**The current status of work on the power units of the El Dabaa NPP under construction in the Arab Republic of Egypt**

The El Dabaa NPP is the first nuclear power plant in Africa and the largest nuclear construction site in the world. The NPP is being built in Egypt, in the city of El Dabaa on the Mediterranean coast, about 300 kilometers northwest of Cairo.

The El Dabaa NPP consists of four 1,200 MW power units equipped with Russian-design VVER-1200 water-cooled reactors of the latest third generation. The VVER-1200 reactors are ROSATOM's flagship product: 4 power units with such reactors operate in Russia and one in Belarus, with similar facilities currently under construction in Turkey, Hungary, China, India and Bangladesh. Power units with Generation III+ reactors will be able to produce up to 37 billion kWh of electricity annually, which means that one in every 10th light bulb in Egypt will be lit thanks to the El Dabaa NPP.

Generation III+ reactors are considered the safest and most reliable today. What is important is that, unlike coal and gas-fired power plants, the new plant will emit no carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, which will certainly have a beneficial effect on the environment and human health. During the construction of nuclear power plants, Russian safety standards, all the IAEA regulations and the most stringent environmental requirements are strictly observed.

The El Dabaa NPP is being built under a set of contracts that entered into force on December 11, 2017. Under the contract, the Russian side will not only build a nuclear power plant, but will also supply nuclear fuel for the entire NPP life, assist Egyptian partners in personnel training and provide operational support during the first 10 years of the plant's operation. Russia will also build a storage facility and provide special containers for storing spent nuclear fuel.

According to ROSATOM's estimates, the added value for the gross domestic product of the Arab Republic of Egypt due to the project implementation will reach more than 5 billion US dollars (which is about 1,5% of the Egyptian GDP).

All four power units of the El Dabaa NPP are in the active construction stage. In 2022, the "first concrete" of the 1st and 2nd power units was poured, in May 2023 concrete was poured for the 3rd unit, in January 2024 – for the 4th one, which was attended by the heads of the two states – V.V. Putin and Abdel Fattah el-Sisi. Concreting and other work continues on all power units, making the Egyptian site the largest construction site in the world.

As of today, about 25,000 people are involved in the project.

The key milestones of 2023 were the installation of nuclear fuel melt traps ("core catchers") at power units No. 1 and No. 2. The core catcher is one of the most important elements of passive safety systems used based on the experience of the Chernobyl accident. In October 2024, the installation of the "core catcher" at power unit No. 3 was completed, and in November 2024, the installation of the "core catcher" at power unit No. 4 began. By the end of 2025, it is planned to install a nuclear reactor vessel at power unit No. 1.

All 4 power units of the El Dabaa NPP are to be put into operation over the period from 2028 to 2030.