

STATEMENT BY MONGOLIA
MR.MANLAIJAV GUN-AAJAV
Secretary of Nuclear Energy Commission of Mongolia
at the 59th General Conference of the IAEA

Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

At the outset, I wish to join the previous speakers in congratulating Ambassador Filippo Formica upon your election as President of the 59th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. We are confident that under your leadership this Conference will accomplish its work successfully. You can be assured of full support and cooperation of our delegation.

Mongolia extends its very warm welcome to the Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, and Turkmenistan as the newest members of the Agency.

Mr. President,

My delegation expresses its sincere appreciation to Director General Yukiya Amano for his comprehensive insight of the Agency's work. The Agency has been making important contribution within its mandate in tackling global challenges by enhancing and strengthening nuclear safety and security, promoting peaceful use of nuclear sciences and technology for sustainable development. Like many others, I would like to commend the Agency for its significant contribution to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals over the last 15 years. Today, the Agency is called upon to play vital role in the achievement of the post-2015 development goals following their adoption by the UN General Assembly this year.

Mongolia welcomes the historic agreement on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) reached between E3/EU+3 and the Islamic Republic of Iran on 14 July 2015, and believes that its successful implementation would provide the international community with necessary

assurances in building confidence in the region by reaching a long-term comprehensive and peaceful solution to the Iran's nuclear issue. Mongolia also recognizes the importance of the UN Security Council resolution 2231 and the essential yet impartial role vested in the Agency with respect to the verification of the safeguards application in Iran. We welcome the establishment of subsequent road map between the Agency and Iran, and very much look forward to full conclusion of past and present outstanding issues pertaining Iran's nuclear programme by the end of 2015.

Regrettably, despite all the efforts of the parties, the 2015 NPT Review Conference came short of reaching a consensus on the substantive part of its draft Final Document and even so on the recommendations expected during the 3rd Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference. Hence, it merely signifies that even greater perseverance of efforts required from each and every states in bridging the gap to find common ground in promoting international peace and security.

Mongolia has always supported and made every effort to promote further the goals of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. As a party to the NPT and CTBT it strongly supports the establishment of nuclear weapon free zones around the world. In the same spirit, we share the view that the Korean Peninsula should be free of nuclear weapons. It is well known that Mongolia, on its part, declared its territory a nuclear-weapon-free zone back in 1992.

Mr. President,

The issues of safety and security are important for all countries, especially for those seeking nuclear power and other peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Mongolia is more eager to cooperate with the Agency and its Member States in strengthening national, regional and international standards. Thus, Mongolia is taking adequate measures in nuclear and radiation safety control systems to bring national infrastructure in conformity with international safety standards. In this respect, the Parliament of Mongolia amended Nuclear Energy Law in February this year. According to this amendment, the regulatory and promotional functions are separated as

independent but interrelated entities with clear cut visions – one is being a principal watchdog of maintaining safety and security under the General Agency of Specialized Inspection (GASI) while the other is promoting peaceful uses of nuclear energy and policy development in this respect under the restructured Nuclear Energy Commission (NEC) chaired by the Prime Minister of Mongolia.

This June, the Parliament of Mongolia issued a resolution to assure its nuclear-weapon-free status. It calls upon the Government to take robust actions towards acceding to the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, the Convention on Nuclear Safety and the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management as well as to the Small Quantity Protocol. Also, it's a great pleasure to announce that the Nuclear Energy Commission approved the "Mongolian Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan", which is prepared by the relevant national authorities and reviewed by the IAEA experts.

Nuclear power generation is one of the most prominent peaceful uses of atomic energy. IAEA's latest projections show that use of nuclear energy will continue to grow in coming decades. Mongolia is still one of the many countries that are aiming to expand use of nuclear energy in various sectors of its social-economic development. In this regard, Mongolia welcomes the Agency's comprehensive Report on the Fukushima Daiichi accident with a view of continually upgrading and improvising the measure and standards to ensure utmost safety and security based on lessons learned. It is a matter of great importance to integrate the outcomes and activities resulting from the Agency's Action Plan on Nuclear Safety with the lessons learned from the report into the Agency's regular programme to continue beyond 2015.

Mr. President,

Allow me to further touch on some aspects of our cooperation with IAEA. The transfer of nuclear technology and knowledge is a great importance and the Agency's technical cooperation programmes are providing such

opportunities. Mongolia is a developing country with limited infrastructure, expertise and human resources. That is why we would like the Agency to continue to provide assistance in capacity building, development of skilled and well-trained human resources and establishing an infrastructure that can utilize nuclear technology application for civilian uses. My delegation expresses its firm support for the Director General's goal of fully modernizing the nuclear application laboratories under the ReNuAL Project and my Government will make its modest contribution on its part.

I am pleased to highlight that since its membership to the IAEA, Mongolia has successfully implemented national projects in the areas of health, food and agriculture, industry, science, geology, mining and radiation protection with the IAEA assistance. We note with satisfaction that the Mongolia - IAEA Country Programme Framework (CPF) for period 2009-2014 has been a great success in many ways for the socio-economic development. This year we will sign the "Mongolia - IAEA CPF for the period of 2016-2021" with same emphasis on human health, agriculture, environmental protection, water management, radioactive minerals, radiation protection and nuclear safety.

Mr. President

The active participation of my country in the Regional Cooperative Agreement (RCA) brings significant advances in the development of nuclear research and nuclear technology transfer, as well as broadening cooperation with RCA-member countries in the development of human resources. Thus, I am pleased to inform that Mongolia is going to host the 38th RCA National Representatives Meeting next year in our capital Ulaanbaatar, and therefore encourage your active participation.

In conclusion, I would like to once again assure you, Mr. President, of our full support and cooperation in achieving the utmost outcome during your presidency.

Thank you.