March 2, 2022

Joint appeal

of the Minister of Energy of Ukraine, acting Chairman of the State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine - Chief State Inspector for Nuclear and Radiation Safety of Ukraine, Acting President of SE NNEGC "Energoatom" to the IAEA

The military aggression of the Russian Federation, as state with a developed nuclear power sector and industry, against Ukraine under the cynical designation of "special operation with coercion to peace" destroyed the foundations of the international security system, which was formed after the Second World War.

The IAEA Charter, which was based on President Eisenhower's idea that "splitting of the atom may lead to the unifying of the entire divided world" empowers the Agency to work with member countries to develop and monitor nuclear technology. In doing so the Agency shall ensure that assistance under its control is not used for military purposes.

Ukraine, in accordance with the procedures and obligations under the Convention on Nuclear Accident Notification and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Installations and Nuclear Material, has informed the IAEA of the loss of regulatory control over all facilities in the Chornobyl Exclusion Zone and continues to report on the state of safety of nuclear and radiation objects in the controlled territory of Ukraine and cases of their damage and destruction as a result of military actions.

The seizure of the world-famous Chernobyl nuclear power plant by the Russian Federation has all indications of an act of nuclear terrorism committed against the Chernobyl nuclear facilities and its personnel by the Russian military. The NPP personnel have been kept at the site without rotation for seven days, are subjected to psychological pressure and moral exhaustion, have limited opportunities to communicate, move and carry out full-fledged maintenance and repair work, which leads to radiation regime disruptions and endangers their lives and health.

The movement of convoys of Russian military equipment, artillery, powerful multiple rocket launchers, shells and missiles explosions in the immediate vicinity of the nuclear facilities of the SE NNEGC "Energoatom" at any time can lead to accidents, which will be impossible to prevent or eliminate amid ruination of the state's infrastructure.

The lack of a harsh response to the cessation of safeguards and the transfer of nuclear material under Ukrainian safeguards to the Russian-occupied territories of Crimea and Donbas in 2014 was perceived by the aggressor as a "no objections" for similar practice in respect of Chernobyl Exclusion Zone facilities.

Informing the IAEA on the security status of nuclear facilities during military actions, we expect concrete joint action by the IAEA in the form of "peer pressure", which is commonly used by member states of the organization as concerns to the parties evading priority of the security.

In order to reestablish legal regulation of safety of nuclear facilities and installations within the Chernobyl NPP site and within the Exclusion Zone we insist that immediate decisive measures be taken as follows:

- 1. Immediate ceasefire and ban for the occupation forces to approach closer than 30 km to the NPP.
- 2. IAEA appeal to NATO with a request to establish the A2/AD zone over the territory of Ukraine, taking into account the risks and geography of the location of the nuclear power plants of the State Enterprise "National Nuclear Energy Generating Company "Energoatom".
- 3. Activation of a IAEA EIC headquarters to coordinate activities in the prevention of acts of nuclear terrorism at the Chernobyl NPP and humanitarian and psychological assistance to its personnel with detailed documentation of events as unique experience.
- 4. Considering complete disregard of the Russian Federation for the principles of peace, security and unity for which the IAEA had been established within the UN structure we suggest to deny these country's access to intellectual and technical resources of the IAEA while strengthening control over the accounting, control and use of nuclear material in this country. To break off the relationship with the citizens of the Russian Federation who are employed in all UN structures responsible for nuclear energy.

5. Joint participation in the international organizations with such member-states in the existing format is unacceptable for Ukraine and, we hope, for other Member States as well.

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