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Verification and monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran in light of United Nations Security Council resolution 2231 (2015)

Report by the Acting Director General

1. This report of the Acting Director General to the Board of Governors and, in parallel, to the United Nations Security Council (Security Council), is on the Islamic Republic of Iran's (Iran's) implementation of its nuclear-related commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in relation to its centrifuge research and development (R&D) activities. It provides an update on developments since the Acting Director General's previous reports.¹

A. Centrifuge R&D Activities

2. On 5 September 2019, HE Hassan Rouhani, the President of Iran, stated "All of our commitments for research and development under the JCPOA will be completely removed by Friday".²

3. As previously reported,³ on 7 September 2019, Iran informed the Agency that it intended to install and test, with natural uranium, additional advanced centrifuges at the Pilot Fuel Enrichment Plant (PFEP) in Natanz. In a letter dated 25 September 2019, Iran informed the Agency that it was currently implementing a reconfiguration of the R&D lines at PFEP to accommodate the following additional centrifuge cascades:⁴ a new cascade of 20 IR-2m centrifuges in R&D line 2; a new cascade of 10 IR-5 centrifuges in R&D line 3; a new cascade of 20 IR-6s centrifuges in R&D line 3; and a new cascade of

¹ GOV/2019/32 and GOV/INF/2019/10.

² At: <http://president.ir/en/111155>.

³ GOV/INF/2019/10.

⁴ Additional to those reported in GOV/INF/2019/10, para. 3.

164 IR-6 centrifuges in R&D line 6. On the same date, the Agency verified that the installation of these new cascades had yet to begin.

4. On 25 September 2019, the Agency verified that all of the cascades already installed in R&D lines 2 and 3 at PFEP⁵ were accumulating, or had been prepared to accumulate, enriched uranium.⁶

5. On 25 September 2019, the Agency verified that the reinstallation of the piping at R&D lines 4 and 5, to accommodate a cascade of 164 IR-4 centrifuges and a cascade of 164 IR-2m centrifuges, was ongoing.⁷ On the same day, the Agency verified that Iran had also started to reinstall IR-4 centrifuges in R&D line 4 and IR-2m centrifuges in R&D Line 5.

6. On 24 September 2019, the Agency verified that Iran had started manufacturing centrifuge rotor tubes using some carbon fibre that was not subject to continuous Agency containment and surveillance measures. The rotor tubes and bellows manufacturing process remains under continuous monitoring by the Agency.^{8,9}

⁵ One cascade of 20 IR-4 centrifuges and one cascade of 10 IR-6 centrifuges in R&D Line 2, and one cascade of 20 IR-6 centrifuges in R&D Line 3.

⁶ JCPOA, 'Annex I – Nuclear-related measures', para. 32.

⁷ GOV/INF/2019/10, para. 4.

⁸ Decision of the Joint Commission of 14 January 2016 (INFCIRC/907).

⁹ GOV/2019/32, para. 21.