

**Statement by the Republic of Moldova  
at the 61st IAEA General Conference  
Vienna, September 18-22, 2017**

*Presented by H.E. Mr. Victor OSIPOV, Permanent Representative  
of the Republic of Moldova to International Organizations in Vienna.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Distinguished Delegates,

It is my honour to address the 61<sup>st</sup> General Conference of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Moldova!

Ms. President,

I'm pleased to congratulate you on your election as the President of this General Conference of the IAEA. I would like also to congratulate Director General, Mr. Yukiya Amano, for the appointment by acclamation to serve for the next four years. We assure you of our full support and cooperation.

Republic of Moldova reiterates its firm support to the full, complete, and effective implementation of the Treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons as the cornerstone of the international non-proliferation regime and the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament, in accordance with Article VI of the NPT, and vital for further development of nuclear energy applications for peaceful purposes.

We strongly sustain the Application of IAEA Safeguards in the Middle East as a strategic instrument to support peace and stability. We welcome the Agency's intention to implement the NPT Safeguards Agreement in the Syrian Arab Republic as contained in GOV/2017/37 and perform physical inventory verification at the miniature neutron source reactor in Damascus later in 2017, as mentioned in the DG'S report.

Among other countries, we condemn the recent nuclear tests of North Korea, which are a violation of the international norms against proliferation of nuclear weapons that put under the danger the entire world. The Republic of Moldova subscribes to the deep preoccupations of the international community regarding these deplorable actions of a destabilizing character that threaten the security in the Korean peninsula and the surrounding region. We urge the Pyongyang authorities to give up its nuclear arming policy and reengage in a credible political dialogue with the international community.

The Republic of Moldova welcomes the entry into force of the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM), which was signed in May 2005. I am pleased to inform of the National Regulation on Physical Protection of Nuclear and Radioactive Materials, approved by the Moldovan Government in 2016, aimed at bringing the national framework in full compliance with the IAEA INFCIRC/225/Revision5. At the same time, the Regulation implements requirements and additional obligations of CPPNM and amendment to it, being a big step forward for ensuring high level of nuclear security at national and regional levels.

In increasing our capacity to prevent and combat illicit trafficking of nuclear materials Republic of Moldova establishes a national nuclear forensics laboratory for performing analysis and characterization of seized nuclear and radioactive material, as a part of a regional network aimed to combat illicit trafficking jointly with our neighbouring partners.

Ms. President,

Moldova is an aspired partner of IAEA and is actively engaged in performing basic requirements for nuclear safety and security. Technical Cooperation Programs create the fundamental basis for improvement of national conditions with regard to nuclear and radiation safety and security.

Beside these programs, in addition to identifying priority areas and supporting the national development goals, the Country Program Framework (CPF) for next years has been developed. Republic of Moldova has collaborated with the IAEA in strengthening national health institutions building capacity to implement new technologies in nuclear medicine, radio-diagnostic and radiotherapy, in prevention and control of cancer. Here I wanted to mention the Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT), which should be maintained active in the future. Regional TC projects have helped many professionals involved in these fields to benefit from valuable for us training programs.

Republic of Moldova appreciates IAEA continuous efforts in supporting member states to implement projects aimed to strengthen safety and security of radioactive wastes. I would like to express my country's gratitude to the IAEA for provided support in this field.

I am pleased to note that this year the Moldovan Government has approved the National Strategy on Radioactive Waste Management with Action Plan for the next ten years.

Ms. President,

My country finds bilateral relations as an effective way to improve international cooperation. Therefore, it is utmost important for us to sign Memorandum of Understandings with regulatory authorities from other States. Our negotiations with United States has been successful in this regard as Implementing Agreement concerning cooperation in border security assistance and preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction was signed between the Department of Defence of the USA and the National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities of Moldova. Another accomplishment I would like to mention is the Memorandum of Understanding concluded with the State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine on Co-operation on Radiation and Nuclear Safety and Security.

Republic of Moldova is making efforts to support IAEA's initiatives building capacities through education and training of personnel. In this regard, I would like to express my country's gratitude to the IAEA, to the USA NRC, and Swedish Radiation Safety Authority for provided support in this field.

With the assistance of international partners, we managed to put under regulatory control over 3700 radioactive sources from bankrupted facilities, most of them being situated in

Transnistrian region of our country. These actions contributed to the considerable increase of the radioactive safety and security in the region.

To sum up my statement, let me express our sincere gratitude and look forward to continuing our constructive cooperation with the Secretariat and with all Member States.

Thank you for your kind attention!

