

Information Circular

INFCIRC/1105

Date: 27 June 2023

General Distribution
Original: English, Russian

Communication dated 27 June 2023 received from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the Agency

1. The Secretariat has received a Note Verbale dated 27 June 2023 from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the Agency.
2. As requested, the Note Verbale is herewith circulated for the information of all Member States.

ПОСТОЯННОЕ ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬСТВО
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ
ПРИ МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫХ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯХ
В ВЕНЕ



PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
IN VIENNA

Erzherzog-Karl-Strasse 182
A-1220 Wien

Tel. (043-1) 282 53 91, 282 53 93
Fax (043-1) 280 56 87

№ 2513-2

The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency and has the honour to convey the text of the comment by Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova on speculations about nuclear risks allegedly generated by Russia:

“We regard the Kiev regime and its overseas patrons’ statements about Russia allegedly posing threats to the Zaporozhye NPP (ZNPP), as a vile provocation. This is yet another attempt to discredit Russia, ascribe to it non-existent intentions, and simultaneously cover up their criminal – and actually terrorist – plans to create a nuclear accident that will endanger the life and health of people in the region and all over Europe.

Representatives of the Kiev regime would use any pretext to plant disinformation about nuclear risks allegedly issuing from Russia, although in reality they are their main source. It is the current Ukrainian authorities that have been endangering the safety of Europe’s largest nuclear power plant for months. This fact is no longer a secret to anyone regardless of whether the observers are bold enough to call a spade a spade. All the top people at the UN and the IAEA, as well as in the world capitals, including those that direct and mentor or influence the Zelensky regime, understand everything.

THE SECRETARIAT OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
Vienna

There were repeated attempts to convince Kiev that it should refrain from provocations, including attempts mediated by IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi. But Ukraine has long opted for an escalation and is unwilling to leave this path. One of the latest cases in point is Ukraine's refusal to support the recommendations on strengthening the plant's nuclear and physical safety, which IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi made at his UN Security Council briefing on May 30. It must be added that the Ukrainian authorities have always cold shouldered Mr Grossi's reasonable initiatives. An anti-Russia hysteria and calls for terrorist attacks against ZNPP is the only thing they project to the international community. The entire unseemly nature of the Zelensky regime surfaced on June 23, when the Russian secret services prevented a group of Ukrainian agents from buying a batch of Caesium-137, which the criminals planned to use in stage-managed radioactive incidents aimed at discrediting Russia.

The situation being what it is, we once again warn the Kiev regime and its Western supporters against engineering potentially grave accidents at ZNPP and call on the IAEA and its leadership to take advantage of their experts' presence at the plant and record all cases of Ukrainian attacks. They should not look the other way; their job is to clearly indicate who is to blame for the present situation and where the threat to this facility's safe functioning comes from.

We note that this latest provocation by the Kiev regime squares in time and meaning with the draft resolution submitted by US senators Lindsey Graham and Richard Blumenthal urging that an instance of radioactive contamination in Ukraine be regarded as a pretext for activating Art. 5 of the Washington Treaty complete with the launching of NATO's relevant political and military response mechanisms. In other words, the current hybrid war with Russia should be converted to a direct military clash. The resolution is highly hypocritical, too, with the senators declaring that the conflict should not involve US forces. Thereby they are leaving it to America's European allies to deal with all the disastrous consequences of their provocation.

It is clear that these irresponsible statements by the Washington hawks are meant for audiences that are ignorant of facts and realities. President Vladimir Putin has repeatedly stated that there is no need for Russia to use nuclear weapons in the context of the Ukraine crisis.

As for Russia's steps to develop Russian-Belarusian cooperation in the military nuclear sphere, which the US senators are trying to link to Russia's special military operation without any reason whatsoever, we would like to remind them that the United States has deployed its nuclear weapons in non-nuclear countries for decades and stubbornly refuses to revise its policy. At the same time, it consistently builds up its hostile efforts to undermine the security of the Union State.

Washington prefers not to notice the obvious. We are faced with a typical situation where the US and its satellites are out to seize at any opportunity to create scare stories about a "Russian nuclear threat" and blow them out of all proportion. In this way, the United States deliberately continues to "up the ante" and generate strategic risks, involving its NATO allies in this dangerous game. This reckless policy will lead to extremely sad consequences, including for Washington itself."

The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation requests the Secretariat to circulate this note verbale as an IAEA information circular.

The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the IAEA Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, " 24 " June 2023