



Permanent Mission  
of the Czech Republic to the United Nations,  
OSCE and other International Organizations  
in Vienna

Penzingerstrasse 11-13  
A-1140 Vienna  
tel.: +431 899 58 140, fax: +431 894 57 98  
email: mission.vienna@embassy.mzv.cz  
www.mzv.cz/mission.vienna

## **Statement of the Czech Republic**

### **IAEA Board of Governors**

**Vienna, 5 - 9 June 2023**

#### **Agenda item 7: The safety, security and safeguards implications of the situation in Ukraine**

Mr. Chair,

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

We welcome Director General's tireless efforts to help ensure nuclear safety and security at Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP) illegally seized by Russia. We thank DG and commend his team for continued highly professional reporting on nuclear safety, security, and safeguards in Ukraine. We fully support the IAEA's Missions to assist Ukraine in maintaining nuclear safety and security, and to implement safeguards pursuant to Ukraine's safeguards obligations and the IAEA's continued presence at all Ukraine's nuclear power plants. In order to support the IAEA assistance in Ukraine, the Czech Republic has recently donated to the IAEA over 100.000 EUR for this purpose.

Mr. Chair,

The Czech Republic fully supports five principles established by the Director General. We also fully support indispensable role of ISAMZ in monitoring the observance of these principles and in reporting on any violations. We expect further regular reporting to the Board on the implementation of these principles to facilitate appropriate follow-up.

Mr. Chair,

Russia continues with its unprovoked war of aggression and delivers deliberate brutal attacks against civilians, civilian infrastructure, and critical infrastructure including nuclear facilities in Ukraine. Destruction of the Kakhovka dam is another devastating consequence of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The Czech Republic is deeply concerned about the destruction. Russia continues to push the boundaries of its aggression and is quite deliberately endangering the lives of tens of thousands more civilians. This brutality must be condemned and punished.

Russia's actions in Ukraine flagrantly violate international law and are entirely inconsistent with the objectives of the IAEA Statute. The Czech Republic is gravely concerned about Russia's non-compliance with the three Board's resolutions and its continued blatant disregard of the seven indispensable pillars of nuclear safety and security, as outlined by the Director General. Let me emphasize that each of these principles has been compromised as a result of Russia's illegal invasion. This situation is unprecedented and unacceptable.

We will never recognize Russia's attempted illegal seizure of the Zaporizhzhia NPP. We urge Russia to immediately and unconditionally withdraw all its armed forces from the entire territory of Ukraine, including from the Zaporizhzhia NPP, and fully respect Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence within its internationally recognized borders. Russian personnel must also leave the power plant so that the Ukrainian authorities can resume their sovereign responsibilities and that the legitimate operating staff can conduct their duties without outside pressure and interference. We are grateful to the Ukrainian staff for their critical work and heroic efforts in the most stressful circumstances and reiterate our full support.

Thank you, Mr. Chair