



***European Union
Delegation to the International Organisations in Vienna***

NV(2022)031

NOTE VERBALE

The Delegation of the European Union to the International Organisations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and would like to request the IAEA Office of Legal Affairs to circulate the attached Joint Statement as IAEA Information Circular.

The Delegation of the European Union to the International Organisations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) the assurances of its highest consideration.



Vienna, 1 April 2022

Joint Statement

Conference of the Parties to the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (A/CPPNM)

Vienna, 28 March - 1 April 2022

The Russian Federation's military aggression against Ukraine constitutes a gross violation of international law, including the UN Charter.

We express our utmost concern over the nuclear safety and security risks that have been caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine and that endanger the population of Ukraine, its neighboring countries and the international community.

Russia's forces have seized control of nuclear facilities where nuclear material is located and damaged buildings in nuclear sites in Ukraine, thereby undermining their safe and secure operation and significantly raising the risk of a nuclear accident or incident.

In this regard, we welcome IAEA Board resolution GOV/2022/17 of 3 March 2022 and fully support the initiative of the IAEA Director General to provide technical assistance for the safe and secure operation of Ukraine's nuclear facilities.

We recall the IAEA General Conference unanimous decision GC(53)/DEC/13 on attacks on and threats against nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes.

We also recall the Preamble of the Amended Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (A/CPPNM) that refers to Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations, emphasising that "All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations".

Furthermore, we recall Article 2.4 (c) of the A/CPPNM stipulating that "nothing in this Convention shall be construed as a lawful authorization to use or threaten to use force against nuclear material or nuclear facilities used for peaceful purposes".

We reiterate our urgent call for the Russian Federation to immediately stop its unlawful aggression against Ukraine, in order for the competent Ukrainian authorities to preserve and promptly regain full control over all nuclear facilities within Ukraine's internationally recognised borders.

We reaffirm our collective commitment to strengthening global nuclear safety and security and to ensuring the universal implementation of nuclear safety and security conventions, notably the A/CPPNM.

We call on the Russian Federation to fully respect the seven indispensable pillars of safety and security, the IAEA Statute, and to cease and desist from any action contravening the letter or spirit of the A/CPPNM.

This statement is issued on behalf of:

Albania	Liechtenstein
Australia	Lithuania
Austria	Luxembourg
Belgium	Malta
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Monaco
Bulgaria	Montenegro
Canada	Netherlands
Chile	New Zealand
Colombia	Norway
Costa Rica	Panama
Croatia	Poland
Cyprus	Portugal
Czech Republic	Republic of Korea
Denmark	Republic of Moldova
Ecuador	Republic of North Macedonia
Estonia	Romania
Finland	San Marino
France	Singapore
Georgia	Slovakia
Germany	Slovenia
Greece	Spain
Hungary	Sweden
Iceland	Switzerland
Ireland	Turkey
Israel	Ukraine
Italy	United Kingdom
Japan	United States of America
Latvia	Uruguay

as well as the European Union.