



**Permanent Mission of the Republic of  
Poland  
to the United Nations Office and  
the International Organizations in Vienna**

Poland' Statements  
Board of Governors IAEA, 6-10.06.2022

**Agenda item 11: Designation of members to serve on the Board in 2022-23**

Poland fully associates with the EU position and would like to add in the national capacity:

Poland takes note of the proposed designation of members to serve on the IAEA Board of Governors in 2022-2023. We acknowledge that the proposal is based on Article VI.A.1 of the IAEA Statute, according to which the outgoing Board of Governors shall designate for membership on the Board most advanced members in the field of nuclear technology. Poland profoundly regrets that the name of the Russian Federation appears on this list, given its unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine which grossly violates international law including the UN Charter and the IAEA Statute. Russia has proved very clearly that it does not deserve to be nominated to the Board.

We are of the view that IAEA Member States have a shared responsibility to uphold the UN fundamental principles enshrined in the Charter and defend the credibility of the IAEA Statute. Especially Board members should lead by example and respect international law. It is completely unacceptable and goes beyond comprehension that an IAEA Member State is conducting armed attacks in and around peaceful nuclear sites of another IAEA Member State and

even occupying its nuclear facilities, in flagrant violation of international nuclear safety and security principles and standards, and other rules and norms.

The Statute of the Agency makes clear that membership in the IAEA does not entail only rights and privileges, but also obligations and responsibilities. In this regard, we recall Article IV of the Statute which requires that States are able and willing to carry out the obligations of membership in the Agency, giving due consideration to their ability and willingness to act in accordance with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter.

We are aware of the possibility envisaged in Article XIX.B, according to which a member which has persistently violated the provisions of the IAEA Statute may be suspended from the exercise of the privileges and rights of membership.

While fully respecting the procedure on the designation of Board members as set out in Article VI.A.1 of the IAEA Statute, we expect that Board members may dissociate themselves from decision-making regarding the designation of the Russian Federation to serve on the Board of Governors in 2022-2023. We understand that in view of concrete aggressive behaviour of Russia which results in unprecedented breach of international law, war atrocities and crimes and destabilisation of the world economy the prestige and legitimisation of the Board of Governors will be significantly lowered. Moreover, BoG membership including criminal state will negatively affect credibility of the IAEA in fulfilling its goals which among others include, according to the IAEA Statute: *Conduct its activities in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations to promote peace and international co-operation, and in conformity*

*with policies of the United Nations furthering the establishment of safeguarded worldwide disarmament and in conformity with any international agreements entered into pursuant to such policies*

Once again, Poland demands that the Russian Federation cease immediately its military aggression against Ukraine and withdraw all its forces from the territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders. It is high time for the Russian Federation to heed the call by the international community and comply with its obligations under the UN Charter and the IAEA Statute.

With this remarks I cannot take part in the further deliberations on this point.