

Swiss Confederation

## IAEA Board of Governors – March 2025 Agenda Item 4 – Nuclear Safety: Nuclear Safety Review 2025

## STATEMENT BY SWITZERLAND

Thank you, Madame Chair,

[We thank the DG for his report and DDG Evrard for her introductory remarks.] Allow me to mention five highlights from our perspective:

First, last year's "International Conference on Nuclear Knowledge Management and Human Resources Development" highlighted the critical importance of human resource planning, the transfer of expertise and knowledge building - not only for long-term operation, but also for adapting to evolving needs as new technologies emerge. Switzerland commends the Agency for this successful and timely conference.

Second, last year has also been marked by important progress concerning the management of ALPS-treated water discharges at Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station, with the IAEA leading thorough monitoring, sampling, and independent analysis. Switzerland actively contributed to this process by sending experts. We support the continuation of a transparent process through international cooperation.

Third, looking ahead, Switzerland thanks the Agency for organizing the 8<sup>th</sup> Review Meeting of the Joint Convention. We are encouraged by the growing membership and continued active participation. We support the Agency in organizing further national and regional workshops to promote adherence to the Joint Convention, as well as assisting new Contracting Parties to develop their first national reports. We hope that all Parties to the Joint Convention will participate in the Review Meeting in a spirit of cooperation and with a view to ensuring continuous global safety  $\frac{2}{2}$ 

improvement through peer review and knowledge sharing.

Fourth, Switzerland values international peer review missions like the IRRS and has regularly benefited from such. We encourage all Member States, especially those with nuclear power, to regularly host such missions, publicly share the results, and act on them promptly. Additionally, we welcome that the Agency has considered ways to adapt IRRS missions for countries that have hosted more than two full reviews in the past decade, by defining tailored missions focused on specific regulatory and safety challenges.

Finally, let me once again mention the pressing and long standing issue of the denial and delays of shipments which affect many Member States and hamper progress in medicine, industry, research, agriculture and even education. We remain committed to continuing our efforts to find solutions, together with interested Member States and the support of the Secretariat.

Thank you, Madame Chair