



European Union

EU Statement on

Agenda item 10: Application of IAEA Safeguards in the Middle East

**Board of Governors
International Atomic Energy Agency**

Vienna, 8-12 September 2025

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The following countries align themselves with this statement: [alignment clause].

The EU reaffirms its full support for the establishment in the Middle East of a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. We continue to consider the 1995 NPT Resolution as valid, until its goals and objectives are achieved. We strongly support the outcome of the 2010 NPT Review Conference on the Middle East.

The EU notes the five sessions of the “UN Conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction” and their outcomes. As stated in the 2010 Action Plan, the EU recalls that such zones can only be established on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among States of the region concerned. Especially at a time of instability and tensions in the region, we strongly encourage all stakeholders, and especially the States of the region, to engage in meaningful consultations in order to build an inclusive and consensus-based process towards the implementation of the 1995 Resolution.

The EU reiterates its firm support for the universalisation and full, complete, and effective implementation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and its three pillars. We continue to call on all States who have not yet done so to accede to and abide by the NPT and all WMD related Treaties. We call on States to bring into force Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements and Additional Protocols and, as applicable, to rescind or modify their Small Quantities Protocols. Universal subscription to the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation

would also contribute to the regional confidence building necessary for progress towards a WMD free zone in the Middle East.

The establishment of such a zone is not only a matter of regional security but also a crucial step towards global peace and stability. It would alleviate tensions, build trust among neighbouring states, and contribute to the broader goals of disarmament and arms control.

The EU will continue to support this process and to help create a conducive atmosphere. Since 2019, the EU has allocated a total 5 million euros to the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) for this purpose.

Thank you, Chair.