



European Union

Statement on the occasion of the IAEA Board of Governors

Vienna, 14-18 September 2020

Agenda item 9(d): NPT Safeguards Agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran

Madam Chair,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The following countries align themselves with this statement: [alignment clause].
2. The European Union would like to thank the Director General for his report contained in document GOV/2020/47 on the NPT Safeguards Agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran and Deputy Director General Aparo for the technical briefing on 9 September 2020.
3. The EU welcomes the Director General's comprehensive and timely update on the implementation of the NPT Safeguards Agreement and the Additional Protocol in Iran, and on efforts and interactions with Iran to clarify information relating to the correctness and completeness of Iran's declarations under its Safeguards Agreement and Additional Protocol. We commend the Director General and the Secretariat for their professional, objective and impartial work in verifying Iran's compliance with its safeguards obligations.
4. The EU also welcomes the fact that the IAEA evaluates all safeguards-relevant information available to it in line with standard practice and we encourage it to continue to do so. We underline that such comprehensive evaluation is essential in ascertaining that there are no indications of diversion of declared nuclear material from peaceful nuclear activities and no indications of undeclared nuclear material and activities in any State with a comprehensive safeguards agreement.
5. The EU Member States welcome the encouraging developments that occurred since the resolution adopted at the last meeting of the Board of Governors. The EU takes note of the discussions conducted in Tehran by Director General Grossi with President Hassan Rouhani, Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and Vice-President and Head of the Atomic Energy Organization in Iran Ali Akbar Salehi. We welcome the Joint Statement issued on 26 August 2020, by Director General Grossi and Dr. Salehi, which lays out a concrete way forward in full respect of the technical mandate given to the IAEA. We note in particular that Iran is committed to providing the requested accesses to two locations, and that one complementary access was already conducted, while the other one is expected to take place later in September 2020 on a date already agreed. We also note that the Agency has conducted an additional nuclear material inventory at a declared facility in Iran. We look forward to the full implementation of the agreement reached by Iran and the IAEA, as mentioned in their Joint Statement.
6. We see the aforementioned developments as positive steps in the right direction. Providing the requested accesses and clarifying questions related to possible undeclared nuclear material and nuclear-related activities, in accordance with the obligations under

the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and the Additional Protocol, are essential steps towards providing credible assurance of the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities, and of the correctness and completeness of Iran's related declarations. We commend the IAEA's dedication to resolve the aforementioned issues with Iran in an impartial, objective, professional and cooperative manner. We note that the verification activities will proceed in accordance with the Agency's standard practise, which includes the continued evaluation of all available safeguards-relevant information.

7. To conclude, Madame Chair, the EU reiterates its support and trust in the IAEA for the fulfilment of its mandate under the NPT safeguards agreements. We expect the timely resolution of all outstanding issues.
8. The EU takes note of the report and looks forward that the Director General continues to report to the Board of Governors, as appropriate, and would welcome that this report is made public.

Thank you, Madam Chair.