



IAEA Board of Governors – June 2024

Agenda item 7 (f)

NPT Safeguards Agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran

STATEMENT BY SWITZERLAND

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 remain deeply concerned about the fact that virtually any progress in the implementation of any of the three elements of the Joint Statement of 4 March 2023 remains absent for more than a year despite the efforts of the Director General to operationalize the Agreement. Switzerland urges Iran to fully implement the Joint Statement through serious engagement with the Agency, to facilitate the completion of the installation of all the surveillance and monitoring equipment the IAEA deems necessary, and to provide the Agency with access to the recorded data without further delay. It is essential for Iran to 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 and unjustified. It adversely affects the Agency's ability to conduct inspections, runs counter to the cooperative relationship required, and hampers the IAEA's efforts to fulfil its mandate.

Switzerland notes with concern the discrepancy in the nuclear material balance at the Uranium Conversion Facility (UCF) which cannot be explained by accountancy measurement errors. Furthermore, we underline our repeated calls on Iran to provide 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 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. Such information is even more crucial against the background of recent public statements by Iran on its nuclear doctrine and technical capabilities.

We once again express our deep concern regarding Iran's decision to cease implementing modified Code 3.1. Switzerland recalls that 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.

We strongly urge Iran to act upon resolution GOV/2022/70, adopted by the Board more than 18 months ago, and the Joint Statement. Both clearly set out the nature of the information, cooperation and access required by the Agency and its membership.

Thank you.