



Statement of the Czech Republic

IAEA Board of Governors

Vienna, 7 - 11 March 2022

Agenda item 6: The safety, security and safeguards implications of the situation in Ukraine

Mr. Chairman,

The Czech Republic fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by France on behalf of the EU.

The Czech Republic condemns in the strongest terms Russia's aggression against Ukraine. Russia must immediately cease its military actions and unconditionally withdraw all forces and military equipment from the entire territory of Ukraine.

We express our unwavering support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including the illegally annexed Crimea.

Russia must stop its blatant violation of the UN Charter and international law now.

We categorically reject any threats of use of nuclear weapons. It is highly irresponsible, especially for a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

We further condemn the involvement of Belarus in the aggression against Ukraine. We call on Belarus to abide by its international obligations and commitments, including as a non-nuclear weapon State under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Mr. Chairman,

Russia's military invasion in Ukraine, including forcefully seizing control over Ukrainian nuclear facilities, also raises extreme concerns over the nuclear safety,

security and safeguards risks and the potential damage to nuclear facilities that could have significantly adverse impact with potentially severe consequences for human health and the environment. It unacceptably raises the risk of nuclear incidents and accidents. The international community will hold Russia accountable for its aggression including the nuclear safety and security threats it is causing.

The Czech Republic denounces false, cynical and outrageous statements and excuses provided by the Russian Federation. We strongly condemn the Russian strategy of disinformation and information manipulation. It is the Russian Federation who is the aggressor here and it is undeniable. There is no way to justify a military invasion and aggression against a fellow UN Member State. The only right way for Russia is to immediately cease these unlawful acts and withdraw its military forces from the entire internationally recognized territory of Ukraine.

We commend the IAEA Director General for using all available IAEA instruments to support Ukraine's efforts to ensure safety and security in all facilities of the country. The only right way for Russia is to immediately restore the legitimate control of the State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine over all nuclear facilities and materials within Ukraine's internationally recognized borders.

We thank the Director General for his reports and updates. We also thank the Safety Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine and its dedicated staff for continuously providing information under these extremely difficult circumstances.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman