



## **IAEA Board of Governors – March 2024**

### **Agenda item 7 (d)**

### **NPT Safeguards Agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran**

#### **STATEMENT BY SWITZERLAND**

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Thank you, Mr. Chair.

We thank the Director General for his report on the NPT Safeguards Agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran and DDG Aparo for his briefing.

Switzerland welcomes the Agency's continued efforts to clarify all open questions with regard to Iran's declarations under its Safeguards Agreement. We reiterate our full confidence in the independent, impartial and professional manner in which the Agency fulfils its mandate.

Mr. Chair,

We are deeply concerned about the absence of virtually any progress in the implementation of the Joint Statement of 4 March 2023 during the reporting period. Switzerland regrets that, as reported by the Director General, Iran has unilaterally stopped implementing the Joint Statement, raising questions on Iran's continued commitment to its implementation.

We urge Iran to fully implement the Joint Statement, and to facilitate the completion of the installation of all the surveillance and monitoring equipment the IAEA deems necessary, as well as to provide the Agency with access to the recorded data without further delay. Iran must cooperate with the IAEA in a constructive manner to resolve all outstanding issues, including by providing technically credible information.

Iran's unwillingness to reconsider the unprecedented de-designation of experienced IAEA inspectors is regrettable as well as unjustified, and adversely affects the Agency's ability to conduct inspections, runs counter to the cooperative relationship required and hampers the IAEA's efforts in fulfilling its mandate.

Switzerland notes that the discrepancy in the nuclear material balance at the Uranium Conversion Facility (UCF) has been rectified and we expect further reporting on the issue. Furthermore, we underline our repeated calls on Iran to redouble its efforts in swiftly providing the Agency with technically credible information regarding the previously undeclared locations Turqzabad und Varamin, as well as the current location of related nuclear material and/or contaminated equipment. The IAEA requires the necessary information in order to confirm the correctness and completeness of Iran's declarations under its Safeguards Agreement, and to be in a position to provide assurance that Iran's nuclear programme is exclusively of a peaceful nature.

We once again express our deep concern regarding Iran's decision to cease implementing modified Code 3.1. The Subsidiary Arrangements to the Safeguards Agreement cannot be modified or suspended unilaterally. Iran's action is thus inconsistent with its legally binding obligations. We reiterate our call upon Iran to implement all legally binding obligations in order to ensure a well-functioning global non-proliferation regime.

The resolution adopted last November by the Board (GOV/2022/70) and the Joint Statement clearly set out the nature of the further information, cooperation and access required by the Agency, and we strongly urge Iran to act accordingly.

Thank you.