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ENERGY

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Mr German Galushchenko
Minister of Energy
Ukraine

Dear Minister Galushchenko,

I am writing in response to your joint letter of 5 March 2022 addressed to President von der Leyen. She has asked me to reply on her behalf, as I am responsible within the European Commission for the whole energy portfolio, including nuclear energy matters.

We are closely following developments in nuclear and radiation safety in Ukraine precipitated by the acts of aggression committed by Russia. We are grateful for Ukraine's continuing daily cooperation with the responsible international instances, in the most challenging of circumstances, informing the international community of the safety situation in Ukraine. We are also grateful to SNRIU for its cooperation with my services and for having informed three ENSREG extraordinary plenary meetings of the state of nuclear safety in your country. ENSREG met again on 10 March 2022 to discuss specifically the loss of electrical power to the Chornobyl site, reported on 09 March 2022, which represents a development of significant concern.

The international nuclear community adopted Resolution GOV/2022-17 in the IAEA Board of Governors, condemning Russia's ill-considered, violent seizure of control of the Chornobyl site, and calling on Russia to cease all such violent actions at nuclear sites, warning that activities of this type raise the risk of a nuclear accident. However, Russia did not heed this warning and proceeded to violently and recklessly take control of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, inflicting damage at the site.

We fully share IAEA Director General Grossi's view that even if on this occasion no damage occurred which could have led to a nuclear accident, the continuation of the current situation is not acceptable. We also fully share the sense of urgency and support the efforts towards ensuring full and

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unconditional respect for the seven principles DG Grossi set out in the IAEA Board of Governors in order to ensure the safety and security of Ukraine's nuclear sites. This is in Ukraine's interest, and this is in the interest of the countries of the region, including Russia itself. It is in this regard encouraging to hear of the will of both sides to work with IAEA on addressing the situation. I have written to DG Grossi insisting on the gravity of the situation and the need to bring this to the attention of the UN Security Council.

My services are also working with other Commission services and with SNRIU to identify possible support which we could provide to Ukraine's regulator and licensees. In addition, we have asked ENSREG to alert its Members about the need to provide practical support to Ukraine in the areas of nuclear safety, radiation protection and emergency preparedness. Any support, including in the form of verification missions, can best be provided through close cooperation with IAEA.

The Commission, the EU national safety authorities meeting in ENSREG, WENRA and HERCA are working together to provide the needed support to Ukraine in the area of risk assessment and contribute to a coordinated emergency response at the European level.

In order for the international community to engage and provide practical support on the ground, guaranteed safe travel to the concerned nuclear facilities and unhindered access to the concerned sites is needed. We welcome and fully support DG Grossi's ongoing efforts to find agreement on such security pre-conditions.

Let me conclude by reassuring you of the Commission's commitment to do all in its power to reinforce nuclear safety in Ukraine.

Yours sincerely,



Kadri Simson

c.c.: Mr Petro Kotin
Acting President of Energoatom

Mr Oleh Korikov
Acting Chairman & Chief State Inspector
State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine