

21st INPRO Dialogue Forum.
On Small Modular Reactor Projects and Technologies
to Support Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

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Distinguished representatives of Rosatom Technical Academy, Distinguished speakers and representatives of Member States, Distinguished Director of the Division of Nuclear Power, Mme Aline DES CLOISEAUX and her Technical Officers,

Former IAEA-DDG Mr Alexander BYCHKOV

Dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen.

It is an honour and real pleasure for me to welcome you all to this very important event. We warmly thank the Government of the Russian Federation through Rosatom Academy for hosting, in this very beautiful and historical city, this 21st INPRO Dialogue Forum. I also sincerely thank all the participants for taking time and coming from far to contribute to the success of the **21st INPRO Dialogue Forum, the objectives of which are:**

1. Discuss the role of SMRs in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a broad set of

- participant perspectives, including technology developers, potential suppliers and users;
2. Identify the functions and features of SMRs that can contribute to achieving SDGs;
 3. Explore the status of development and deployment of SMRs, including associated fuel cycles;
 4. Discuss the roles that various SMR related industries and institutions can play to contribute to achieving SDGs; and
 5. Promote an open dialogue on national, regional and global opportunities and challenges in achieving SDGs through development and deployment of SMRs.

Distinguished participants, dear colleagues,

We all know that access to affordable, reliable, and clean energy (SDG 7) is crucial for achieving the other 16 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), from eradicating poverty through to advancing health and education, facilitating industrial development, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. *Therefore, the achievement of SDG 7 is critical to the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change (according to UNEP 2021).* Nuclear power, as you are aware — with other technologies — can provide the energy to ultimately achieve high living standards, good health, a clean environment, and a sustainable economy.

More precisely, affordable energy, including nuclear energy, reduces poverty (SDG1) and inequality (SDG10), and supports health (SDG3), education (SDG4), industry (SDG9) and economic growth (SDG8). Furthermore, integrating nuclear energy, including SMRs, **with renewable energy** will not only help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but will certainly strengthen public acceptance of nuclear energy and consequently contribute to the achievements of the SDGs.

We (meaning all of us) sincerely thank the IAEA, represented at this meeting by the Director Mme Aline DES CLOISEAUX, for assisting, upon request, its MSs embarking on nuclear power or expanding their existing programmes in a safe, secure, and responsible manner. In particular, the INPRO's tools and methods for energy modelling scenarios and sustainability assessment, e-learning activities, the newly launched Advisory Service to support MSs in planning and implementing nuclear energy systems, including SMRs are very much appreciated by many MSs of the IAEA. In other words, we highly appreciate the IAEA's role in fostering international collaboration and promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and its continuous commitment to supporting its MSs in harnessing nuclear technologies to achieve the SDGs, such as clean energy access, climate action, and technological innovation. ***I therefore, encourage all of you, participants at this event, to consider conveying a clear and***

strong support to INPRO's activities, through your country delegation speeches at the forthcoming IAEA General Conference next month.

Distinguished participants, dear colleagues,

I kindly encourage your active participation and contribution to the success of this forum, the success of which will, in no small way, be due to your productive interactions, extensive sharing of insights, experiences, strategies, and lessons learned during this whole week. Indeed, the success of INPRO's activities is, and will be, our collective success for promoting safe, secure, and responsible nuclear power, including SMRs.

I wish all of us a very productive and fruitful week and look forward to the concrete outcomes of this important event in this very beautiful city.

Thank you for your attention.