

Prohlášení
Statement
Déclaration**(ver.4 – final 27.2.2009)****STATEMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
AT THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
02-06 MARCH 2009****Item 5 (e): „Implementation of the NPT Safeguards Agreement in the Syrian Arab Republic“**

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The Candidate Countries Turkey, Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia¹, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia associate themselves with this statement.

2. The EU wishes to thank the Director General for his report contained in GOV/2009/9 and appreciate Director General and the Secretariat for their professional and impartial efforts in implementing verification activities in Syria. We also thank Mr. Heinonen for the technical briefing on this subject on 24 February.

¹ Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

Madam Chairperson,

3. The EU takes note of the statements by Syria reiterated in its recent letter to the Director General that the destroyed facility, and the current facility, on the Dair Alzour (Al Kibar) site were military installations. However, the EU remains concerned as to the origin of anthropogenic uranium particles found at the site. According to the current Agency's assessment presented in the DG's report, the presence of additional particles of anthropogenic uranium has been revealed. These uranium particles, and those identified as a result of the previous analyses, are of a type not included in Syria's declared inventory of nuclear material. Furthermore, according to the Report, the probability that they were introduced by the use of missiles is low.

4. The EU therefore continues to be concerned about the possibility that Syria has not declared all its nuclear installations, which calls in question the completeness and correctness of Syrian declarations under the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement. The EU would like to recall that it is an obligation of each and every IAEA Member State, party to the NPT, to declare all its nuclear installations and according to the modified code 3.1 of the subsidiary arrangements to report also on the planning and construction of any nuclear facility to the Agency before the decision on its construction is taken.

5. The EU recalls the previous DG's report which stated that the features of the destroyed building, along with connectivity of the site to adequate pumping capacity of cooling water, are similar to what may be found in connection with a reactor site. Therefore, with the view to reaching an early resolution of this issue, the Agency's verification needs to continue.

6. The EU regrets that Syria has not yet responded in a satisfactory manner to the requests of the Agency and calls for an early clarification of remaining questions. To that end we urge Syria to cooperate fully with the Agency and to show the necessary transparency in order to allow the completion of the Agency's assessment. It is essential that Syria provide the access to all locations requested by the Agency as well as to all available information and documentation in support of its declarations.

7. The EU thus encourages Syria to provide the Agency with requested additional information and supporting documentation about the past use and nature of the buildings at the Dair Alzour site, and information

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about the efforts by Syrian entities to procure materials and equipment which could support the construction and operation of a nuclear reactor as well as additional access to other locations alleged to be related to Dair Alzour site.

8. In order to give the Agency additional means of investigation and verification as well as to strengthen the confidence of the international community, the EU calls upon Syria to sign and ratify the Additional Protocol as soon as possible. Additional Protocol is the tool for the Agency to verify the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities. The EU has always attached high importance to its universality and continues to appeal also to all other countries, which have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the Additional Protocol without further delay.

Madam Chairperson,

9. The EU has always fully supported the Agency's activities to verify any proliferation allegations in a Non-Nuclear Weapon State, party to the NPT, and to report its findings to the IAEA Board of Governors and Security Council in accordance with its Statute. We would like to stress that while fulfilling its mandate and in order to give the international community the assurances required, the Agency has to be able to implement all its investigations and inspections needed to study, verify and analyze the information available. Any obstacles, unnecessary delays or a lack of cooperation of Member States concerned affect adversely the executing of its responsibilities under the NPT and undermine the credibility of the Agency's verification capabilities. Such cases, therefore, deserve our utmost attention.

10. The EU is convinced that with the assistance of Syria it will be possible to clarify the remaining questions and shed more light on the nature of activities at Dair Alzour site. In this connection the EU would like to express its hope that the next report of the Director General for the June session of the Board of Governors will demonstrate a clear progress in this matter.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.