

Norway

IAEA Board of Governors, March 2023

Statement under the agenda item on Nuclear Safety, Security and Safeguards in Ukraine

Mr. Chair,

- Norway stands fully behind the Joint Statement delivered by Canada and aligns with the statement made by Sweden on behalf of the EU. I will add the following in a national capacity.
- Just over a year ago Russia set in motion its full-scale war of aggression against Ukraine. We, yet again, condemn Russia's illegal and unprovoked war, which has brought military action close to nuclear facilities, thus increasing the risk of a nuclear catastrophe, endangering nuclear safety and security for us all.
- We have taken note of the DG's report on Nuclear Safety, Security and Safeguards in Ukraine from 20 February.
- We particularly appreciate that the Agency analysis refutes allegations made by the Russian Federation with regards to the development of so-called "dirty bombs" – and are surprised that the esteemed Russian ambassador decided to repeat these allegations today without any supporting evidence.
- We ask the DG to convey our appreciation to the Agency staff involved in IAEA Support and Assistance Missions in Ukraine.
- We recall the Board's three resolutions deploring Russia's actions in Ukraine and, yet again, call upon Russia to immediately remove *all* its personnel and military equipment from the Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant. Their command lines and organisational structure are not relevant.
- Russia's attempt to justify their presence at ZNPP as necessary for the plant's security has no merit. There were no issues concerning safety and security at Ukraine's nuclear facilities prior to Russia's invasion – and once Russia has returned control of the ZNPP and Ukrainian sovereign territory to Ukrainian authorities, that will again be the reality.
- We reiterate our support to the State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine (SNRIU) and applaud its commitment to ensuring continuing nuclear safety and security in Ukraine under severe circumstances. Let me also recommend the publication "Voices of Ukraine" by the World

Institute of Nuclear Security, which documents the hardships experienced by those working in the nuclear sector in Ukraine, especially women.

- To conclude, we, yet again, urge the Russian Federation to immediately withdraw its forces from within Ukraine's internationally recognised borders and cease all threats and military actions, including in the vicinity of, or directed at, nuclear facilities. This would restore Ukraine's ability to ensure safe and secure operations, and the IAEA to fully resume its safeguards verification activities.

Thank you.