



European Union

Statement on the occasion of the IAEA Board of Governors

Vienna, 15-20 June 2020

Agenda item 6e: NPT Safeguards Agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran

Madam Chair,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The following countries align themselves with this statement: [alignment clause].

2. The European Union would like to thank the Director General for his report contained in document GOV/2020/30 on the NPT Safeguards Agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran and Deputy Director General Aparo for the technical briefing on 10 June 2020.

3. The EU welcomes the Director General's comprehensive and timely update on the implementation of the NPT Safeguards Agreement and the Additional Protocol in Iran. We commend the Director General and the Secretariat for their professional, technical and impartial work in verifying Iran's safeguards obligations.

4. The EU also welcomes the fact that the IAEA evaluates all safeguards-relevant information available to it in line with standard practice and we encourage it to continue to do so. We underline that such comprehensive evaluation is essential in ascertaining that there are no indications of diversion of declared nuclear material from peaceful nuclear activities and no indications of undeclared nuclear material and activities in a State with a comprehensive safeguards agreement.

5. The EU takes note of the two rounds of technical discussions held between the IAEA and Iran since the previous IAEA report issued in March. We also take note that the Agency has made every effort to provide Iran with additional information relating to the technical basis underlying the reasons for the Agency's questions and requests for access. We welcome the IAEA's dedication to resolve the aforementioned issues with Iran in an impartial and professional manner.

6. The EU deeply regrets that, for over four months, Iran has denied access to the Agency, under the relevant provisions of the Additional Protocol, to two locations and, for almost a year, has not engaged in any substantive discussion to clarify questions related to possible undeclared nuclear material and nuclear-related activities. This is adversely affecting the ability of the Agency to clarify and resolve the questions and thereby to provide credible assurance of the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities at these locations in Iran.

7. The EU also takes note of the exchange of letters between Iran and the Agency in the beginning of June. The fact remains Iran has not provided access upon request of the Agency. The EU urges Iran to cooperate fully and promptly with the Agency in accordance with its obligations under the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and the Additional Protocol, including by immediately providing access to the locations specified by the Agency. The EU

member states therefore strongly support the resolution proposed by France, Germany and the UK, with the fundamental objective to quickly solve this issue.

8. The EU takes note of the report and welcomes that the Director General will continue to report to the Board of Governors as appropriate.

9. To conclude, Madame Chair, the EU reiterates its support and trust in the IAEA for the fulfilment of its mandate under the NPT safeguards agreements.

Thank you, Madam Chair.