

**Statement by the delegation of Kazakhstan
to the IAEA Board of Governors
(5-9 March 2018)**

**Agenda item 4. Verification and monitoring in the Islamic Republic
of Iran in light of United Nations Security Council resolution 2231 (2015)**

Would like to thank the Director General for the report on the verification and monitoring the Islamic Republic of Iran in light of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015). Let me also thank DDG Tero Varjoranta for the technical briefing on this matter.

Kazakhstan has always supported the process of international negotiations on the Iranian nuclear programme and made a practical contribution to it.

Kazakhstan appreciates the Agency for its activities to verify and monitor Iran's implementation of its nuclear-related commitments in accordance with the modalities set out in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

We believe that implementation of the JCPOA and strict observance of obligations taken by all parties to the Agreement is crucial for strengthening the non-proliferation regime and regional security, as well as ensure implementation of legal and absolute rights of every Member State of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) to develop peaceful nuclear activities provided they fully observe the provisions of the NPT, the Safeguards Agreement with the IAEA and the Additional Protocol to it.

Thank you.

**Statement by the delegation of Kazakhstan
to the IAEA Board of Governors
(5-9 March 2018)**

Agenda item 7. Any other business

Since Kazakhstan became a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in 1994, it has not been a part of any of the Agency's regional groups. This is the main procedural obstacle to our country's full participation in the work of the Agency, as well as its appointment to one of the elected bodies, including the Board of Governors, despite being a responsible IAEA Member State with an active stance on nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

As you are aware, Article 6 of the IAEA Statute does not define the composition of the 8 regional groups that are represented on the Board of Governors. Traditionally, the Agency Member States are unofficially divided among regional groups on the basis of geographic representation, as in other UN-system organizations, but affiliation is not strictly defined. Furthermore, the Statute does not define membership affiliation for newly-accepted Member States, which was the case for Kazakhstan in 1994.

Kazakhstan has repeatedly highlighted the issue of placing member states into regional groups of the Agency. It appears important that the Agency and its member states will make active efforts and once again

consider a necessity of equal treatment of all member states concerning their rights to have a guaranteed place in the relevant regional groups.

First of all, it will help to solve the problem of the so-called “groupless” member states. This will also facilitate their full scaled participation in the Agency’s activities.

As part of our national activities the Ministry of Energy of Kazakhstan has started the ratification process of the Amendment to the Article 6 of the IAEA Statute. The Head of Kazakhstan’s delegation, the Minister of Energy in his statement at the 61st session of the IAEA General Conference also raised this issue.

In this regard I have to stress that this situation is abnormal and call upon all the Member States and the IAEA Secretariat to make efforts to resolve this matter. I also urge Governors and the Board to render all reasonable assistance to bring this issue to a close.

I would also like to invite to a workshop on Promoting Successful Outcome of the 2018 NPT PrepCom, which will be co-organised by Kazakhstan and Austria.

The workshop will take place in the Vienna International Centre on 4 April, from 10 am to 6 pm. The information on the programme will be additionally communicated.

Thank you.