



Forty-fourth regular session
Item 17 of the agenda
(GC(44)/21)

MEASURES AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND OTHER RADIOACTIVE SOURCES

Resolution adopted on 22 September 2000 at the tenth plenary meeting

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling its resolutions GC(XXXVIII)/RES/15, GC(39)/RES/18, GC(40)/RES/17, GC(41)/RES/17, GC(42)/RES/18 and GC(43)/RES/18 on measures against illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive sources,
- (b) Noting the programme for preventing and combating illicit trafficking in nuclear material agreed upon by the participants in the Moscow Nuclear Summit of April 1996 contained in document INFCIRC/509,
- (c) Welcoming the confirmation of participants at the Denver Summit of June 1997 on their commitment to implement the "Programme for Prevention and Combating Illicit Trafficking in Nuclear Materials",
- (d) Noting that revised Recommendations for the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and Nuclear Facilities (INFCIRC/225/Rev. 4 (Corrected)) which were issued after intensive consultations by Member States' and Agency experts are now under consideration and that some Member States have started to implement them on a voluntary basis,
- (e) Noting also the contribution of Agency safeguards agreements and Additional Protocols to combating illicit trafficking by the prevention of diversion of nuclear materials,
- (f) Noting further that the Agency, together with the European Commission, the World Customs Organization and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol), organized the "International Conference on the Safety of Radiation Sources and the Security of Radioactive Materials" in Dijon, France, from 14 to 18 September 1998, and that the results of that conference have had an important impact on the activities undertaken by the Agency,

(g) Noting further that some of the activities are covered by the Secretariat Action Plan for the Safety of Radiation Sources and the Security of Radioactive Materials developed pursuant to resolution GC(42)/RES/12, which was approved by the Board and endorsed by the General Conference in resolution GC(43)/RES/10,

(h) Noting further that the informal Open-Ended Experts Meeting to discuss whether there is a need to revise the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material decided at its meeting of 15-17 November 1999 in Vienna to continue its work in a series of working group meetings with the participation of the Agency's Secretariat,

(i) Looking forward to the outcome of the International Conference on "Security of Material - Measures to Prevent, Intercept and Respond to Illicit Uses of Nuclear Material and Radioactive Sources" due to take place in Stockholm, Sweden, from 7 to 11 May 2001, and

(j) Noting further that the UN General Assembly is continuing its elaboration of an international convention on the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism (UNGA resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996),

1. Takes note of the progress report submitted by the Secretariat in document GC(44)/15;
2. Welcomes the ongoing activities in the fields of prevention, detection and response undertaken by the Secretariat in support of efforts against illicit trafficking;
3. Also welcomes the activities undertaken to provide for an exchange of information with Member States, including continued maintenance of the illicit trafficking database programme, as well as to improve the exchange of information by making the best use of the modernized database;
4. Invites all States to participate in the illicit trafficking database programme on a voluntary basis;
5. Appeals to States that have not yet done so to accede to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, adopt relevant physical protection and safety standards and introduce and enforce appropriate measures and legislation to combat illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive sources;
6. Invites the Director General to submit a report to the Board of Governors on the progress of the Secretariat's activities and on the possibilities:
 - of further improving the international standards in this area, particularly with regard to the security of radioactive materials, and
 - of enhancing co-operation and co-ordination with Member States and with other international organizations, with the aim of preventing, detecting and responding to the illegal use of nuclear materials and other radioactive sources;
7. Also invites the Director General, in consultation and co-ordination with Member States, to develop, within available resources, a plan describing the future activities to be undertaken in these areas and the time schedule for their implementation;

8. Requests the Director General to submit a report to the General Conference at its forty-fifth session on activities undertaken by the Agency in the intervening period; and
9. Requests the Director General to bring the present resolution to the attention of the UN General Assembly and invites the UN General Assembly, in its continued elaboration of an international convention on the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, to bear in mind the Agency's activities in preventing and combating illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive sources.