

# **STATEMENT**

**REPUBLIC OF POLAND**

**delivered by Mr. Andrzej Głowacki**

**President of the National Atomic Energy Agency**

**on behalf of**

**Ms. Marzena Czarnecka**

**Minister of Industry**

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

I congratulate His Excellency Mr. Ham Sang Wook on his election to the honourable function of the President of the sixty eight session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. I assure you of Poland's full support and co-operation.

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

I would like to underline that Polish government considers nuclear energy as a valuable dispatchable source of clean energy and as the main industrial technology that provides a significant contribution to the fight against climate change and - what became crucial due to the Russia's full-scale aggression on Ukraine – to ensuring energy security.

The roadmap for the process provides that up to 9 GW of nuclear power capacity will be put into operation by 2043.

In April this year the Phase 2 Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review mission (INIR2) was carried out by the IAEA. The mission positively assessed Poland's readiness to continue the next phase of Polish Nuclear Power Programme, that is the start of construction of the first nuclear power plant.

In addition there is an interest in Poland in the SMR technology. It can complement the Government's programme and contribute to faster decarbonization of the Polish energy system, especially in areas such as industrial and district heating.

**Mister President, distinguished Delegates,**

Poland continues to undertake efforts to enhance and sustain nuclear safety and security. In September last year we hosted the Integrated Regulatory Review Service mission (IRRS) in Warsaw, with a goal to review and strengthen governmental and regulatory framework for nuclear and radiation safety. The IRRS mission also reviewed regulatory readiness for the introduction of nuclear power in Poland. The mission concluded that we have adequate nuclear safety regulatory infrastructure and a robust regulatory framework in Poland, however we still see space for improvement of our competences. The IRRS follow-up mission is invited for 2027.

Last December we hosted an Integrated Nuclear Security Sustainability Plan (INSSP) review mission. The INSSP process proved to be helpful in the development of domestic nuclear security solutions and bolstering coordination between all national stakeholders engaged in assuring nuclear security of existing and planned nuclear facilities in Poland. In order to further strengthen our nuclear security framework we will be looking into inviting a new IPPAS mission as we advance in our preparations for the introduction of nuclear power.

**Mr. President, distinguished Delegates,**

Poland recognizes the great value of the Agency's Technical Cooperation Programme. Participation in national and regional TC projects - in nuclear safety, radiation protection, nuclear power, medical and industrial applications, nuclear infrastructure development - significantly contributes to the sustainable development of Poland. We gladly continue to provide support to the TC Programme, including hosting events and fellowships in Poland as well as providing national experts for Agency activities.

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

Russia's illegal, unjustified and unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine is ongoing. Moscow continues to threaten to use nuclear weapons against other countries. Russian troops are illegally occupying the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant in clear contradiction with the NPT, the Statute of IAEA and numerous international nuclear safety and security regulations. Russia must immediately cease occupation of Zaporizhzhia NPP and withdraw its military equipment.

Poland declares its full confidence in the IAEA and its Director General when fulfilling their role, notably in safeguarding the commitments under the NPT. The IAEA safeguards system is a fundamental component of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and the IAEA plays an indispensable role in the implementation of the NPT.

Poland will continue assist the IAEA in logistics and transportation with its mission in Ukraine.

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

Other global security challenges have not disappeared. In contrary, they have become even more visible nowadays.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) continues to carry out its military nuclear and missile programmes with no perspectives to engage in any substantial negotiations. Moreover, reports on Iran's implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) and the Security Council Resolution 2231 cause additional concern. The DPRK must engage in denuclearization talks and fully comply with all United Nations Security Council's resolutions and return to the IAEA Safeguards system as well as to the NPT as non-nuclear weapon state. Iran must come back to a positive path and stop undermining the IAEA safeguards system, as well as the effectiveness of the NPT.

**Mr. President, distinguished Delegates,**

Poland considers nuclear power as a vital and necessary part of the future low-carbon global energy mix.

In our view, which is shared by the IAEA, nuclear power utilization corresponds also with the policies to reach Sustainable Development Goals of United Nations.

In this light we highly value the actions undertaken by the IAEA as regards mainstreaming the issue of nuclear power's advantages in the worldwide discussions on commitments to curb the greenhouse gases emissions. This helped to recognize for the first time in the history the role of nuclear power in the fight against climate changes during the last COP summit in the UAE.

**Mr. President, distinguished Delegates,**

On behalf of the Polish Government, I am pleased to express firm and continuous support of our country for the International Atomic Energy Agency activities. 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.

**Thank you for your attention.**