

## Opening Speech by Ms Dominique Mouillot, WiN Global President

Ladies and Gentlemen.

It's an honor and a privilege to stand before you today at the esteemed Women in Nuclear Annual Conference, here in the beautiful city of Aswan, Egypt. As we gather in this historic city, known for its rich cultural heritage and awe-inspiring monuments, we also gather to celebrate and delve into an equally important matter: the pivotal role of women in the sustainable development of nuclear and radiation applications.

Before I delve into the heart of our discussions, I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge the remarkable journey of Women in Nuclear Global, especially as we commemorate our 30th anniversary. I would like to highlight the key contributions of the founding mother of WiN Global, Irene Aegerter, who still to this day acts as an advisor and dedicates time and resources to this global society. Over the last three decades, WiN has been a beacon of empowerment, forging a path for women in the nuclear industry, breaking barriers, and championing diversity and inclusion. It's with great pride that we stand here, reflecting on the accomplishments that have marked our journey, and envisioning the road ahead.

The world is reliant on power and energy to survive. Without drastic measures to reduce human energy consumption, impacting the lifestyles we have grown accustomed to and expect, meaningful climate action is required. As part of a sustainable energy solution, nuclear power can support renewable and other carbon neutral energy sources to ensure energy security, stability and reliability is maintained for generations to come. The nuclear industry is innovating and developing breakthrough technologies, notably with the construction of micro or small modular reactors associated with the production of carbon-free hydrogen.



Energy and electricity make life easier and more pleasant; and developing countries need it urgently. Energy also enables humans to live longer, healthier lives, monitor people's state of health, produce medicines to cure illness or relieve pain.

This year's conference theme, "Women for Sustainable Development of Nuclear and Radiation Applications", couldn't be more pertinent. It is a testament to our commitment to driving progress not only in the nuclear industry but also in shaping a sustainable and responsible future for our world. WiNners all across the globe have put great efforts in advocating for the widespread peaceful use of these crucial technologies, without which we have limited prospects for addressing global challenges such as clean energy, healthcare advancements, and environmental preservation.

We owe a debt of gratitude to our hosts, sponsors, and partners whose unwavering support has been instrumental in making this event a reality. Your commitment to our cause is invaluable and highlights the collaborative effort needed to achieve our shared goals. Thank you Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation, Thomas Thor, NUVIA, Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power and Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute Overseas Nuclear Education Center (KOCEN).

Throughout the conference, we will tackle an array of critical topics, exploring the advancements, challenges, and opportunities within the nuclear industry. From discussing technological innovations and safety measures to considering socio-economic impacts and ethical considerations, our agenda is comprehensive and forward-thinking.

The climate crisis has a disproportionate effect on younger generations and women. To date the global changes have not had the required impact to reduce carbon emissions which is affecting some of the world's most vulnerable



communities. The benefits of adding nuclear power as a net zero option to a renewable grid allows for clean, affordable and reliable energy to be provided globally. There are steps both the nuclear and wider global communities need to take to build nuclear capacity and make a meaningful impact in reducing carbon emissions, this includes funding and supporting newcomers to nuclear energy.

Moreover, it's crucial to emphasize the vital role of WiN Africa. The continent stands as a beacon of potential and progress in the nuclear sector, and the contributions of WiN Africa in promoting education, supporting professionals, and fostering collaborations are commendable. Your efforts serve as a testament to the transformative power of unity and knowledge-sharing. Thank you to our new African chapters for joining the WiN Global family.

Let us seize this opportunity to engage, learn, and collaborate. Our collective dedication to harnessing the power of nuclear and radiation applications for sustainable development is what will propel us forward. Together, let us champion innovation, inclusivity, and progress.

In conclusion, I would like to remind you of your role as ambassadors of peace, especially given the current situation in many regions of the world. Each WiNner stands for the peaceful and beneficial applications of nuclear technology, to all of humanity. This way we contribute to global peace and development. We are not only pioneers and experts in our field but also advocates for a better, safer world.

Together, as WiNners, we shape a world where the boundless possibilities of nuclear technology serve as a beacon of progress, solidarity, and prosperity for all.

Thank you very much.