

**Statement by
European Union**

**IAEA Board of Governors Meeting
Vienna, Austria, 8 September 2003**

Madame Chairperson,

1) I am speaking on behalf of the European Union. The Acceding Countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, the Associated Countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey associate themselves with this statement.

2) The new report of the Director General on Iran, contained in document GOV/2003/63 of 26th August 2003, reaffirms the relevant questions already outlined in the previous report in document GOV/2003/40 of 6th June 2003. While we acknowledge the Director General's statement that Iran has recently demonstrated an increased degree of co-operation, there are questions which remain largely unresolved and that add further reason for concern, from a non-proliferation point of view.

3) The EU deeply regrets that the full scope and extent of Iran's nuclear programme was not made known earlier to the IAEA and to the International Community. The Director General's new report confirms that reporting obligations under Iran's comprehensive Safeguards Agreement with the IAEA were not met. We continue to regret the fact that receipt of nuclear material by Iran, regardless of its quantity, was not duly declared at the time of its receipt. Moreover Iran did not declare to the IAEA the facilities where such material was stored and processed. The EU considers this failure of Iran to apply the provisions of various articles of its Safeguards Agreement and of its obligations as a matter to be of grave concern. We further regret that despite the Board of Governors call, as a confidence building measure, not to introduce nuclear material in the Pilot Facilities in Natanz, the Iranians did so. In order to build the trust and the confidence necessary to preserve the safeguards regime and to ensure a stable and secure international environment, Iran, as all member countries, is requested, in its own interest to co-operate fully with the Agency.

4) In addition, contrary to its previous statements, Iran had in fact received sophisticated nuclear technology from abroad already during the nineteen eighties. Full and comprehensive information on the origin of the supplied technology is needed from Iran. The IAEA has also found particles of high enriched uranium in Iran. The presence of undeclared high enriched uranium (HEU) is deeply disturbing and the EU wants to see the earliest resolution of this issue. The EU therefore calls on the Iranian Authorities to suspend any activities related to the enrichment process until the high enriched uranium (HEU) questions have been resolved by the Agency. The EU calls on all third countries to closely and fully cooperate with the Agency on clarifying open questions concerning the Iranian nuclear programme.

5) The EU is also concerned about the differing explanations given for Iran's Heavy Water projects and would like to see further clarification. Furthermore, the Agency's unresolved question about Iran's production of uranium metal worries the EU. Again, Iran's full disclosure to the IAEA is a necessity.

6) Madame Chairperson,

The report of the Director General states that information and access, given to the IAEA, were at times slow in coming and incremental, and that, some information was in contrast to that previously provided by Iran. However we understand from the Director General that the Agency is now receiving an increased degree of co-operation and we look forward to its acceleration.

7) We fully support the Director General in his efforts to rapidly resolve all outstanding issues with Iran. The EU again calls on Iran to continue to respond positively, in a detailed and substantiated manner, and without delay to all the IAEA's questions and to apply all the necessary measures to grant the Agency full transparency of its nuclear programme, in order to enable the IAEA to report to the November Board of Governors or earlier, as appropriate.

8) The EU takes note of Iran's positive decision with regard to the Additional Protocol. We request the IAEA to give to the Iranian authorities all the required legal assistance for the prompt conclusion of such a protocol. It should nevertheless be underlined that the text of the standard Model Protocol was approved by consensus by all Member States, including Iran, and cannot be renegotiated. We therefore urge Iran to conclude unconditionally and without further delay the additional protocol. Meanwhile the EU appeals to Iran, as a confidence building measure, to voluntarily apply the provisions of the protocol in order to enhance IAEA's ability to provide credible assurances regarding the peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear activities, particularly the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities.

9) Madame Chairperson,

The EU urges again Iran to provide continued and accelerated cooperation and full transparency on all aspects of its nuclear programme. This full co-operation is essential and urgent in order to allow to the Director General to be in a position to provide to the Board of Governors, by mid November if not before, the assurances that all member States and the International Community clearly require.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson