



**STATEMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**

**TO THE 61TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

By

Vienna, 18 - 22 September 2017

Madam President, Excellences, Distinguished  
Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to address you on behalf of the Delegation of the Republic of Serbia and to join previous speakers in congratulating you, Madam President, and to the other members of the Bureau, upon your election to this high office. I want to assure you of our full support and wish you every success in discharging this important task.

Let me use this occasion to extend my congratulations to the Director General, Yukiya Amano. on the appointment to this responsible post for the next four years. Serbia highly appreciates the results of the IAEA work under your leadership, and we are sure that the experience and professionalism of the Director General will contribute to further strengthening of the IAEA reputation.

I would also like to take this opportunity to join previous speakers in warmly welcoming Grenada as a new member of the Agency.

The Republic of Serbia has fully associated itself with the Statement of the European Union and therefore let me further highlight only those issues of particular importance to my country.

Madam  
President,

The Republic of Serbia remains strongly committed to all the fundamental principles and goals of the Agency towards safe and secure applications of nuclear energy for the peaceful purposes and in accordance with international instruments and practices. To that aim my country will continue to support the Agency's program on strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency in the successful implementation of verification measures and efforts for development of integrated safeguards in accordance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The importance which my country attaches to strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and to the suppression of nuclear terrorism is

represented, *inter alia* in a number of preparatory actions in the framework of ratification of the Additional Protocol to the NPT as well as in various activities on raising nuclear security awareness, where the national seminar held in Belgrade this year with participation of the representatives of many governmental agencies and with support of the IAEA, is of particular significance.

Madam  
President,

The activities in nuclear and radiation safety and security are the important institutional pillars of the IAEA. The Republic of Serbia has actively participated in the implementation of the Convex-3 (2017) exercise organized by the IAEA for the purpose of checking national emergency preparedness and response capabilities. This way, my country has once again confirmed its commitment to the basic goals of the IAEA.

Madam  
President,

On its way to achieving a full compatibility with the IAEA requirements in the field of nuclear security, the Republic of Serbia puts a lot of efforts to provide the instruments for legislative and regulative framework. Let me use this opportunity to inform you that the *Convention on Nuclear Safety and the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management* are in final stage of the ratification procedure.

Developing national regulations in the field of nuclear security provides a legal basis for developing of Design Basis Threat and physical protection system for operators as well as long - term plans and goals, such as the implementation of international conventions and strengthening professional capacities in the field of nuclear safety and security. Future plans of my country in this field are approval of Integrated Nuclear Security Plan, further implementation of Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, as well as of supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources.

Our efforts in capacity building and enhancing infrastructure in the field of radiation protection and nuclear safety are recognized by the IAEA and supported through several national and international projects providing relevant expertise, advice and technical assistance.

Although application of nuclear energy is controlled and covered by the set of national legal instruments, Serbia is strongly committed to further strengthening of its national nuclear legal and regulatory system making it more comprehensive and in compliance with the international safety standards and practices and with EU *acquis*.

Therefore we support the efforts of the Secretariat towards further improving of the international safety standards, recommendations and

relevant international legal and political documents, and we recognize its technical assistance as an essential support for any progress.

Madam  
President,

Before concluding, let me emphasize that the Republic of Serbia gives full support to the Agency's Report for 2016 as well as to the Program and Budget for 2018.

Madam President, Distinguished  
Delegates,

Let me conclude by reassuring you that the Republic of Serbia will continue to lend its full support to the Agency work and the work of its Secretariat standing on with its traditional orientation towards the peaceful uses of the nuclear energy. In this sense we also count on the support of other Member States in endorsing our candidature for membership on the IAEA Board of Governors for the period 2017-2019.

Thank you for your  
attention