September , 15 INSC General Assembly

Opening Remarks – INSC General Assembly 2026
Vienna, 15 September 2026

Distinguished colleagues, dear members of the International Nuclear Societies Council,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to this General Assembly of the INSC here in Vienna.

I would like to warmly thank each of you for your presence, your commitment, and your continued contribution to our Council. The strength of the INSC comes from the diversity of our members, from different regions and professional communities, united by a common belief in the peaceful and responsible use of nuclear science and technology.

Before we begin, I would also like to express our sincere appreciation to Marc Deffrennes **, our immediate Past Chair**, for his commitment and valuable contribution to the INSC. As many of you know, Marc is currently facing a serious health challenge, and on behalf of all of us, I would like to wish him strength, courage, and a full and speedy recovery. For this meeting, Marc will be represented by Christian legrain, whom I warmly thank for stepping in and supporting the Council during this period.

Today's General Assembly is particularly important. We have several key matters before us that will shape the next stage of our Council's development: our budget and statutes, the expansion and restructuring of the INSC, including the creation of an African region, the strengthening of our digital presence, our global award, membership, and the future implementation of our Charter and Annex.

Beyond these agenda items, I believe that today is also an opportunity to reflect on **what kind of INSC we want to build together**: a more inclusive, more representative, more visible and more effective global platform for nuclear societies.

I particularly welcome our discussions on expanding our regional representation. The creation of an African region is an important step toward strengthening our global balance and ensuring that the voices and expertise of all regions are fully represented within the INSC.

I also wish to thank all colleagues who have contributed their time and energy to the work of the Council. Leadership transitions are not simply transitions; they are opportunities to build on what has been achieved and to move forward with renewed energy and ambition.

I encourage all members to participate actively and constructively in today's discussions. Let us approach our decisions with a spirit of unity, transparency and shared responsibility, always keeping in mind the long-term interests of the INSC.

With these few words, I am pleased to officially open the **2026 INSC General Assembly**.

Thank you, and I wish us a very productive and successful meeting.

BENDAM Khadija, INSC 2026 Chair