

## STATEMENT

On behalf of the Government of Mongolia and the Nuclear Energy Commission and from myself, would like to extend my warm welcome to all the participants coming to Mongolia to take part in the 38<sup>th</sup> Regional Cooperation Agreement's National Representatives Meeting.

60 years ago Mongolia embarked on nuclear energy and it has been accelerating the sustainable development of the country and is making a huge contribution to increase our national capacity through introducing nuclear technology in socio-economic sectors specially health, food and agriculture, environment, industry, science and technology, energy, geology and mining.

In 2009, the Parliament of Mongolia adopted the "State Policy on the Exploitation of radioactive minerals and peaceful uses of nuclear energy," in which there is important article saying "To encourage and implement consistently through phases the achievements gained in the process of introducing nuclear energy and nuclear technology into the energy, industry, mining, food, agriculture, health, research and other sectors." In order to implement this State Policy, Mongolia seeks to actively cooperate with the Regional Cooperative Agreement.

Since its adhesion to the Regional Cooperation Agreement in 1992, an opportunity to participate in joint projects and programs in nuclear energy applications, acquiring experiences of developed countries in the region, sharing information and developing human resources became more possible for Mongolia. It has been a significant contribution to our nation in the development of nuclear energy field and international cooperation. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Regional Cooperation Agreement for their endeavor and contribution.

Mongolia believes the Regional Cooperative Agreement will play a leading role in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations and goals in "21st Conference of the Parties" on Climate Change, reflecting to use nuclear technology broadly to ensure food safety, protect human health, preserve the ecosystem, produce clean and low-cost energy, and to combat desertification and climate change in the Asia-Pacific region.

It is my pleasure to say that Mongolia is fully committed to nuclear non-proliferation, the fight against nuclear terrorism, to support global actions to ensure nuclear safety and security, and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy worldwide.

Furthermore, Mongolia will maintain its active support to tackle unprecedented issues, facing mankind such as climate change, environmental degradation, shortage of food supply and energy, and will actively sustain regional activities to combat nuclear terrorism through cooperating with other Member States in the region.

I wish you all the successful 38<sup>th</sup> Regional Cooperative Agreement's National Representatives Meeting.

Thank you

SAIKHANBILEG CHIMED

Prime Minister of Mongolia