



Statement of the G-77 and China
During the IAEA 2nd Special Session of the General Conference
Delivered by H.E. Ambassador Omar Amer Youssef,
Permanent Representative of Egypt

02 December 2019

Madam President,

I would like to thank you **Madam President** for presiding over this meeting and assure you of the full cooperation of the Group of 77 and China in discharge of your mandate.

The Group of 77 and China would like to warmly congratulate once again the Argentine Republic and Ambassador Rafael Grossi on his appointment by acclamation as the sixth Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency and expresses its satisfaction with the election of a member of the Group.

The Group would like also to seize the opportunity and thank the Chair of the Board, Ambassador Mikaela Kumlin Granit for the exemplary manner in which she conducted the process of appointing the new Director General.

Likewise, the Group of 77 and China would like to express its gratitude to Mr. Cornel Feruta, for his dedication and efforts to the Agency's work since the demise of Director General Amano and wish him success in his new endeavors.

The Group of 77 and China feels it necessary to reiterate its profound sadness over the passing away of Director General Yukiya Amano, who led the International Atomic Energy Agency with great wisdom and exemplary professionalism.

The Group of 77 and China considers this meeting an opportune time to reflect on some of the basic principles it adheres in relations with the work of the Agency, as follows:

1. The Group reiterates its long-held view that the Agency's activities should reflect the balance between the three pillars of the Agency's work, namely; the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear technology including technical cooperation; safety; and safeguards.
2. The Group acknowledges the role of the Agency in conducting capacity building activities across its programme of work for nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, and emergency preparedness and response, as well

as in strengthening global, regional and national safety networks and forums. The Group believes that the Agency should be fully geared to help its Member States, particularly the developing countries, in harnessing nuclear technologies to meet multifarious development challenges in the fields of health, agriculture, industry and environmental protection.

3. The Group recognizes the unique role that the Agency plays in enhancing the capabilities of Member States and reiterates that there is a fundamental need to enhance the transfer of nuclear technology to and sharing of nuclear knowledge with developing countries, and that the promotion and transfer of nuclear technology for sustainable socioeconomic progress in developing countries is the main statutory function of the Agency.
4. The Group further stresses the importance of maintaining an adequate balance between the Agency's promotional and non-promotional activities.
5. The Group reiterates the paramount importance of the Agency's Technical Cooperation Program (TCP) as the main vehicle for the Agency's statutory function of encouraging and assisting research on, and development and practical application of, atomic energy for peaceful uses throughout the world. The Technical Cooperation Program plays an important role for the sustainable socioeconomic progress in developing countries and contributes towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
6. The Group reiterates its view that the resources available for the TC Programme should be sufficient, assured and predictable to meet the objectives mandated in Article II of the Statute, and should be increased taking into account the Indicative Planning Figures (IPFs), the increasing number of Member States with a national TCP, and the evolution in the level of the regular budget.
7. The Group would also like to emphasize its commitment to gender mainstreaming and geographical distribution as guiding principles for International Organizations. The Group continues to follow up on substantive aspects of gender mainstreaming in the Agency in the most effective and efficient manner.

To conclude, Madam President, the Group expresses its conviction that Ambassador Grossi's leadership, experience and knowledge have prepared him to lead the Agency in an inclusive, impartial, effective and professional manner that will enhance the work and activities of the Agency in continuing to meet the growing challenges, taking into account in particular the needs of the developing countries especially in the field of peaceful uses of the Atomic Energy. The Group assures the new Director General of its full support and cooperation in discharge of his professional duties during his term.

Thank you Madam President.