

IAEA STATEMENT

UN STI Forum

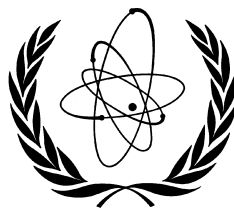
Briefing for Member States and Stakeholders

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INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Excellency Mr. President,
Mr. Co-Chairs,
Distinguished Delegates,

For the first time in decades, international financing institutions are preparing to support the world's most reliable source of clean energy, nuclear power — and the IAEA is helping countries access this financing.

Nuclear power, while providing major benefits like stabilizing grids to enable more intermittent renewables and decarbonize other, hard-to-abate sectors, has previously been out of reach for many LMICs, given the intense capital needs. The IAEA has been working for years to unlock access to financing for innovative nuclear energy and nuclear-related infrastructure.

Now, through major new innovative partnerships with some of the largest development banks in the world, the IAEA is heralding a new era of energy-related development finance. For the first time, IFIs are actively engaging with the IAEA and its member states on concrete nuclear-related projects.

Through technical advisory and capacity-building, the IAEA is working with IFIs to prepare frameworks for critical nuclear energy projects. The IAEA is also working with Countries in building energy planning capacity and formulating science-based energy policy, as well as in preparing infrastructure for expanding or embarking on nuclear energy projects.

Access to nuclear and nuclear-derived technologies and applications is critical in accelerating progress towards sustainable development. Nuclear innovation drives industrial applications and supports the development of advanced materials for resilient infrastructure. In managing water, it is thanks to nuclear techniques, particularly isotope hydrology, that we can map underground

aquifers, assess water age and recharge rates, and trace sources of pollution with utmost accuracy. In climate-vulnerable nations, these techniques are essential for building drought resilience and ensure food security.

All of these technological solutions are only available to the Countries who need them most with sufficient finance. The IAEA is focused on ensuring that adequate finance is available to support the integration of nuclear techniques and applications with other advanced technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence, to create holistic solutions to complex challenges.

To ensure resilience in developing Countries, financing for affordable, clean nuclear energy as well as other nuclear techniques and applications must be unlocked. The IAEA stands ready to help every country make that a reality.

I thank you.