



European Union

**EU Statement on
Agenda item 5: Verification and monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran
in light of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015)
IAEA Board of Governors
Vienna, 7-11 June 2021**

Madam Chair,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The following countries align themselves with this statement: Turkey[§], the Republic of North Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Serbia*, Albania*, Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Iceland+, Liechtenstein+, Norway+, the Republic of Moldova and San Marino.
2. The European Union would like to thank the Director General for his report, and Deputy Director General Aparo for the technical briefing on 2 June 2021.
3. The EU reaffirms its resolute commitment to and continued support for the JCPOA at this critical point in time and is determined to continue working with the international community to preserve this agreement of strategic importance and a key element of the global nuclear non-proliferation architecture. The EU calls on all countries to support its implementation in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015).
4. The EU supports the ongoing intensive diplomatic efforts within the JCPOA Joint Commission and the contacts of the EU High Representative as JCPOA Coordinator with all relevant partners. We welcome the discussions held in Vienna at various levels in view of a possible return of the US to the JCPOA, and the perspective of Iran's return to full JCPOA implementation.
5. The EU acknowledges the issues connected to the unilateral withdrawal of the United States from the JCPOA and the reimposition of sanctions by it. Alongside the verified full implementation by Iran of its nuclear-related commitments, the lifting of nuclear-related sanctions is an essential part of the agreement. The EU would like to underline that it has fully upheld its commitments, including sanctions lifting under the JCPOA.

[§] Candidate Country

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

+ Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway are members of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

6. The EU is deeply concerned at Iran's decision to suspend, as of 23 February 2021, the implementation of transparency measures as envisaged in the JCPOA, including the Additional Protocol. This action has significantly reduced the Agency's access and oversight regarding sites, activities and relevant information. Additionally, Iran has not provided updated declarations and the IAEA was not able to conduct any complementary access under the Additional Protocol. The IAEA is deprived of an essential part of its knowledge of Iran's activities on the entirety of Iran's nuclear fuel cycle, including R&D with advanced centrifuges. Iran's decision substantially restricts IAEA's ability to verify that nuclear material and activities in Iran remain for exclusively peaceful purposes.
7. The EU expresses its deepening concern at Iran's continued actions inconsistent with the JCPOA and with severe and, in the case of R&D activities, irreversible proliferation implications including:
 - the continued accumulation of enriched uranium, currently 16 times the threshold allowed by the JCPOA;
 - enrichment activities above the maximum enrichment level of 3.67% set by the JCPOA, to up to 60%; Iran has thus become the first and only country world-wide to produce 60% uranium in an IAEA-safeguarded facility. This is an alarming development;
 - the continued installation, testing and accumulating uranium with advanced centrifuges;
 - the production of more than 2 kg of natural uranium metal and the progress in the installation of equipment to produce uranium metal enriched up to 20% at the Fuel Plate Fabrication Plant (FPFP); the completion of the installation of equipment for the production of uranium metal at the Uranium Conversion Facility (UCF), which is now ready to operate.
8. The EU wholly supports the Director General's efforts to maintain necessary verification and monitoring activities of Iran's nuclear commitments. The EU acknowledges the reference to a temporary bilateral technical understanding for up to three months, as provided for in the 21 February 2021 Joint Statement and the most recent agreement of 24 May 2021, aimed to recover and re-establish the necessary continuity of knowledge.
9. We strongly urge Iran to reverse all activities inconsistent with the JCPOA and return, without delay, to its full implementation, including of all transparency measures, and support the efforts of the JCPOA participants in addressing all relevant issues within the JCPOA framework.
10. This, together with full implementation of the CSA, including modified Code 3.1. to its subsidiary arrangements, the Broader Conclusion and early ratification of the Additional Protocol is essential to help building international confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme. Timely and full cooperation with the IAEA remains crucial.
11. The EU commends the Director General and the Secretariat for their professional, objective and impartial work and fully supports the IAEA's long-term mission of continued verification and monitoring in Iran, even during the COVID-19 pandemic.

12. The EU takes note that, as of 28 May 2021, € 4,9 million of extra budgetary funding had been pledged. We welcome the support of all States in mitigating the impact of the pandemic on budget and travel arrangements.

Madam Chair,

13. The EU takes note of the Director General's report and requests that it be made public.

Thank you, Madam Chair.