



Statement of the Group of 77 and China during the Informal Consultations regarding the IAEA Draft Nuclear Security Plan 2026-2029, 4 April 2025

1. The Group of 77 and China wishes to thank the Secretariat for opening the process of a Nuclear Security Plan 2026-2029 and for organizing these informal consultations on that matter.
2. The Group recalls the General Conference Resolution on Nuclear Security adopted in 2024 (GC(68)/RES/9), which encouraged the Secretariat to consult with the Member States during the development of the IAEA's Nuclear Security Plan 2026–2029, with the aim of aligning it with their respective priorities and needs. In this regard, the Group acknowledges the important role the Secretariat plays in preparing the NSP and reiterates its principled position that the consultation process should be driven by Member States. The Group would like to offer the following comments:
3. Firstly, the Group emphasizes that the responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests entirely with that State and that the Agency provides support to Member States in strengthening their national Nuclear Security regimes, including by capacity-building, technical assistance and transfer of technology and equipment to Member States, upon their request.
4. Secondly, while the Group recognizes the central role of the Agency in strengthening the nuclear security framework globally and in coordinating international activities in the field of nuclear security, it emphasizes that priorities of the Agency and scope of its activities in this field must be determined by Member States based on their needs and must be guided by the General Conference Resolutions on Nuclear Security.
5. Thirdly, the Group reiterates its principled position that nuclear security considerations should not hamper international cooperation in the field of peaceful nuclear activities, the production, transfer and use of nuclear and other radioactive material, the exchange of nuclear material for peaceful purposes and the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and should not undermine the established priorities of the Agency's technical cooperation programme.
6. The Group recalls that the Agency's first comprehensive plan of action was approved in March 2002 by the Board of Governors, together with the creation of an extrabudgetary voluntary funding mechanism, the Nuclear Security Fund, in order to implement the Plan. The Group reiterates that nuclear security activities should continue to be funded only by extrabudgetary voluntary resources, while bearing in mind the need to ensure an appropriate balance between activities in the promotional and non-promotional areas in the Agency.
7. The Group would like to reiterate its concern regarding a holistic or integrated approach to safety-security-safeguards by design for nuclear installations, in particular for SMRs. The Group further highlights that references to the coordination between nuclear safety and security should also continue to underscore the fundamental distinction between them.
8. The Group expects that the upcoming NSP will incorporate the principles mentioned above and looks forward to a consensual NSP 2026-2029. The Group will provide additional comments in future consultations.
9. With these comments, the Group of 77 and China looks forward to further consultations on the draft Nuclear Security Plan with a view to its finalization in due course.

Thank you.