



EU Statement by

**H.E. Mrs. Györgyi Martin Zanathy
Ambassador
Head of the Delegation of the European Union
to the International Organisations in Vienna**

**2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the
Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)**

Main Committee III

**United Nations
New York
4 May 2015**

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union.

1. The Candidate Countries Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Serbia* and Albania*, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, align themselves with this statement.
2. The EU reaffirms its support for the inalienable right of all Parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, without discrimination and in conformity with Articles I, II and III of the Treaty. The European Union is strongly committed to the objectives of Article IV. Through multilateral and bilateral cooperation programmes, the EU supports many peaceful and beneficial applications of nuclear technology, in particular in developing countries.
3. The EU recalls that the conditions laid down by the NPT for the exercise of the right to use nuclear energy are: the observance of non-proliferation commitments, the implementation of IAEA safeguards and the pursuit, in accordance with the good-faith principle, of purely peaceful purposes.
4. Following the adoption by consensus of the Action Plan set out in the final document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference, the EU and its Member States have addressed, and are continuing to address, further international co-operation, based on the safe and secure development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Conscious of the obligations under Article IV of the Treaty, the EU and its Member States are open to cooperation with all interested countries within this framework, while ensuring that sensitive technologies and goods are not disseminated for purposes other than peaceful ones.

Mr. Chairman,

5. The EU and its Member States are strong supporters of the IAEA's Technical Cooperation Programme, including through the TC Fund and the Peaceful Uses Initiative. We support the prolongation of the Peaceful Uses Initiative after 2015 and encourage all States to consider making a contribution to it. We value the Agency's role in the responsible development of peaceful applications of nuclear technology in the areas of human health, food and agriculture, water resources, environment, preservation of cultural heritage, nuclear and radiation safety, and nuclear energy. Part of this work is provided via the IAEA's Nuclear Sciences and Applications Laboratories at Seibersdorf (NA Laboratories). We therefore welcome the Director General's initiative regarding the modernization of the

* *The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.*

NA Laboratories (“ReNuAL”). The European Union supports both the IAEA, and IAEA Member States, in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and technology, also through technical expertise.

6. We welcome the constructive dialogue conducted in 2014 among Member States related to the financing of IAEA activities including technical cooperation. We encourage all States to identify new ways of mobilizing supplementary funds for IAEA activities, as well as opportunities for new partnerships with the private sector, development agencies and international organizations.
7. The EU continues to promote multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle, which may help provide nuclear fuel supply security without distorting the existing well-functioning market and under the best safety, security and non-proliferation conditions. We invite all parties concerned to engage constructively to make progress on the establishment of the IAEA Low Enriched Uranium Bank so that concrete results can be reported on project completion and so that assurances are given that the project is developed under the best safety and security conditions.
8. Through the EU Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC), €524 million over the period 2007-2013, and an additional €225 million for the period 2014-2020, was allocated to the promotion of nuclear safety, radiation protection and the application of efficient and effective safeguards of nuclear materials in third countries. This instrument supports projects in the field of safety in Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Latin America, South East Asia, Northern Africa and the Middle East.
9. Through other EU Instruments, out of €349 million dedicated to Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) risk mitigation worldwide, more than €260 million in the period 2014-2020 has been allocated to the EU’s regional CBRN Centres of Excellence initiative.
10. The Fukushima accident highlighted the need to regularly assess and continuously improve, as far as reasonably practicable, the safety of nuclear installations. That shall include measures for the prevention of accidents and the mitigation of the consequences of accidents. The EU and its Member States are substantially contributing to the Comprehensive Fukushima Report of the IAEA. The IAEA Action Plan on nuclear safety reflects priority actions to be taken by the international community in this regard. We invite the IAEA to maintain a dynamic and multi-annual vision of priorities in the field of nuclear safety after the end of the Action Plan in 2015. On 8 July 2014, the Council of the European Union, adopted a new Directive to strengthen the safety framework for nuclear installations including NPP’s, research reactors, fuel cycle facilities, as well as on-site storage facilities. This Directive, which will be transposed into the legislation of all EU Member States by August 2017 at the latest, sets the objectives of preventing accidents and, should they occur,

mitigating the consequences and avoiding early and large radioactive releases. These objectives will apply to all new nuclear installations and will be used as a reference for the implementation of safety improvements to existing nuclear installations with a view to strengthening nuclear safety.

Mr. Chairman,

11. The EU welcomes the 'Vienna Declaration on Nuclear Safety', which aims at strengthening nuclear safety and increasing transparency. The Vienna Declaration was adopted at the Diplomatic Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, which took place on 9 February 2015 in Vienna. The EU actively contributed to the Vienna Declaration, the objectives of which were already enacted in EU legally binding legislation. The EU, recalling that the implementation of the objectives of the Declaration will be subject to peer reviews in the framework of the next CNS Review Meeting in 2017, urges all Parties to the Convention to fulfil them without delay.
12. The EU stresses that the responsible development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy should take place under the best safety, security and non-proliferation conditions. In this context, the EU invites IAEA Member States to host Integrated Regulatory Review Service and other Peer Review Missions, and to conduct national reviews on a regular basis. We encourage all States to enhance transparency in the field of nuclear safety, for example by publishing the results of Peer Review Missions and by announcing the programme of Peer Review Missions for the following years. The EU calls on all States to review nuclear installations on the basis of a comprehensive and transparent risk and safety assessment, if not already done so.
13. With the objective of ensuring that development of nuclear energy takes places in a safe and responsible manner, the EU also encourages all States to develop and implement policies and national programmes for the safe and long term management of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste, including their disposal, generated on the State's territory.
14. The EU encourages the Review Conference to express support for the further development of national, bilateral, regional and international cooperation with regard to education and awareness raising to ensure adequate training and qualification of the workforce required, including using new information technologies as appropriate, for the responsible development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy.
15. We underline the importance of continuing international cooperation in order to strengthen nuclear safety and security, safe waste and spent fuel management, emergency preparedness and response arrangements and radiological protection. We call upon States that have not yet done so to accede to all Conventions, as appropriate as soon as possible, and to implement fully the ensuing commitments.

16. We note that States where appropriate, also give due consideration to the possibility of joining nuclear liability instruments.
17. The EU underlines the importance of robust security in the management of nuclear and radioactive materials, recognising that this is a national responsibility. Effective physical protection regimes, the fostering of a strong nuclear security culture, and the establishment of appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks, all contribute to preventing illicit appropriation of nuclear or radioactive material, protecting nuclear facilities against malicious acts including sabotage, and protecting materials while in transport. The IAEA's efforts in these areas play a prominent role in strengthening nuclear security worldwide.

Mr. Chairman,

18. The EU believes that strengthening the international nuclear non-proliferation regime constitutes an important element in the further development of nuclear applications for peaceful purposes. The EU thus calls on all NPT State Parties to be united in recommending to the Review Conference specific measures for ensuring the responsible development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, under the best safety, security, and non-proliferation conditions, by countries who wish to start or develop capacities in this field.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.