

RESOLUTION

of the 7th International Conference on Nuclear Decommissioning and
Environmental Recovery
INUDECO 2022

27-28 April 2022

On the 24th 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 the 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; emergency preparedness system; liability for nuclear damage; to the violation of the system of accounting and control of nuclear materials, and hence the non-proliferation regime.

On the 31st of March, Russian occupiers withdrew from the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone. In the Exclusion Zone and at the Chernobyl NPP site, the Russian occupiers left behind looted premises of enterprises and institutions, destroyed unique scientific laboratories, looted office equipment, smashed laboratory and measuring equipment, automotive special equipment, etc.

Zaporizhia NPP and the city of Energodar are still captured and controlled by the Russian military. Unacceptable psychological conditions have been created for the activities of staff ensuring the safety of nuclear facilities, and the direct threat to their lives.

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

The participants of the Conference state 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 participants of the Conference consider 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 participants of the Conference note 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.

The conference is held in the Chornobyl NPP worker town of Slavutych, which had been completely isolated from the very beginning of the Russian invasion, suffered humanitarian crisis and a temporary Russian occupation. On the 3rd of April, the Armed Forces of Ukraine entered Slavutych.

The conference has been held in Slavutych since 2016 as part of events dedicated to the anniversary of the Chornobyl accident. In 2022, 168 participants from more than 20 countries (including Ukraine, the European Union, the United Kingdom, the United States, Japan, Israel and others) who are representatives of 35 institutions from the public and private sectors, non-governmental and scientific organizations presented 64 reports and spent 15 hours of continuous work online.

Conference participants representing Ukraine included the Ministry of Energy and Coal Industry, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources, the State Agency for Exclusion Zone Management, SSE Chornobyl NPP, the Institute of Nuclear Power Plant Safety Problems of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Environmental Policy and Nature Management, Ukrainian Nuclear Society, National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute", the Academy of Technological Sciences of Ukraine, Atomremontservice of SE NNEGC "Energoatom", Institute of Mathematical Machines and Systems of NAS of Ukraine, Chernihiv National University of Technology, Karazin National University of Kharkiv and others.

Participants of the conference also included representatives of foreign and international organizations: the European Commission sector for nuclear safety and safeguards, the American Nuclear Society, the European Nuclear Society, Fukushima University (Japan), Kyushu University (Japan), Plejades GmbH (Germany), Berkeley University (USA), Moravian-Silesian Energy Center (Czech Republic), Chalmers University of Technology (Czech Republic), Institute of Nuclear Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences (Czech Republic) and others

The conference is convinced that the scientific and professional community, as well as international nuclear organizations, have a strong enough voice to force the imposition of specific sanctions in nuclear sector on a country whose troops are shelling and seizing nuclear facilities in other countries.

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 participants of INUDECO 2022:

1. Call on the IAEA and other international scientific and industrial organizations working in the field of nuclear energy to recognize that the military actions started by the Russian Federation on the 24th February 2022, with an impact on the safety of nuclear facilities in Ukraine, has caused damage to the nuclear safety, and are illegal and absolutely unacceptable.
2. Call on the IAEA and other international scientific and industrial organizations in the field of nuclear energy to recognize Russia's military action against Ukraine's nuclear facilities as a case of nuclear terrorism; to recognize the Russian Federation as a state in possession of nuclear weapons; to restrict Russia's access to the latest nuclear technologies; to completely stop cooperation with Russia in the nuclear sphere; to exclude the Russian Federation, and also all representatives of the Russian Federation, from governing bodies.
3. Demand that all possible measures are taken to stop Russia's nuclear terrorism, withdrawal of Russian military formations from the territory of Zaporizhia NPP, and that demilitarized zones are established around all Ukrainian nuclear power plants.
4. 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.
5. 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 nuclear energy development prospects.
6. Invite 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 for peaceful purposes. We are ready to undertake the organization and coordination of relevant consultations.
7. Request the international political and scientific community and relevant scientific financial funds to provide international technical and financial assistance and solidarity support to compensate for the damage caused by the aggressor, including repair or replacement of infrastructure and renovation of buildings, laboratories, offices and equipment necessary for the restoration of nuclear safety and security of nuclear facilities and radiation protection in the Chernobyl Exclusion zone.
8. Propose to establish a national coordinating committee led by the government of Ukraine with the participation of relevant authorities to develop an integrated plan of priority actions for the restoration of safety and security at Ukraine's nuclear facilities and to implement it immediately to eliminate the damage from military actions.
9. Request the international community to provide technical and financial assistance for the restoration and repair of infrastructure and to provide technical equipment needed to restore the safety of nuclear facilities.

10. Propose to continue and strengthen the role of the city of Slavutych as a scientific and technical cluster for research at the Chornobyl nuclear power plant, the Shelter and the Exclusion Zone with the participation of all stakeholders, including scientific institutions, local and regional authorities, specialized enterprises, higher education institutions.

11. Request the Government of Ukraine and partner countries to provide technical and financial assistance for the creation and restoration of logistics lost due to the war through the introduction of water and land connections between the city and its key locations Slavutych - Chornobyl – Kyiv.

12. Call on all those concerned to cover the issues raised at the conference on the pages of scientific and practical journals, as well as to publish the materials of the conference and its decisions in the media.

The conference participants thanked the organizers for holding it at a high scientific and technical level and recommended sending appeals and decisions to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the Presidential Office, the Ministry of Energy and Coal Industry of Ukraine, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Ukraine, the State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine, the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the IAEA, embassies of the G7 in Ukraine, the media and other organizations and institutions.

Adopted as of
28th April 2022