

Statement by the

**Permanent Representative of of Slovenia**

**Mr Boštjan Malovrh**

at the

**10th Review Conference of the Parties to**

**the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)**

**Main Committee III**

New York, 9 August 2022

Madam Chair

Slovenia aligns with the statement on behalf of the European Union. Allow me to make some further remarks in my national capacity.

Let me start by congratulating, Ambassador Denissen, for election as the Chairof the Main Committee III. I assure you of our full support and cooperation.

Madame Chair,

Slovenia follows with great concern latest developments at the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant in Ukraine. We urge Russia to allow the control of nuclear power plants to be fully restored by the Ukrainian authorities. Slovenia also praises the efforts by the IAEA to continue its verification activities in Ukraine in accordance with the NPT.

Madame Chair,

Slovenia fully recognizes the inalienable right of States Parties to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, in accordance with article IV of the NPT. It also supports efforts to ensure the highest safety and security standards and effective safeguards conditions and, in this regard, recognizes the important contribution of the IAEA.

Slovenia is one of thirty-two counties with a fully-fledged civilian nuclear programme and nuclear power has been and will remain an integral pillar of our energy policy. We believe that nuclear represents a substantial source of clean energy, which also plays an essential role in the global efforts to combat climate change.

We attach as well particular significance to the development of peaceful application of nuclear technology and its contribution to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals. In this connection, we commend the work of the IAEA in areas such as human health, food safety, water resource management and the environment.

Madame Chair,

Slovenia appreciates Agency's efforts in developing the scope of the technical cooperation program and in ensuring its efficiency. In our view, the program provides invaluable support to Member States in using nuclear science and techniques for their benefit in a safe manner.

Slovenia has always supported and tried to accommodate as many requests as possible. We will remain committed supporter, also financially. Last year we provided a voluntary contribution for the renovation of the IAEA Seibersdorf Laboratories.

In conclusion, Slovenia strongly supports the IAEA Marie Sklodowska-Curie Fellowship programme promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the field of nuclear security.

I thank you.