



## European Union

### Statement on the occasion of the IAEA Board of Governors

Vienna, 14-18 September 2020

### Agenda item 4: Programme Performance Report 2018-2019

Madam Chair,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. [The following countries align themselves with this statement: Turkey<sup>§</sup>, the Republic of North Macedonia\*, Montenegro\*, Iceland\*, Serbia\*, Albania\*, Bosnia and Herzegovina\*, Liechtenstein\*, Norway\*, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and San Marino.]
2. *The European Union would like to thank the Director General for his Programme Performance Report as contained in document GOV/2020/29.*

The EU welcomes the Programme Performance Report and its enhanced format. The report is well-structured and provides an overview of how the outcomes in the different programmes were achieved along with performance indicators to measure the achievements, as well as lessons learned and follow-up actions. As such, it reflects the Agency's Results-based approach and adds to our common understanding. We welcome the achievement of 96% of the targets at programme level and the full utilisation of the budget.

3. As stated on numerous occasions, the EU strongly supports the Agency's ongoing work to continuously improve the implementation of a Results Based Approach to its programme and budget. Results Based Management (RBM), when properly implemented, is a crucial element of programme planning and monitoring. RBM enables continuous programme improvement and is key in strengthening the effectiveness of the IAEA's programme delivery to meet Member States' needs and to make the most efficient use of resources.

Madam Chair,

4. We also encourage the Agency to continue its welcome work to improve the quality and utilization of quantifiable performance indicators and to provide a more objective measurement of progress and performance against expected results. Alongside RBM, risk

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<sup>§</sup> Candidate Country

\* Candidate Countries the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania as well as potential Candidate Country Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

+ Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein are members of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

management and internal controls should be continuously strengthened in close cooperation with the OIOS.

5. The EU fully supports cross-functional cooperation and synergies and consider that good coordination between the Agency's Departments is crucial to the efficient and integrated programme delivery. We welcome the information in the report that DG Grossi has placed special emphasis on inter-departmental cooperation, collaboration and coherence. We welcome the specific examples contained in the report. In our view, the Agency would do well in future Programme Performance Reports as well as in Mid-term Progress Reports, to report systematically on initiatives and outcomes in achieving this one-house approach within the organisation. This would both underscore the importance which the Director General attaches to the matter, and help meeting a significant number of recommendations, which the OIOS put forward in recent years. Equally, we encourage reporting on efforts to ensure coordination with other UN and non-UN agencies.

Finally, Madam Chair,

6. We welcome the focus on managing cross-cutting issues, including those related to effective human resources policies, gender equality and mainstreaming and the empowerment of women. We encourage continued attention to such issues.
7. Finally, we recognize increased transparency about the Agency's work as well as increased multilingualism and believe these will serve to expand the IAEA's visibility and maintain broad public interest.
8. With these comments, the EU supports the recommended Board action set forth in GOV/2020/29.

Thank you, Madam Chair.