

Norway

IAEA Board of Governors, March 2023

Statement under agenda item on Verification and monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran in light of UNSC resolution 2231 (2015)

- Norway aligns itself with the statement made by Sweden on behalf of the EU. In my national capacity I would like to add the following.
- We thank the Director General for his independent and objective report issued on 28 February and appreciate the technical briefing given by DDG Aparo on 1 March.
- For more than two years, the Agency has not had access to information from monitoring and surveillance equipment installed for activities in relation to the JCPOA. Since the removal of the equipment in June 2022, no such information exists. As a result, IAEA will not be able to re-establish continuity of knowledge, even with a full resumption of Iran's nuclear related commitments under the JCPOA. This is a matter of serious concern.
- It is doubtful that IAEA will be able to establish a new baseline without considerable uncertainties, making it difficult for the Agency to provide assurance of the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme.
- There are no credible civilian purposes to some of Iran's efforts to increase production and stockpiling of HEU and irreversible enrichment R&D and we find these activities highly concerning.
- We would welcome a clarification regarding the uranium particles containing up to 83.7 % U-235 found at the Fordow Fuel Enrichment Plant.
- Let me end by reiterating that Norway has been a strong supporter of the JCPOA and hopes to see the agreement revived in a meaningful way.
- Thank you.