



PHILIPPINES

10th Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Main Committee III: Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

Cluster 4: Fostering international nuclear cooperation (Friday, 12 August 2022)

Thank you, Madam Chair,

We align ourselves with the substantive recommendations contained in the Working Papers of the NAM and the NPTDI. In our national capacity, my delegation would like to propose the following three additional elements for inclusion in the report:

- First: The Conference must welcome international cooperation as an important pathway for strengthening the capacities of developing countries in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, including at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels.
- Second: The Conference must express its full support for the IAEA's Technical Cooperation (TC) Program, the major vehicle by which the Agency fulfills its mandate to "encourage and assist research on, and development and practical application of, atomic energy for peaceful uses throughout the world," and continue efforts to fulfill the commitment from the 2010 Review Conference to ensure that resources for the TC Program are sufficient, assured and predictable.
- Third: The Conference must encourage the development of more robust cooperation frameworks, including with other international organizations, development institutions, the private sector, academic and research institutions, and other non-traditional partners, to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, raise awareness of its benefits, and support capacity-building in developing countries.

Madam Chair,

We consider the IAEA's TC Program as the major vehicle for tech transfer of nuclear applications to developing countries, in line with the Agency's objective to "to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity." We appreciate that the TC Program provides opportunities for both human resource

development and institutional capacity-building, in line with the needs and priorities of developing countries.

The Conference must likewise recognize the importance of cooperation at the regional level, including through the respective Regional Cooperative Agreements in the Asia Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Arab regions. These Regional Cooperative Agreements, which are implemented under the auspices of the IAEA, promote, coordinate and implement research, development and training projects in peaceful nuclear application in their respective regions. As a party to the RCA in the Asia Pacific, we welcome the successes of this fruitful collaboration, which have led to the development of new crop varieties through plant mutation breeding, thereby supporting food security in the region; management and control of *Aedes* vector populations using the sterile insect technique, which assists States in controlling the insect vector that spreads dengue, Zika and other diseases; educating secondary science teachers and students on nuclear science and technology, which help us train future generations of nuclear scientists.

The Practical Arrangements signed between ASEAN and the IAEA in 2019 provide a framework for cooperation in the areas of nuclear science, technology and applications, as well as of nuclear safety, security and safeguards between the two bodies. The ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM) likewise contributes toward strengthening nuclear safety, security, and safeguards in the region.

We also encourage bilateral partnerships, which build upon enduring partnerships to deepen people-to-people ties as well as scientific and institutional networks, by facilitating bilateral cooperation in peaceful nuclear applications.

Finally, Madam Chair, to supplement these platforms, we encourage the development of more robust cooperation frameworks. We recognize the need to tap academic and research institutions, the business sector, development agencies, think tanks, and other stakeholders, to further promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, raise awareness of its benefits, and provide technical assistance to those who need it the most. We take note of Working Paper No. 46 entitled “Facilitating Dialogue to Support Enhanced Peaceful Uses Cooperation as Envisioned under Article IV of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons” which provides useful ideas on how to broaden the ecosystem of international cooperation, but nevertheless requires further discussion among States Parties.

Thank you, Madam Chair.