

## STATEMENT

By participants of the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Nuclear Decommissioning and Environmental Recovery **INUDECO 2022**

27-28 April 2022, Slavutych, Ukraine

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of February 2022, Russian troops invaded Ukraine. On the same day, the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant and the Exclusion Zone were seized by the Russian aggressor. Later, the aggressor occupied the Zaporizhia Nuclear Power Plant, and shelled a nuclear facility in Kharkiv – the city of a million residents. Russian cruise missiles were spotted numerous times flying over operating nuclear power plants of Ukraine. Zaporizhia NPP received a hit by tank shells.

Occupation of the Chernobyl and Zaporizhia NPPs has led to the actual destruction of the nuclear security systems of the facilities; of emergency preparedness system; of liability for nuclear damage; to the damage of the system of accounting and control of nuclear materials, and hence the non-proliferation regime. Unacceptable psychological conditions have been created for the activities of personnel supporting the safety of nuclear installations and the direct threat to their lives. The actions of the aggressor state, a permanent member of the UN Security Council, the founder of the UN and the IAEA can be classified as nothing less than nuclear terrorism.

Acts of nuclear terrorism were committed not only by the military, but also by experts, specialists and leaders of the nuclear energy of the aggressor state.

The Conference notes that in this situation the IAEA's actions have been completely insufficient in relation to the current situation.

For more than two months since the beginning of the aggression, the International Atomic Energy Agency has not had the courage to declare a global threat to nuclear safety, the violation of the nuclear non-proliferation regime, or even to define the actions of the aggressor state as acts of nuclear terrorism. The IAEA, as one of the organizations of the UN system, has violated its statute and hasn't demanded the convening of the UN Security Council in connection with the acts of nuclear terrorism and the threat to the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

No less restrained has been the behavior of other international organizations involved in the peaceful use of nuclear energy such as the Nuclear Energy Agency (OECD / NEA), the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO), the World Nuclear Association (WNA), Western European Nuclear Regulators' Association (WENRA) and others.

The Conference considers further inaction of the IAEA, as well as other international organizations representing the interests of nuclear energy, to be a covert support for the continuing acts of nuclear terrorism and to be posing a direct threat to the future of nuclear energy.

The conference notes that the terrorist actions of the aggressor state and military actions in Europe, where there are about 200 operational nuclear power plants, pose a direct threat of severe nuclear accidents with all the consequences for life and health of the population and the environment.

The current situation may also affect the prospects for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, as nuclear power plants and other nuclear facilities for peaceful purposes cannot withstand the deliberate or unintentional impact of modern weapons.

The Conference believes that in the conditions of warfare (impact of hostilities) the safety of nuclear power plants cannot be ensured, and the consequences of such impact on lives and health of people and the state of the environment can be catastrophic across continents rather than individual countries.

The Conference notes that in the conditions of warfare (hostilities), any nuclear power plant does not and cannot meet the safety conditions and limits justified in the safety analysis reports, on the basis of which its operational licenses are issued. This means that nuclear power plants that are located in the territory of hostilities or potential hostilities are outside the legal framework governed by international conventions (agreements), and therefore it can be stated that due to the actions of the aggressor state, the international nuclear safety regime does not work today.

Given the threat to the safety of nuclear facilities for peaceful purposes caused by the actions of the aggressor – the nuclear terrorist state – against Ukraine, the conference participants:

1. Insist that the IAEA Director-General and Board of Governors comply with the provisions of Articles III, B.4. and XII.C. of the Statute of the IAEA and demand from the aggressor to immediately eliminate all cases of non-compliance with international conventions and agreements on the physical protection of nuclear material, and report these facts to all Member-States of the Agency, as well as to the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations.
2. Appeal to international organizations related to the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and nuclear safety (Euroatom, WENRA, WANO, ICRP, OECD / NEA, ENSREG), as well as national nuclear regulators and operating organizations, to strongly condemn the actions of the nuclear terrorist state and to put pressure on its structures with a view to the immediate cessation of acts of nuclear terrorism that pose a direct threat to the safety of nuclear facilities and the prospects for the nuclear energy development.
3. Invites nuclear regulators and operating organizations to hold consultations to make concrete proposals for measures to prevent state nuclear terrorism, as well as to eliminate the threat of deliberate or unintentional use of weapons against nuclear installations intended for peaceful purposes. We are ready to undertake the organization and coordination of relevant consultations.

Adopted as of  
28<sup>th</sup> April 2022