



**Statement of the Group of 77 and China during the
Third Meeting of the Working Group on the Regular Budget and TCF Targets
for 2026-2027 of the IAEA, on 8 April 2025,
delivered by Mr. Matheus Uller, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brazil**

Co-Chairs,

1. The Group of 77 and China wishes to thank the Co-Chairs for convening this meeting.
2. While engaging in discussions in this Working Group, the positions of the G-77 and China will continue to reflect adherence to the Group's principles and considerations, which have been clearly enunciated in its previous statements including those delivered at the last PBC and TACC in May and November 2024, respectively. However, at this stage, the Group would like to focus on the following areas.

Co-Chairs,

3. The Group underscores that the promotional activities of the Agency, delivered through the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP), are its main statutory function. The Group reiterates its view that the resources available for the TCP should be sufficient, assured and predictable to meet the objectives mandated in Article II of the Statute. The Group also highlights the contribution that the Technical Cooperation Program (TCP) makes towards the achievement of the SDGs by Member States taking into account their national legal frameworks and priorities.
4. In this regard, the Group is concerned about the growing unfunded component of the TCP (Footnote-a/ projects) which accounted for nearly 60% of the total TCF budget in 2025, reaching approximately €59 million.
5. The Group calls for an increase in the 2026-2027 TCF targets and in the subsequent IPFs, in order to meet the following considerations:
 - The TCF targets should always grow at least in tandem with increases in the regular budget;
 - The increasing number of Member States, including SIDS and LDCs, requiring technical assistance from the Agency; for this budget cycle there are 4 additional Member States which will require initiation of TC programmes;
 - The increased demand by Member States particularly developing countries for TC projects taking into consideration the diverse applications of peaceful uses of atomic energy, including the Agency's flagship initiatives;

- The need to achieve a balance between promotional and non-promotional activities and to address the accumulated gap due to insufficient increases in the TCF during the previous years;
- The necessity to bridge the gap among Member States in nuclear science, technology and applications for peaceful purposes;
- The need to further support Member States in particular developing countries, for the achievement of SDGs taking into account their national legal frameworks and priorities;
- The large unfunded components of TC Programme in Member States, also termed as Footnote-a/ projects, which were almost 60% of the TCF in 2025;
- The price adjustment;
- That the IPFs for 2028-2029 should be based on the agreed TCF targets of 2026-2027, and
- Other relevant factors.

6. The Group's aforementioned approach is consistent with the recommendations of the Working Group on Financing the Agency's Activities (WGFAA) as stated in GOV/2014/49.

7. Finally, while appreciating the high rate of attainment of the TCF in the previous years, the Group emphasizes that the non-payment of TCF contributions would negatively affect such rate and the delivery of the TCP. In this regard, the Group calls on all Member States to pay their contributions to the TCF, on time and in full.

Thank you, Co-chairs.