

Statement by UAE

NPT Review Conference 2015 - Cluster 3- General Issues

Delivered by H.E. Ambassador Hamad Al Kaabi,

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Mr. Chairman,

Allow me at the outset to congratulate you on your assumption of the chairmanship of this committee and assure you my delegation full support and cooperation.

UAE recognizes the right of every State party to the NPT to the peaceful use of nuclear energy and as a means of addressing climate change and energy security concerns. We emphasize the importance of increased accessibility and broader application of nuclear technology in fields such as human health, agriculture, water management and industrial applications.

UAE of the view that nuclear power programmes should be developed in a fully transparent way, abiding by the highest standards of nuclear safety, security and non-proliferation.

My delegation stresses the importance of a robust international cooperation to facilitate transfer of peaceful nuclear technology and material, and to strengthen nuclear safety and security. IAEA is placed at a central Role at this international framework to support member states in the development of peaceful uses in a safe and responsible manner.

UAE continues to make significant progress in the development of its peaceful nuclear power programme. In 2012 we started the construction of the first reactor followed by the second unit in 2013. Four nuclear power reactors are under construction today in advanced stages.

We place great emphasis on nuclear safety. My country commends the IAEA on-going efforts in the area of nuclear safety. We are committed to implementing the IAEA Nuclear Safety Action Plan and fully support the recently concluded Vienna declaration on nuclear safety. We support on-going evaluation and updating of IAEA safety standards to take into consideration lessons learned. We further support industry efforts to continually evaluate and improve nuclear safety, and we welcome IAEA peer review services as important tools.

I note here the importance of the international instruments in the area of nuclear safety, security, non-proliferation and liability. We encourage all States that have not yet done so to become party to these instruments. The Convention on Nuclear Safety is an important one, especially for states with significant nuclear facilities. We call here on Iran to join the CNS, Iran is the only country with significant nuclear activities who is not party to this very important convention.

My country recognizes the threat posed by the existence of any unsecured nuclear material and facilities as well as the threat of nuclear terrorism. UAE supports IAEA role in the area of nuclear security, and welcome Nuclear Security Summit Series outcome since inception in 2010 with the most recent Summit in The Hague in 2014.

In the scope of civil liability for nuclear damage, my country recognizes the importance of establishing a national liability framework, and the development of harmonized international liability regime. We welcome the recent entry into force of the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage.

UAE continues to support multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle. We welcome progress to date on the establishment of IAEA LEU Bank which the UAE has contributed US \$10 million. We encourage further developments of multilateral approaches and services on front and back ends of the fuel cycle.

An increased number of states expressed interest in developing peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The Review Conference should continue to address issues related to promotion of responsible development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, strengthening nuclear safety and the development of sustainable arrangements of assistance to newcomer countries in the nuclear energy field.

We look forward to constructive deliberations in this committee.

Thank You.