



# European Union

## Statement on the occasion of the IAEA Board of Governors Vienna, 18-20 November 2020

### Agenda item 2: Technical Cooperation: Report of the Technical Assistance and Cooperation Committee

#### CONTINGENCY STATEMENT

Madam Chair,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The following countries align themselves with this statement: [Turkey<sup>§</sup>, the Republic of North Macedonia\*, Montenegro\*, Iceland\*, Serbia\*, Albania\*, Bosnia and Herzegovina\*, Liechtenstein\*, Norway\*, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and San Marino.]
2. In view of the time constraints, I will not repeat our more detailed EU statement delivered during the TACC, but nevertheless would like to bring our major points to the attention of the Board of Governors:
  - The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and other outbreaks in recent years illustrate the utmost importance of international efforts to strengthen in a coordinated manner the global capacity to detect, prevent and respond to zoonotic diseases.
  - The EU welcomes the additional information provided with regard to the proposal for a new interregional project on “Supporting National and Regional Capacity in Integrated Action for Control of Zoonotic Diseases” as contained in GOV/2020/37.
  - We encourage the Secretariat to ensure the establishment of a formal coordination mechanism with relevant international organisations, such as the Tripartite, in the delivery of the TC project. This will avoid the risk of duplication, and ensure effectiveness and consistency across the existing international work strands.
  - We reiterate the call to ensure engagement with and reporting to Member States on the initiative as well as equal access for all interested Member States to ZODIAC.
  - The EU and its Member States look forward to further consultations and working closely with the Director General and his staff on this important initiative.
3. With these comments, the EU, like others, joins consensus on the Report of the Technical Assistance and Cooperation Committee, as contained in document GOV/2020/XXX.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

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<sup>§</sup> Candidate Country

\* Candidate Countries the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania as well as potential Candidate Country Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

\* Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein are members of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.