

Mr. Chair,

Since it is the first time that my delegation is taking the floor, allow me on to congratulate you, Mr. Chair and other members of the Bureau of the Sixth Committee on the election and wish to all of you great success. I assure you of the full support of my delegation.

My delegation welcomes report of the Secretary General, contained in the document: A/74/131.

Bosnia and Herzegovina wants to reaffirm its strong commitment to the international law and to related UN General Assembly Resolutions concerning the prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities. Furthermore, we would like to refer to the Report of the International Law Commission from its fifty-third session, annexed to the UN General Assembly Resolution 62/68 of 06 December of 2007.

Mr. Chair,

Bearing in mind our commitment to the international law and relevant agreements, we would like to draw your attention to our concern with regard to the plan of the Republic of Croatia to build and establish a storage for disposal of a radioactive low and intermediate waste from Nuclear Power Plant Krsko, close to the border of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Natural Park of pristine Una River, which was once pronounced as the cleanest river in Europe. According to that plan, placement of radioactive waste from operation and decommissioning of Krsko Nuclear Power Plant would be placed in above mentioned location near the border of Bosnia and Herzegovina. That Nuclear Power Plant is located in Republic of Slovenia, which is joint ownership of these two countries and it is scheduled to be closed down in 2043. Disposal of the half of the nuclear waste is within the responsibility of the Republic of Croatia. Building of that facility, if approved, would be located only three kilometers (less than 2 miles) away from Novi Grad, a town in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which could cause a problem for more than 30 000 inhabitants who unanimously oppose this project. The new waste storage would expose citizens of nine further close municipalities which live in fear and anxiety for years now.

Bosnia and Herzegovina strongly opposes to the construction of the facility on this location and we do hope that the Republic of Croatia would find another solution, which will not jeopardize good neighborly relations. Along with all professional impact we do care for very negative socio – economic impacts on this area and population, who already suffered enough. Authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina are desired to protect the people living nearby the proposed location for building above mentioned storage in both countries, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia. Representatives of our country have already addressed the issue to the authorities of the Republic of Croatia, expressing concerns and trying to find the best possible solution.

Mr. Chair,

Bosnia and Herzegovina fully understands the position of the Republic of Croatia and the necessity of building of such a storage for nuclear waste. But, since the proposed location is very close to the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, our view is that construction of the storage on above mentioned location would not be act of good neighborly relations. Also, our position is that it also would not be in accordance with the provisions of the article 3. of the Annex to the UN Resolution 62/68 which calls “State of origin shall take all appropriate measures to prevent significant transboundary harm or at any event to minimize the risk thereof.”

In that regard, Bosnia and Herzegovina calls upon authorities of the Republic of Croatia to find mutually agreed solution, avoiding possible legal dispute in this matter.

I thank you Mr. Chair.