



**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY !**

**Statement by Ambassador Barbara Žvokelj, Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the IAEA,  
at the meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors,  
on the Nuclear Safety Review 2021 (Agenda item 4),  
Vienna, 2 March 2021**

*Thank you Madame Chairperson,*

In addition to what has been said on behalf of the European Union, I would like to make some comments in my national capacity.

*Madame Chairperson,*

In the context of Slovenian commitment to nuclear safety, we are planning a Pre-Safety Aspects of Long Term Operation mission in October 2021, with the intention to carry out integral and detailed review of our NPP's preparedness for long term operation. In this connection, a SALTO Workshop and preparatory meeting was held in December 2020. In parallel, preparations for the third Periodic Safety Review are underway, the final report is scheduled for 2023.

*Madame Chairperson,*

I wish to emphasize the invaluable support of the Integrated Regulatory Review Service. In 2020 the IRRS conducted the first virtual follow-up review mission and I am proud that Slovenian senior regulatory expert was a member of this team. In addition to this, Slovenia has invited the IRRS and ARTEMIS to conduct a peer review in 2022. Related to that, we are in the final stage of self-assessment and are planning to send our experts as observers to ARTEMIS Missions.

On a similar note, implementation of 2017 Emergency Preparedness Review recommendations and suggestions is underway, and the Agency has already been invited to conduct a follow-up review.

This brings me to the Nuclear Safety Review report, which underlines the importance of effective information exchange and emergency communication. Slovenia actively supports Agency's activities and has updated its Response and Assistance Network registration, where it expressed its readiness to provide assistance in the event of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency.

*In conclusion, Madame Chairperson,*

Let me emphasize the importance of the Agency's review process of the IAEA safety standards. Slovenia has already nominated recognized specialists to participate in the process and they are already working on their contribution to the review.

With this, my Delegation would like to commend the work of DDG Lentijo and take note of the Nuclear Safety Review 2021 as contained in the document GOV/2021/3.

*Thank you, Madame Chairperson.*