



## **IAEA Board of Governors – November 2024**

### **Agenda item 4**

#### **Verification and monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran in light of United Nations Security Council resolution 2231 (2015)**

#### **STATEMENT BY SWITZERLAND**

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Mr. Chair,

I will address both agenda items 4 and 5 (g) in this statement. We thank the Director General for the associated reports and thank DDG Aparo for yesterday's technical briefing. We welcome the Director General's proactive approach by engaging with Iranian officials at the highest level as well as visiting Iran and some of its nuclear facilities. We have full confidence in the independent, impartial and professional manner in which the Agency fulfils its mandate.

Switzerland is deeply concerned about Iran's continuously increasing stockpiles of enriched uranium, particularly 60% enriched uranium. Iran is the only non-nuclear-weapons state that enriches uranium to this level, without credible civilian use. In this context, we take note of the possibility that Iran will not further expand its stockpile of uranium enriched to a level of up to 60%. Such a step would be a confidence building measure.

Switzerland regrets that, despite attempts, since 2021 no agreement has been achieved to restore the measures of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). Their preservation and their benefits remain crucial for safeguarding the global nuclear non-proliferation regime. We call on all parties to redouble

their efforts to conclude an agreement, as the JCPOA's benefits continue to erode. Switzerland has repeatedly expressed its regret over the withdrawal from the JCPOA and the re-imposition of sanctions by the United States, as we have expressed our concern over a series of steps taken by Iran that are inconsistent with its nuclear-related commitments.

Mr. Chair,

For twenty months, progress on the implementation of the Joint Statement of 4 March 2023 remains elusive despite the best efforts of the Director General to operationalize the Agreement. Switzerland urges Iran to fully implement the mutually agreed steps contained in the Joint Statement and also to facilitate the Agency's requests relating to the access to and servicing of surveillance and monitoring equipment without further delay.

Switzerland takes note of Iran's decision to consider the acceptance of the designation of four additional experienced inspectors. The previously made decision to withdraw the designations of several experienced Agency inspectors remains regrettable, adversely affecting the Agency's ability to conduct its verification activities in Iran.

We note with concern that the discrepancy in the nuclear material balance at the Uranium Conversion Facility (UCF) remains unsolved. While we recognize that discussions on this matter are ongoing between Iran and the Agency, we continue to underline our repeated calls on Iran to provide the Agency with technically credible information regarding the previously undeclared locations Turqzabad und Varamin, as well as the current location of related nuclear material and equipment.

We once again express our deep concern that Iran is still not implementing modified Code 3.1, despite it being a legal obligation and the Board having called for Iran to do so in its resolutions. The Subsidiary Arrangements to the Safeguards Agreement cannot be modified or suspended unilaterally. We reiterate our call upon Iran to resume implementing all legally binding obligations, such as Modified Code 3.1.

Mr. Chair,

As mentioned before, Iran is the only non-nuclear weapon State to produce and accumulate highly enriched uranium. In addition, the suspension of the provisional application of its Additional Protocol and of practically all JCPOA-related transparency measures as well as the outstanding safeguard questions have seriously impacted the Agency's ability to verify that Iran's activities are exclusively peaceful.

Behind this background, Switzerland calls upon Iran to swiftly implement the indicated uranium enrichment cap as well as the designation of experienced inspectors as an important signal of cooperation with the Agency. Finally, we strongly urge Iran to act upon previous resolutions and the mutually agreed Joint Statement which set out the nature of the information, cooperation and access required by the Agency and its membership.

Thank you.