

45th RCA NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES MEETING

9 – 12 MAY 2023

OPENING REMARKS BY RCA CHAIR

Mr. Tran Chi Thanh

Deputy Director General,

Excellencies,

Honourable delegates of the RCA Government Parties,

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen

First and foremost, I would like to express my most sincere greetings and welcome you all to the 45th Regional Meeting of National RCA Representatives. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, three previous RCA National Representatives Meetings had to be held virtually. And it is such a great occasion that we have all representatives in person in Sydney, Australia this year. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of you for arranging your valuable time to join the meeting today.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The RCA has performed its key role as a solid foundation for peaceful nuclear development in the Asia – Pacific Region. During the RCA's events in September 2022, we had a chance to review the successes of the past 50 year that has been created by a concerted effort of all government parties under the auspice of the IAEA. At the RCA Ministerial Meeting, all state parties affirmed the continued strong commitment to regional cooperation for sustainable development based on mutual trust and friendship.

In the context of adapting to new challenges, exploring innovative solutions that enhance the efficiency and impact of the RCA as a pathfinder in the global nuclear community needs the active support and participation of all Government Parties with a strong ownership and leadership. With the efforts to deploy the RCA Declaration 2022 which will be discussed in this 45th NR Meeting, I am sure that

RCA Government Parties will make tough decision for shaping the outcomes of the RCA in the next decades.

My last word, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the next RCA Chair – Australia for their great effort in arranging the 45th NRM, to all RCA NRs for your participation and presence, to the DDG and IAEA-TCAP for all the support and encouragement, to the RCA Focal Person, Chair of the RCA Programme Advisory Committee, Chair of Working Groups, and the RCARO for making such great contribution to the preparation for this Meeting.

I wish the meeting fruitful outcomes as well as the sustainable and striking success of the RCA.

Wish all of you great health, success and happiness.

Thank you.