Statement by

H.E. Dr. Desra Percaya
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia
to the United Nations

on

Agenda item 86: Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

New York, 3 November 2014
Mr. President,

Let me begin by expressing my delegation's sincere thanks to the Director General of the IAEA for his comprehensive report and statement, which contain important information about the activities of the Agency during 2014.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with Ambassador Amano, and strengthening the established cooperation between Indonesia and the IAEA.

Mr. President,

The IAEA has a vital role in assisting and promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology, especially in the developing countries, including Indonesia.

For Indonesia, nuclear technology is a valuable tool in addressing many aspects of our national development programs, particularly in the areas of health, food and agriculture, water resources management, environmental protection and industry.

Among the applications, in ensuring food security and improving people livelihoods, Indonesia has been applying radiation induced mutation and other nuclear and isotopic techniques, to increase crop quality and productivity. We are also enhancing the application of irradiation technologies for sanitary and phytosanitary measures for agricultural products.

We remain confident in the usefulness of nuclear technologies, and the synergies fostered by international cooperation in the nuclear field, for which the work of the IAEA is critical.

Indonesia commends various activities by the Agency in the application of nuclear technology in the areas of food security and agriculture, disease
prevention and control, water resources and environmental management, radioisotope and radiation technology.

We also commend the progress by the Agency on nuclear energy development, and welcome the assistance provided to Member States, interested in launching and expanding nuclear power programs.

Due to the growth of industrial sector in Indonesia, there is an increasing demand for energy. In this regard, we are determined to harness nuclear energy, as part of the national energy mix policy, to secure the energy supply. We also intend to introduce nuclear power plants for that purpose.

We are especially thankful to the IAEA for providing technical assistance to Indonesia in this area in infrastructure development, which is one of the important steps towards introducing nuclear power plants.

Indeed the IAEA Technical Cooperation plays an indispensable role as the Agency's main vehicle to deliver the mandate on promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear technology, especially in the developing regions of the world. There is a need for all of us to continue supporting the resources of the IAEA for its technical cooperation.

Mr. President,

Ensuring that nuclear science and technology are used exclusively for peaceful purposes is a statutory function of the IAEA. We appreciate the activities by the IAEA to verify that States are fully complying with their non-proliferation obligations, and to confirm that nuclear material is being used for peaceful purpose. We are convinced that the Agency's safeguards have contributed to strengthening collective security and helped to create an environment conducive for nuclear cooperation.

With respect to the IAEA's function in the area of nuclear safety, Indonesia welcomes its activities on establishing safety standards. We recognize the Agency's central role in promoting international cooperation, coordinating international efforts to strengthen global nuclear safety, and providing
expertise and advice in this field. We also welcome the progress made on the implementation of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety.

While the primary responsibility on nuclear safety is in the hands of each state, we believe that the IAEA’s role in assuring the safety of all nuclear activities worldwide should be enhanced and strengthened to the extent mandated by its Statutes.

Turning to the Agency’s activities in the area of nuclear security, our view is that while the responsibility of ensuring nuclear security within a state lies primarily with its government, international cooperation and coordination to ensure nuclear security worldwide are crucial, and the IAEA again has a central role in this regard. We are pleased that the Agency has helped countries to reduce the risk of terrorists obtaining nuclear or radioactive materials and to prevent sabotage at nuclear facilities.

To conclude, Mr. President, we reiterate our appreciation to the IAEA, for its activities have greatly contributed towards a world that is more prosperous, secure and safe. The IAEA needs our continued and strong support for fulfilling its mandate, as enshrined in its Statute, and Indonesia will continue to play its role in that regard.

Thank you, Mr. President.