European External Action Service (EEAS)

EU Statement at IAEA Board of Governors on the Implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement in the Syrian Arab Republic, as delivered on 20 November 2024

2024-11-20 · Press and information team of the Delegation to UN and OSCE in Vienna

Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The candidate countries North Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Bosnia and Herzegovina[1] and Georgia, the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as San Marino, align themselves with this statement.

The EU thanks the Director General [for the update provided on Syria in his opening statement] and the Secretariat for its tireless efforts to address the implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement in Syria.

The EU regrets that Syria still needs to remedy its longstanding non-compliance with its Safeguards Agreement under the NPT. The EU supports the Director General's engagement with Syria and welcomes the launch of a process of clarification of the outstanding safeguards issues, through Agency visits and access to three sites related to the Deir Ezzor site. We expect Syria to constructively engage with the IAEA on the outstanding issues, until its noncompliance has been resolved, and, to respond to further requests to exclude any proliferation concerns.

In order to rebuild confidence in its nuclear programme, we call on Syria to fully comply with the Board of Governors resolution of June 2011, to provide the necessary information and cooperation to the IAEA, and to conclude and bring into force an Additional Protocol without further delay.

Chair,

Syria must seize this opportunity to remedy this non-compliance. Until Syria fully cooperates with the Agency and this non-compliance case has been resolved, we request the Director General to keep the Board of Governors informed of any developments and maintain this item on the Board agenda.

Thank you, Chair.

[1] North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

Source: https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/eu-statement-iaea-board-governors-implementation-npt-safeguards-agreement-syrian-arab-republic-2_en