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**Statement of the Czech Republic
IAEA Board of Governors
Vienna, 12 - 16 September 2022**

Agenda item 8(c): NPT Safeguards Agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran

Mr. Chair,

In addition to the statement delivered on behalf of the EU I would like present the following remarks in my national capacity.

The Czech Republic thanks the Director General for his report and commends him and the Secretariat for their continuous professional work with regard to verifying and monitoring Iran's safeguards obligations and for proactive efforts to engage with Iran in order to resolve the outstanding safeguards issues. We remain convinced of the IAEA's technical expertise, objectivity and impartiality and we express full support to the Agency's long-term verification and monitoring mission.

The Czech Republic is deeply concerned over Iran's insufficient substantive cooperation with the IAEA and the failure to provide technically credible explanations regarding the presence of uranium particles of anthropogenic origin at undeclared locations. It is deeply regrettable that despite numerous opportunities and repeated calls from the Board of Governors Iran has not yet clarified and resolved these issues. These matters relate to Iran's safeguards obligations and require urgent action from Iran to answer the Agency's outstanding questions in line with Iran's Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement. Failing to do so is further undermining the Agency's efforts to fulfill its mandate.

The Czech Republic welcomes that the IAEA evaluates all safeguards relevant information available to it in line with standard practice and that it shares its analysis

with the member states. We encourage the IAEA to continue providing detailed and timely information in this regard.

The Czech Republic is gravely concerned that until now the IAEA could not confirm the correctness and completeness of Iran's declarations under its Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and that the IAEA is not in a position to provide assurances that Iran's nuclear program is exclusively peaceful.

Finally, the Czech Republic would like to stress that the diplomatic efforts to allow a return of all parties to the full compliance with the JCPOA cannot be in any way used to release Iran from its legally binding obligations under the Non Proliferation Treaty. Iran's continued expansion of its nuclear programme far beyond any plausible civilian justification poses a significant risk to regional and international security.

Thank you, Mr. Chair