**IAEA Board of Governors**

**Vienna 22-24 November 2023**

**Agenda item 3: Verification and monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran in light of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015)**

**Statement by Denmark**

Thank you Chair,

1. Denmark aligns itself with the EU statement delivered earlier.
2. Once again the Board has before it a report which details an escalating and highly proliferation-sensitive Iranian nuclear programme. Iran’s stockpiles of enriched uranium, including highly enriched uranium continue to grow, as does its enrichment-related infrastructure, despite the absence of any plausible civilian purpose.
3. It is all the more concerning that Iran continues to deny to the IAEA the monitoring and verification capabilities foreseen in the JCPoA. Moreover, this is occurring at a time when the Agency is unable to provide assurance that Iran’s nuclear programme is exclusively peaceful.
4. The report makes clear that the IAEA has irretrievably lost continuity of knowledge as regards several aspects of Iran’s activities and that any attempt to establish a new baseline would be very challenging and time-consuming. This further complicates any potential return to the full implementation of the JCPoA. We strongly regret this.
5. We therefore once again - as in previous board meetings – strongly urge Iran to cooperate with the Agency and enable it to conduct all verification necessary in light of the magnitude of Iran’s nuclear activity.
6. We are very concerned to learn that Iran’s decision to withdraw the designation of several experienced Agency inspectors has directly and seriously affected the Agency’s ability to conduct its verification activities in Iran effectively. We fully support the Director General’s request that Iran reverse its decision in this regard.
7. I wish to reiterate Denmark’s strong support for the IAEA and its professional and impartial work to monitor and verify the implementation of the JCPoA as well as Iran’s safeguards obligations. Iran’s decisions, however, limit the effectiveness of this work. We therefore, once again, strongly urge Iran to resume full implementation of its nuclear commitments, including all transparency measures, among which is the Additional Protocol.
8. We look forward to the Director General’s continued detailed reporting and welcome the more reader-friendly format adopted this time. These reports are crucial to provide the international community with assurances about the nature of the Iranian nuclear programme. Such assurances, however, require the full implementation of Iran’s safeguards obligations, including modified Code 3.1, and full cooperation with the IAEA.

Thank you, Chair