

European Union

Explanation of vote Resolution on the safety, security and safeguards implications of the situation in Ukraine

Board of Governors International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Vienna, 3 March 2022

Mr. Chairman,

In accordance with the unified EU position, the EU Member States on the Board of Governors have voted in favour of the draft resolution (GOV/2022/15) submitted by Canada and Poland on the safety, security and safeguards implications of the situation in Ukraine.

We welcome the Board's support for this important Resolution which sends yet another strong message to the Russian Federation that it must immediately cease its military aggression against Ukraine and fully respect Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence within its internationally recognised borders.

We are extremely concerned over the nuclear threats and the nuclear safety, security and safeguards risks on the ground caused by the Russian invasion and the potential damage to any nuclear facility that could have significantly adverse impact with potentially severe consequences for human health and the environment.

Russia must immediately cease its unlawful activities. It is of utmost importance that the Ukrainian regulatory authority regains control over all nuclear facilities and materials within Ukraine's internationally recognized borders and that its staff and the operators' staff have unhindered regular access to enable them to carry out their work without undue pressure and to ensure the continuing safe operation of all nuclear sites.

We reiterate the European Union's unwavering support to Ukraine and praise the work of the Ukrainian National Regulator. We look forward to receiving regular reporting from the IAEA Director General on the situation in Ukraine for information and further action.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman