



## European Union

**Statement on the occasion of the IAEA Board of Governors  
Vienna, 09 – 13 September 2013  
Agenda item 6 (b) – The conceptualization and development of  
safeguards implementation at the State level (SLC)**

Mr. Chairman,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. [The following countries align themselves with this statement: Turkey<sup>§</sup>, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia\*, Montenegro\*, Iceland<sup>‡</sup>, Serbia\*, Albania\*, Bosnia and Herzegovina\*, Liechtenstein<sup>+</sup>, Norway<sup>+</sup>, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.]
2. The EU would like to thank the Director General for his report on the conceptualization and development of safeguards implementation at the State level as contained in document GOV/2013/38, and DDG Herman Nackaerts for the technical briefing on the report on 3 September.
3. The Agency's system of safeguards is a fundamental component of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and plays an indispensable role in the implementation of the NPT. IAEA safeguards must continually evolve to address new challenges, to learn from experience gained and to introduce new techniques and technologies that benefit safeguards implementation. The EU supports all measures designed to strengthen the effectiveness and to improve the efficiency of the Agency's safeguards system.
4. The EU notes that the term 'State-level concept' was first introduced to the Board in the Safeguards Implementation Report (SIR) for 2004. This report noted that the concept was "being implemented for States with integrated safeguards and would be extended to all other States with CSA's". The EU has followed closely the continued evolution of safeguards, recognizing the growing verification demand on the Agency as a result of the increasing number of facilities and quantities of nuclear material under Agency safeguards. It is important to

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<sup>§</sup> Candidate Country

\* Candidate Countries former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia as well as potential Candidate Countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

<sup>‡</sup> Candidate Country Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

<sup>+</sup> Norway and Liechtenstein are members of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

continue to improve efficiency, especially given budgetary constraints, while maintaining safeguards effectiveness. We have supported the development of State-level approaches, applicable to all States, that is more objectives based and that considers all safeguards relevant information about a State. This approach will enable the IAEA to focus its efforts on areas of greater safeguards significance and where the concerns of diversion of nuclear materials are the greatest. The report outlines clearly that the well established principles of safeguards implementation remain unchanged. The generic safeguards objectives are the same for all States with comprehensive safeguards agreements (CSAs). The State-specific factors employed are assessed objectively, and there are checks and balances in place throughout the process to ensure that all safeguards-relevant information is handled in a professional manner. All these aspects of the SLC help ensuring that there will be no discrimination.

Mr Chairman,

5. The report leaves no doubt that the implementation of safeguards in a given State is governed by that State's safeguards agreement with the Agency. The EU fully subscribes to the statement in para. 3 of the report that "under comprehensive safeguards agreements (CSAs), the Agency has both the right and the obligation to verify the correctness and completeness of State's declarations"; this statement is supported by previous decisions of the Board. But only by using the measures contained in the Additional Protocol (AP), which significantly increase the Agency's ability to detect undeclared nuclear material and activities in States with CSAs, can the Agency fully optimise the implementation of safeguards based on State-level approaches. The EU continues to call for universalisation of the AP without delay. The EU reiterates its view that the measures contained in the Model Additional Protocol form an integral part of the IAEA safeguards system and that Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements, together with the Additional Protocol, constitute the current IAEA verification standard.

Mr. Chairman,

6. We note that the document before us concentrates on States having Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements, and we understand the reasons for this. However we look forward ultimately to the implementation of elements of the State-level safeguards approaches for other States, in conformity with the relevant safeguards agreements in force for each State, so that the Agency may make the best use of its safeguards resources.
7. With these comments, the EU takes note of the report contained in document GOV/2013/38.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman