



## **AUSTRALIA**

### **IAEA Board of Governors Meeting**

**3 March 2014**

#### **Agenda Item 2: Applications for Membership of the Agency**

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

Australia welcomes the Brunei Darussalam and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas as new member States of the IAEA, and the applications to join the IAEA of Guyana and Vanuatu contained in documents GOV/2014/7 and GOV/2014/18 respectively.

The applications of these two new countries underscore the important work of the Agency in the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology to provide positive outcomes for people across the world in areas such as health, agriculture, water security and environmental management. Noting our close cooperation in the Pacific, Australia is particularly pleased with the application of Vanuatu. If their membership is approved, Vanuatu will become the fifth Pacific Island Country to join the Agency, highlighting the increasingly important role of the Agency in this region

With these comments, Australia supports recommending to the General Conference the applications for membership of the Agency of Guyana and Vanuatu.