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STATEMENT

by Mikhail I. Uliyanov

**Head of the Delegation of the Russian Federation
to the Preparatory Committee
for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty
on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

(Cluster 3: peaceful use of nuclear energy)

New York, 29 April - 9 May 2014

Mr. Chairman,

A growing interest in peaceful uses of nuclear energy is an objective trend of today's world development. The Russian Federation believes that in the near future there is no alternative to further developing and expanding the use of civil nuclear energy in the world. A testimony to that fact is the outcomes of the IAEA International Ministerial Conference "Nuclear Energy in the 21st century" that was hosted by Russia in June 2013.

The Conference brought together over 500 delegates from 87 countries and became a milestone in shaping approaches that would define the development of nuclear power decades ahead. In his address to the Conference President Putin of Russia said, 'We are ready to work together, ready to make a serious substantial contribution to formation of a global strategy of nuclear power development in the 21st century.'

The final document of the Conference sets out an important dimension to the development of the IAEA Member States. We are satisfied with a conclusion the Conference arrived at, i.e. for many countries nuclear energy is a tested pure, safe, and resource-efficient technology set to play a prominent role in ensuring energy security and the Sustainable Development Goals in the 21st century and beyond.

Russia is one of many countries that promote nuclear power. The Government of Russia has set the objective of increasing the share of nuclear power in our energy mix from 16 up to 25 per cent. In Russia, 33 power units are in operation. In 2013, they produced more than 171.6 bn kWh. 10 new units are being built, including the world's first floating nuclear power plant "Akademik Lomonosov" which is scheduled to be finished by 2016. Two targeted federal programmes on the key fields of nuclear power development are worked out and approved in Russia.

Alongside with a large-scale construction of nuclear power plants with thermal reactors, Russia is working on the creation of a new generation of closed nuclear fuel cycle technologies and the 4th generation fast-neutron reactors. In the long term, Russia

associates nuclear power development with this type of reactors and with closed nuclear fuel cycle.

Russia is the only country in the world where a 600 MW fast-neutron reactor (BN-600) has been operating successfully for many years; we have also completed the construction of the 800 MW reactor (BN-800). Now we are carrying out its start-up. An experimental fast-neutron reactor based on the Russian technology and built with the Russian assistance is operating in China.

The Research Institute of Atomic Reactors in Dimitrovgrad is fulfilling a project of construction of a new multipurpose research fast reactor (MBIR) intended to replace the only functional research fast reactor with sodium coolant BOR-60 present there. We are planning to create an international research centre on the basis of the MBIR.

In 2014, we celebrate 60 years since launching the world's first nuclear power plant in this country. On 27 June 1954 the nuclear power plant located near Moscow in Obninsk with a 5 MW reactor "AM-1" (abbreviation of Russian words meaning "peaceful atom") generated commercial electricity and opened the door to the civil nuclear power. The plant has been successfully operating for 48 years.

The Russian Federation consistently advocates a broader access of the NPT States Parties to the benefits of peaceful nuclear energy and promotes international cooperation in this field.

However, we believe that the large-scale use of nuclear energy for the purposes of economic development requires joint efforts of the countries concerned in implementing a systemic approach to tackling complex tasks related to such development. Russia became an initiator of the IAEA International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles (INPRO) and remains its major sponsor.

The Russian Federation notes with satisfaction the decision of the IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano to turn the INPRO project into a fully operating section within the Department of Nuclear Energy since January 2014.

INPRO has become a fully functional mechanism and a leading centre for a comprehensive analysis of proposed and planned nuclear power systems, which considers, among other things, such factors as infrastructure, security, minimization of radioactive waste, and environment protection. This intellectual forum improves the Member States' understanding of technological innovations and institutional specific characteristics contributing to transition to sustainable nuclear power systems. The number of countries taking part in INPRO has reached 40.

The International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) project is yet another example of Russia's successful contribution to the multilateral cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy. We are inviting the Member States to take part in the anniversary 25th Fusion Energy Conference organized by the IAEA with support of the Government of the Russian Federation that will be held in Saint Petersburg from 13 to 18 October 2014.

Mr. Chairman,

All States Parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, under Article IV of the Treaty, have the inalienable right to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. It appears that one of the possible ways to enforce this right is the participation in the international centres that provide services of nuclear fuel cycle (NFC).

One of such centres is the International Uranium Enrichment Center (IUEC) in Angarsk. The centre, established in 2007 under the Initiative by the President of the Russian Federation in cooperation with the Republic of Kazakhstan, acts as a supplier of nuclear products and services. Since 1 July 2010, nuclear materials at its site have been safeguarded by the IAEA.

In 2010, initiated by the Russian Federation and by agreement with the IAEA, the world's first reserve of low enriched uranium (LEU) was established at the site of the IUEC in addition to the IUEC. Its volume is 120 tons of LEU up to 5%. The centre is intended to provide guaranteed LEU supplies by IAEA's decision. The cost of such

reserve is about 185 million US dollars. At the same time, the Russian Federation bears all the expenses associated with the storage, maintenance, nuclear safety and security, as well as the application of safeguards.

We deem it an important task to ensure reliable access to the benefits of peaceful nuclear energy for all the interested States Parties with due respect for the non-proliferation regime. We reaffirm our unfailing support for the IAEA project on establishing its own LEU bank, initiated, among others, with the participation of the Russian Federation. We welcome the Agency's decision to choose the site for the LEU bank in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Mr. Chairman,

National nuclear programmes cannot be developed without competent staff. We pay special attention to training and knowledge retention. We have set up the International Staff Training Centre where specialists from Vietnam, Turkey, Belarus and other countries undergo training.

The Russian National Research Nuclear University (NRNU) "MEPhI" not only trains personnel for the Russian nuclear power sector and its industry, but also admits students and specialists from the IAEA Member States to train the national personnel for nuclear power programmes. For example, NRNU "MEPhI" trains students from Turkey and Vietnam.

Under paragraph 2 of Article IV of the NPT, for many years Russia has engaged in active cooperation with the NPT States Parties in constructing and operating NPPs, supplying nuclear fuel, equipment and nuclear materials, ensuring nuclear safety, managing irradiated nuclear fuel and radioactive waste, and training atomic scientists.

We offer our partners NPP construction on a turnkey basis and on a build-own-operate basis. It means that we are ready to adjust to the needs of a particular partner. In addition, such approach will fully resolve all concerns with regard to nuclear non-proliferation, as well as safe NPP operation, and spent nuclear fuel (SNF) management.

We attach special importance to addressing the issues of SNF and radioactive waste (RW) management. Russia has ratified the Joint Convention on the Safety of SNF Management and the Safety of RW Management.

Mr. Chairman,

The use of nuclear energy requires attention to nuclear safety. We need to take all measures to prevent future recurrence of disasters similar to the Chernobyl and the Fukushima disasters. Since the end of the 1980s, the Russian Federation has been implementing a major programme to modernize its nuclear reactors with the aim of improving their safety. Success achieved in this area can be proved by the fact that the number of events on Russian NPPs classified according to the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale is small. Modern Russian nuclear reactors, particularly those constructed within the NPP-2006 project, meet the highest international requirements in the field of nuclear safety.

Compliance with the safety requirements while constructing, operating and decommissioning Russian NPPs is supervised by an independent supervisory authority – the Federal Environmental, Industrial and Nuclear Supervision Service.

Russia participates in the main international legal mechanisms in the area of nuclear safety – the Convention on Nuclear Safety, the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident, and the Convention on Assistance in Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency.

We note the success of the sixth meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety held in Vienna from 24 March to 4 April 2014. The meeting adopted a number of amendments to the procedural documents of the Convention aimed at applying the lessons learned from the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi NPP. Such amendments include Russian proposals concerning the revision of the existing design requirements for nuclear facilities in order to account for the adverse effects of natural and man-made factors, to build adequate infrastructure in countries planning to construct their first NPP, and to develop joint action procedures for

government bodies and institutions responsible for the operation of nuclear facilities to ensure effective nuclear accident management.

Non-discriminatory and equitable international legal mechanisms for regulating issues of liability for nuclear damage represent an important factor in the international cooperation in the field of nuclear power. Russia is a Party to the 1963 Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage. We believe that this particular mechanism provides the best basis for addressing issues of civil liability in cases of transboundary nuclear damage associated with both the operation of nuclear facilities, and with the movement of nuclear materials. We support the universalization of the Convention. We emphasize that it is important for international conventions, as well as for the domestic legislation of States on the civil liability, to contain the principle that the operator of a nuclear installation shall be liable for damage caused by a nuclear accident. We call upon those States which have not done so yet to accede to one of the existing mechanisms for nuclear damage liability.

Mr. Chairman,

Russia shares the spirit and efforts of the international community aimed at a wide introduction of radiation technologies into healthcare, water resources and environment management, and agriculture. This is a large market presenting new opportunities for the NPT States Parties as well as an innovation platform for concerted efforts which help understand what the benefits are of participating in the NPT. Russian institutes and laboratories show a great interest in coordinated research projects conducted, in particular, under the IAEA auspices in the field of nuclear science, food security, agriculture, healthcare, isotope production and environmental protection. In 2013 the Agency signed 26 contracts and 22 agreements with the Russian scientific institutes to conduct research on a free-of-charge basis in such areas as atom fusion, radioactive waste treatment, including irradiated graphite, radiation

treatment of food, estimates of water reserves in glaciers, study of birds migration and cultural artifacts.

Mr. Chairman,

Russia attaches great importance to the development of cooperation with the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States in the sphere of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. We carry out regional projects aimed at building skills of medical physicists from the CIS countries in the field of radio-oncology. In cooperation with the IAEA, we elaborate projects to train specialists in the field of recultivation of areas affected by uranium mining.

Russia recognizes the importance of the IAEA's technical cooperation programme. The Russian Federation makes and will continue to make full voluntary contributions to the Technical Cooperation Fund. We are in favour of retaining the existing funding mechanism through assessments of Member States in their national currency in an amount determined by the United Nations scale of assessments in accordance with established practice. Through this fund, the Russian Federation is assisting developing countries that are parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty in building accelerators and neutron generators, supplies ionizing radiation sources, neutron radiography units, gamma-ray treatment equipment, liquid nitrogen production units, and other equipment.

Mr. Chairman,

The NPT is a key element and a sort of guarantee of the steadily expanding international cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Russia stands ready to continue working with the States Parties to the Treaty. We believe cooperation means achieving development goals and expanding the peaceful use of nuclear energy, while strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.