STATEMENT

by

His Excellency
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Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to the United Nations

Introduction of the draft resolution A/69/L.7 entitled

“Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency”

under agenda item 86 of the 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly

New York
3 November 2014
Mr. President,

First of all, I would like to thank Mr. Yukiya Amano, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), for presenting the Annual report of the IAEA for the calendar year 2013 (document A/69/255). The document sets forth the achievements of the IAEA and the challenges it will face in the coming years. The report also illustrates the vital role of the Agency in the development and transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and its contributions to strengthening the global nuclear safety framework and the guarantees of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

In 2013, the IAEA’s activities were strengthened in the two areas:
- nuclear science
- nuclear technology.

The IAEA continues to play an important role in providing technical assistance to member States wishing to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. So far, more than 124 member States have benefited from IAEA programs for the analysis and planning of their national energy systems. Through those programs, the member States can meet their national development priorities in areas where nuclear technologies offer advantages.

The importance of nuclear science and nuclear technology is one of the key issues of the post-2015 development agenda in order to ensure and to promote sustainable development.

This year, at the end of September, the modernization of nuclear applications laboratories in Seibersdorf, Austria, known as the ReNuAL project, has started and will contribute significantly to the development of nuclear science.

Slovakia attaches great importance to the Agency’s programs in the areas for nuclear science, technology and applications. We have shown continuous support for several projects regarding the promotion of the use of nuclear technologies such as the African Union’s Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign.
The modernization of radiation technology techniques in Slovakia through close collaboration with IAEA Division of Physical and Chemical Sciences is also among our priorities.

Another important pillar of the IAEA mandate is **nuclear safety and security**. The Agency continues to play the central role in helping to strengthen global nuclear security. The work of the IAEA in this matter is detailed in the Nuclear Security Report 2014 and in the DG’s report on Implementation of the IAEA Nuclear Security Plan 2010-2013. Progress continues to be made.

However, with
- 437 operational nuclear reactors,
- 70 nuclear reactors under construction currently in the world
- and in the aftermaths of the Fukushima Daiichi accident,
the importance of **establishing an effective global nuclear liability regime remains on the table**.

The Agency has to take all necessary measures in order to prevent further accidents. As a unique international organization with expertise in all aspects of nuclear technologies, we are confident that the IAEA will continue to play a **leading role in shaping a future for the world with safer nuclear technologies**.

Mr. President,

In fulfilling **Slovakia’s responsibility as Chair of the Board of Governors of the IAEA**, I am pleased to introduce, under item 86 of the agenda of the General Assembly, the draft resolution entitled “**Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency**” (issued as document A/69/L.7) on behalf of 69 sponsors listed in the document. The few updates to last year’s text are of a technical nature relating to the dates and the list of the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Conference at its fifty-eighth regular session (from 22 to 26 September 2014).

Similarly to last year, the text **takes note with appreciation of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency**.
It also takes note of the resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the Agency, reaffirms the strong support of the General Assembly for the Agency’s indispensable role in encouraging and assisting the development and practical application of atomic energy for peaceful uses, technology transfer to developing countries and nuclear safety, verification and security.

It contains appeals to Member States to continue to support the activities of the Agency.

The **language of the draft resolution was approved by consensus after the consultations** held in Vienna and New York on 22 and 24 October, respectively. I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Member States for their constructive engagement during the informal consultations.

I hereby submit this text to the General Assembly for its consideration. I sincerely hope that, as was the case last year, the draft resolution will be adopted by consensus without a vote. It is also still open for further sponsors.

I thank you Mr. President.