



IAEA Board of Governors – 9 September 2024

Agenda item 3

Nuclear and radiation safety

STATEMENT BY SWITZERLAND

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

Switzerland thanks the Director General for his report and DDG Evrard for her introductory remarks. I would like to highlight four points of particular importance to my delegation:

First, Switzerland would like to commend the Agency for convening the International Conference on Nuclear Knowledge Management and Human Resource Development. The conference gave valuable insights into the practical solutions to develop and maintain knowledge and expertise for a strong nuclear safety culture. This issue is relevant not only to the long-term operation of nuclear installations, but also in light of the growing global interest in nuclear technologies. Switzerland encourages the IAEA to continue its efforts in this field, including by providing capacity building and assistance to Member States.

Second, Switzerland is honoured to chair the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS) for the next four years. We would like to commend the excellent work done by the Committees and the Secretariat for this important Commission. The CSS will continue its mission, contributing to the continuous improvement of global nuclear safety by advancing the safety standards.

Mr Chair,

Third, denial and delays of shipments remains a critical issue that affects many in the nuclear field. Despite the existence of a robust regulatory international framework, transports are regularly cancelled, denied or delayed. We are committed to continuing our efforts to find solutions, together with interested Member States and the support of the Secretariat, to tackle this issue and ensure safe, secure, and predictable shipments.

Fourth, Switzerland welcomes the emphasis on better understanding and managing the use of artificial intelligence, in the nuclear field, through the organisation of technical meetings and workshops. We encourage the Agency to continue working on this issue and identify potential benefits and challenges of artificial intelligence in support of nuclear safety. The

Agency should explore the possibility of providing relevant technical assistance to Member States and keep them informed.

Thank you.