

**Statement of the Republic of Moldova
at the 59th IAEA General Conference,
Vienna, September 14-18, 2015
presented by Mr Artur Buzdugan,
Director of the National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological
Activity**

Mr President,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the Moldovan Delegation, I am pleased to join the previous speakers in congratulating H.E. Ambassador Mr. Filippo Formica on his election as President of the fifty-ninth annual session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

I would like to assure you of our full support and cooperation. Also I wish to thank the IAEA Director General Mr. Yukia Amano and the Secretariat for their professional and impartial work.

We congratulate the new IAEA Member States Guyana, the Republic of Djibouti and Vanuatu which have joined the Agency since the last General Conference.

We welcome the applications for membership by Antigua and Barbuda, Turkmenistan and Barbados, too.

We equally welcome the transparent recognition of the importance of science, technology and innovation in all IAEA main activities and that will be take in consideration on the UN sustainability goals in the future mapamond

development. The results of recent Scientific Forum confirm the benefits of such decisions.

Mr President,

We are fully aligning with European Union statement presented by the distinguished delegate of Luxemburg.

Distinguished delegates,

Moldova is a country without any nuclear installation. In the end of the XX century, we started to build up our nuclear safety and security, and radiation protection infrastructure. Since 1997, Moldova has been a member of the IAEA and enjoyed its various networks of support for the creation and maintenance of the nuclear safety and security as well as radiation protection system that meets internationally recognized criteria.

In particular, we highly appreciate the technical cooperation programme of the IAEA and its role in enhancing nuclear safety and security and in transferring of peaceful use of nuclear technology.

The Moldovan Government attaches great importance to the responsibilities in the field of safeguards, nuclear safety and security. For regulation and supervision of these processes, in spite of constrains of the state budget, recently was decided to increase staff number for the Moldovan Regulatory Body with four units. We are determined to continue the excellent cooperation with the IAEA in order to achieve the highest level of nuclear safety and security in our activity.

Mr President,

The Moldovan Government is fully committed to promote universal adherence to nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament agreements. We regard the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as the cornerstone of the global

nuclear non-proliferation regime, the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament, in accordance with Article VI of the NPT, which is vital for further development of nuclear technologies for peaceful purposes.

Our Common Action Plan with the Department of Safeguards allows us to consistently implement our obligations on the Safeguards Agreement. The received assistance in equipment and training of personnel is extremely important for us.

In the framework of the domestic policy against the proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, we actively support UNSCR 1540 as well as other international initiatives, such as the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, the Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, and the Nuclear Security Summit process which contribute to strengthen nuclear security. We actively participate at the EU projects aimed to establish Centers of Excellence on CBRN risk mitigation worldwide.

With the constant support of the IAEA Office of Nuclear Security we consistently realize our common integrated action plan, which is regularly updated. Additionally, Regulatory Body from Moldova, in common with the first line authorities for emergency response organize twice per year domestic trainings in combating illicit traffics.

Mr President,

The Republic of Moldova strongly support the IAEA's Technical Cooperation Programme, and contribute to the financial obligations of the TC Programme. The Agency expertise helps us to develop competence in the safe use of radiation and to improve the national regulatory framework. For our country, participation in the IAEA programme is permanently relevant, for the efforts to establishing national education and training programmes.

We value the Agency's role in the crucial development of the peaceful applications of nuclear technology in the areas of human health, food and agriculture, water resources, environment, nuclear and radiation safety.

We support the activities carried out by the Agency with regard to PACT on achieving sustainable cancer control capacity. With contribution of IAEA DTC have been successfully implemented extremely important national projects, especially in the medical field as radio diagnostic, nuclear medicine and radiotherapy.

We hope to overcome some economic and financial constrains in implementing nuclear technologies in sterilization of medical and pharmaceutical products.

Distinguished delegates,

We would like to underline, that the Republic of Moldova is a signatory to all significant Conventions and Treaty regarding nuclear safety and security, radiation protection and non-proliferation. Making Moldova's obligations on establishing and upgrading domestic infrastructure for strengthening radiation protection, nuclear safety and security, non-proliferation would be impossible without the fruitful cooperation with other countries and without international expert assistance.

In the addition to the IAEA assistance, we are grateful for the support obtained in 2015 from the European Commission, the US Government, the Governments of Sweden, UK, Romania and Lithuania in various areas of nuclear safety and security, radiation protection, nonproliferation and preparation and maintenance of national human resources.

Mr President,

Distinguished delegates,

Taking full advantage of sharing the importance of the Agency's work, I would like to express Moldovan strong support for the IAEA activities aimed at further extension of peaceful use of atomic energy for the benefit of humanity, in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and increasing the level of international security.

Thank you