Statement of the Czech Republic on the occasion of the IAEA Board of Governors Vienna, 9.-11. March 2020

Agenda item 6e: NPT Safeguards Agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran

Madam Chair,

The Czech Republic fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by Croatia on behalf of the EU. I would like to add few points in our national capacity.

Firstly, we would like to thank the Director General for his report and commend him and the Technical Secretariat for their continuous professional work with regard to verifying and monitoring Iran's safeguards obligations. We remain convinced of the IAEA's technical expertise, objectivity and impartiality and we express full support to the IAEA's long-term verification and monitoring mission.

Without any doubt, the IAEA must evaluate all safeguards relevant information available to it in line with standard practice and we encourage it to continue to do so as new information becomes available.

Indication of potential existence of undeclared nuclear material in Iran and the lack of Iran's timely engagement in substantive discussion with the IAEA as well as the recent lack of cooperation in fulfilling its legal obligation to allow Complementary Access as notified by the Agency in accordance with the Additional Protocol are extremely worrying.

We call upon Iran to cooperate fully, promptly and constructively with the IAEA and to resolve without any further delay all reported issues that undermine in unacceptable way very important tasks carried by the IAEA within its mandate.

The ratification of the Additional Protocol by Iran remains a key element to demonstrate a peaceful nature of the Iranian nuclear programme.

To conclude, we further encourage the Agency to continue providing further detail and timely information in this regard.

Thank you, Madam Chair.