliferation Treaty.
- We strongly encourage diplomatic efforts to achieve sustainable peace and security on the Korean Peninsula.
- The IAEA safeguards system is essential for the implementation of the Non Proliferation Treaty.
  - ↳ On behalf of Germany, I would like to express my appreciation for the excellent work of the Agency's nuclear safeguards inspectors.
- Germany supports the Agency in advancing nuclear safety standards, security guidelines and its safeguards and verification activities worldwide.
- We are convinced that also regarding small modular reactors, highest standards of nuclear safety and security as well as safeguards need to be considered at all times.
  - ↳ The world will face new challenges and threats if this is not done properly.
- Germany has been a permanent member of the IAEA Board of Governors since 1973 and I can assure you that

we will continue our **strong expert involvement** in the work of the bodies, events and missions of the IAEA.

- Both as the fourth largest contributor to the IAEA budget and through the EU, Germany **supports various fields of the Agency's valuable work** through extrabudgetary contributions of over 1.8 million euros.

↳ These go, for example, towards the Agency's work in Ukraine and the work of the nuclear security division,...

↳ ... but also to initiatives like the marine environmental laboratories in Monaco, the Rays of Hope Initiative, the Lise Meitner Programme and NUTEC Plastics.

- I would like to underline that Germany is extremely grateful for the dedicated and successful work of the Agency and stands ready to provide continued support.

↳ We are looking forward to many fruitful exchanges in the upcoming days and hope to see many of you again at the Ministerial Conference in November, where the Agency's Technical Cooperation Programme will be the focal issue.

- Before I leave the stage, allow me to briefly direct your attention to our exhibition booth addressing "*Emergency Preparedness and Response and Consumer Protection regarding NORMs*"

↳ you are cordially invited to join us!

- Thank you very much.