



**European Union**  
**EU Statement on**  
**Agenda item 6(c): NPT Safeguards Agreement**  
**with the Islamic Republic of Iran**

**Board of Governors**  
**International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

**Vienna, 13-17 September 2021**

Madam Chair,

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

The European Union would like to thank the Director General for his report contained in document GOV/2021/42 and Deputy Director General Aparo for the technical briefing on 9 September 2021.

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

The EU encourages the IAEA to continue to evaluate all safeguards-relevant information available to it in line with standard practice. 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.

We reiterate our concern about the presence of multiple uranium particles of anthropogenic origin at three undeclared locations and that the presence of isotopically altered particles at one of these locations is a clear indication that nuclear material and/or equipment contaminated by nuclear material has been present. The EU is deeply concerned by the Agency's assessment that some containers that contained nuclear material and/or heavily contaminated

equipment were removed intact from location 1 in 2018 and moved to an unknown location. We firmly note that this requires urgent explanations.

The EU deeply regrets that, since the last meeting of the Board of Governors, Iran has still not provided the requested answers, information and substantiating documentation to the Agency, in spite of commendable engagement efforts by the IAEA, including at the level of the Director-General. In this regard, the EU notes with regrets that, as reported by the Director General, part of the information recently provided by Iran in relation with the fourth location is inconsistent with other safeguards relevant information available to the Agency. Iran's proposal to make IAEA additional verification activities in relation to the second location conditional upon subsequent closure of the issue, and also the similar request by Iran that the IAEA announce that the issue related to the fourth location is resolved are unacceptable.

The EU welcomes the continued and proactive efforts by the Director General and the Secretariat and notes the recent interactions between the Director General and Iran, including the Joint Statement of the 12<sup>th</sup> of September with the Vice-President and Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran. In this regard, the EU urges Iran to take action now and co-operate in full with the IAEA without any further delay nor any conditionality, including by implementing the agreed schedule of high-level talks with the Agency to resolve all pending safeguards issues, providing all information, documentation, access and answers deemed necessary by the Secretariat. The lack of progress in clarifying the Agency's questions seriously affects the ability of the Agency to provide assurance of the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme. It is important that the Board continues to monitor the situation closely.

As stated in the report, implementation of the modified Code 3.1 is a legal obligation under the Subsidiary Arrangements to Iran's Safeguards Agreement which cannot be suspended nor can it be modified unilaterally. Furthermore, the EU considers Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements together with the Additional Protocol the current verification standard. It is in this context that the EU is deeply concerned that, on 15 February 2021, Iran informed the Agency that it, inter alia, "will stop the implementation of the provisions of the Additional Protocol" to its Safeguards Agreement. The EU urges Iran to fulfil all its obligations under the CSA and to reapply the Additional Protocol.

To conclude, Madame Chair, the EU reiterates its full support to and trust in the IAEA for the fulfilment of its mandate under the NPT Safeguards Agreements. The EU shares the deep concern expressed by the Director General that nuclear

material has been present at undeclared locations in Iran and that its current whereabouts are not known to the Agency. After already some two years of inconclusive interaction, we expect the full resolution of all outstanding issues without further delay.

The EU takes note of the report and looks forward that the Director General continues to report to the Board of Governors, as appropriate, and would welcome that this report is made public.

Thank you, Madam Chair.