



CZECH REPUBLIC

Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations

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Main Committee II

**Statement by Mr. Jaroslav Štěpánek,
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Chair,

The Czech Republic fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. I would like to add the following remarks in the national capacity.

The Czech Republic commends the mutually reinforcing structure of the UN bodies, international export control regimes and numerous security initiatives in the area of non-proliferation. The Czech Republic recognises the undisputable right of the NPT State Parties to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. At the same time, this right must be exercised in full conformity with the non-proliferation obligations. Any case of non-compliance should be treated according to the established international norms and the respective State or States should be held responsible and accountable for their violations. We strongly believe that all cases of non-compliance must be reported to the UN Security Council. We are convinced that the international community has to seize the opportunity and act with courage to rectify those few cases still undermining the global non-proliferation regime and international security.

The Czech Republic supports the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the ongoing diplomatic efforts to preserve the JCPOA and to return all parties to a full and effective implementation of their commitments. The Czech Republic is gravely concerned with all Iran's actions inconsistent with its JCPOA commitments that have in certain cases no credible civilian use justification and pose severe and irreversible proliferation implications. We strongly urge Iran to reverse all activities inconsistent with the JCPOA and return, without any further delay, to its full implementation, including all transparency measures. We call on Iran to reapply the Additional Protocol as a key element to restoring confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear program.

We call on the DPRK to comply with its obligations under multiple SC resolutions and to maintain suspension of testing nuclear weapons and ICBMs. We urge the DPRK to take concrete steps to progress on the path towards a complete, verifiable, and irreversible denuclearisation. We also urge Syria to cooperate with the IAEA to resolve all outstanding issues with regard to its Safeguards Agreement, and to conclude the Additional Protocol. In that context, we would like to emphasize the unique and irreplaceable role of the IAEA vis-à-vis the NPT. The Czech Republic continues to support strengthening of the IAEA safeguards system by, inter alia, actively participating in the IAEA Member States Support Programme since 2003.

The Czech Republic actively supports effective export controls in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article II of the NPT, and in compliance with SC Resolutions 1540 and 2325. We are convinced that the export control regimes and voluntary adherence to their

principles and control lists bring about non-proliferation benefits to all States. We are of the opinion that the participation of all EU Member States in the export control regimes would make them stronger.

We believe that promoting responsibility of all States for securing nuclear and radioactive materials on their territory and preventing non-state actors from acquiring these materials is of the utmost priority. We therefore remain convinced that nuclear security is an indispensable element complementing peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Thank you for your attention.