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INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

BOARD OF GOVERNORS' MEETINGS

(March 9, 2020)

Agenda Item 4: Nuclear Technology Review 2020

Statement by India

Madam Chair,

We associate ourselves with the statement delivered by the distinguished Ambassador of Malaysia on behalf of G-77 and China and would like to add few additional comments in our national capacity.

At the outset India could like to refer to the report by the intergovernmental panel on climate change as referred in the NTR-2020. The report presents a strong case for limiting the global temperature increase to 1.5 degree Celsius above the preindustrial level, and presents various emission pathways, and projects along with the need for substantial expansion of nuclear power for climate change mitigation for achieving this target. This report substantiates the views expressed by the delegation of India on several occasions in the Board, that nuclear power plays a significant role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, fighting climate change and in realization of the SDGs. The global energy demands will continue to grow, and in order to ensure sustainable low-carbon energy generation, nuclear power will remain a credible option and an important component of future growth strategies of many countries.

India pursues a low-carbon growth model and is fully committed to the Paris Agreement. As part of our overall energy security and clean energy policy, India plans for rapid expansion of nuclear power generation capacity. Presently we have 21 reactors under construction and planning. This will increase the capacity to over 22,000 MWe by the end of next decade.

Madam Chair

✓ / ✓  
The Tarapur Atomic Power Station Units 1 & 2, connected to grid in April and May 1969, have completed over 50 years of safe operation. These are currently the oldest operating power <sup>plants</sup> reactors in the world, producing nuclear power at less than 3 cents per unit. Such achievements demonstrate India's ability to design, build and reliably operate PHWRs & LWRs.

Madam Chair,

India has made huge progress in utilisation of radiation technologies for societal uses. We are willing to share our knowledge and expertise with our partners. The process has already set in motion through increased interactions and concrete collaborations in all areas of nuclear technologies concerning human life, be it power, health, agriculture or human capital development. We are determined to take this collaboration to the next level.

I am happy to share that India launched a global cancer care network, "NCG-Vishwam Cancer Care Connect" (NCG-Vishwam 3C) during its side event on the sidelines of the General Conference in 2019. NCG- Vishwam envisages integration of the hospitals and relevant cancer care institutes in partner countries with the

National Cancer Grid (NCG) of India. NCG managed by Tata Memorial Centre, was established in 2012 with the vision of creating uniform standards of cancer care across India and has now grown to a large network of 183 cancer centres, and hospitals. We hope that NCG-Vishwam 3C will bring a paradigm shift in cancer care in the form of sharing guidelines for management of common cancer, giving second opinion, deciding on treatment, sharing online resources, etc.

Madam Chair,

The Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP), established by India in 2010, has been steadily strengthening its portfolio of programmes and has been conducting several international and regional programmes in cooperation with <sup>the</sup> IAEA. The Centre is equipped to conduct programmes in the areas of advanced nuclear energy system studies, nuclear security studies, radiological safety studies, nuclear material characterization and on applications of radioisotopes and radiation technologies. In last one year, the Center has hosted various multilateral, bilateral training courses, technical meetings, workshops in the field of nuclear security, safety and other allied areas. In addition, the Center has developed various laboratories for facilitating training in topical areas e.g. model Emergency Response Center, Access Control Lab etc. We look forward to the further strengthening of the partnership between the GCNEP, the IAEA and Member States.

We acknowledge the dynamic role played by the IAEA in guiding peaceful uses of nuclear energy, ensuring safety and security, and look forward to its continued and vital support for providing a conducive atmosphere for the growth of nuclear science and technology. India stands ready to support the IAEA in its endeavors.

With these comments, Madam Chair, we take note of Nuclear Technology Review 2020 as contained in the document GOV/2020/4.

Thank you