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Statement of the Czech Republic IAEA Board of Governors Vienna, 6 - 10 June 2022

Agenda item 8(e): NPT Safeguards Agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran

Mr. Chair,

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

The Czech Republic would like to thank the Director General for his report and commend him and the Secretariat for their continuous professional work with regard to verifying and monitoring Iran's safeguards obligations. We remain convinced of the IAEA's technical expertise, objectivity and impartiality and we express full support to the IAEA's long-term verification and monitoring mission.

The Czech Republic welcomes the continued and proactive efforts of the Director General and the Secretariat to resolve the outstanding safeguards issues, including the recent Joint Statement of 5 March 2022. With deep concern, we take note of the lack of substantive cooperation from Iran to support the IAEA's efforts over the last two years to clarify outstanding issues related to the correctness and completeness of Iran's declarations. We are also concerned that despite repeated attempts by the IAEA, Iran has not provided technically credible answers to the Agency's questions.

The Czech Republic, once again, urges Iran to cooperate fully with the IAEA to resolve all outstanding issues and to fulfill its legal obligations under the NPT Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement. Failing to do so will continue to undermine the IAEA mandate. We also recall that the implementation of the modified Code 3.1 is a legal obligation under the Subsidiary Arrangements to Iran's Safeguards Agreement and it cannot be unilaterally modified or suspended.

The Czech Republic welcomes that the IAEA evaluates all safeguards relevant information available to it in line with standard practice and that it shares its analysis with the member states. We further encourage the Agency to continue providing further detailed and timely information in this regard.

Finally, the Czech Republic is gravely concerned that until now the IAEA could not confirm the correctness and completeness of Iran's declarations under its Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and that the IAEA is not in a position to provide assurances that Iran's nuclear program is exclusively peaceful.

The Czech Republic strongly supports the resolution proposed by France, Germany, United Kingdom and the United States for adoption by the IAEA Board of Governors. We hope that Iran, in response, will take without further delay an appropriate action to fulfil its legal obligations.

Thank you, Mr. Chair