

General Conference

GC(48)/RES/11
Date: 24 September 2004

General Distribution
Original: English

Forty-eighth regular session

Item 14 of the agenda
(GC(48)/25)

Nuclear Security - Measures to Protect against Nuclear Terrorism

Progress on Measures to Protect against Nuclear and Radiological Terrorism

**Resolution adopted on 24 September 2004
during the tenth plenary meeting**

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling the 45th General Conference's unequivocal condemnation of the attacks which took place on 11 September 2001,
- (b) Recalling its previous resolutions on measures to improve the security of nuclear materials and other radioactive materials, and on measures against illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive materials, and noting that in 2005 the Agency's three-year Plan of Activities to combat nuclear terrorism will come to completion,
- (c) Considering the need to continue to devote attention to the potential implications of terrorist acts for the security of nuclear materials and other radioactive materials in use, storage and transport involving associated facilities, and emphasizing the importance of physical protection and other measures against illicit trafficking and national control systems for ensuring protection against nuclear terrorism and other malicious acts, including the use of radioactive material in a radiological dispersion device,
- (d) Recognizing the importance of promoting an effective security culture in the field of physical protection of nuclear materials, nuclear facilities and other radioactive materials,
- (e) Recognizing that threat-based risk assessment methodology is relevant for nuclear and other radioactive materials,
- (f) Mindful of the obligations of every Member State to keep its peaceful nuclear programmes safe and secure, asserting that responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests entirely with that State, and noting the important contribution of international cooperation in supporting the efforts of States to fulfil their responsibilities,

- (g) Noting United Nations Security Council resolution 1373, which called on all States to work, particularly through bilateral and multilateral arrangements, to prevent acts of terrorism,
- (h) Noting also that actions of the international community to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and prevent the access by non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction and related material, notably United Nations Security Council resolution 1540, constitute contributions to the protection against nuclear and radiological terrorism,
- (i) Noting also in this context the contributions of the G-8 Action Plan on Non-proliferation adopted at the Sea Island Summit in June 2004,
- (j) Taking note of the Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI) and the Partners' Conference held 18 - 19 September 2004 in Vienna, the stated purpose of which was to build international support for national programmes on nuclear and radiological threat reduction,
- (k) Recalling that international conferences expressed their appreciation for international assistance and support for national programmes to secure and control unsecured nuclear and other radioactive materials, consistent with national laws and regulations and looking forward to continued efforts and also noting, in particular the International Conference on Nuclear Security to be held in March 2005 in London, United Kingdom,
- (l) Reaffirming the importance of strengthening the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material as the only multilateral legal instrument dealing with the physical protection of nuclear material,
- (m) Recalling that other international agreements negotiated under the auspices of the Agency are relevant to nuclear security and the physical protection of nuclear material and other radioactive materials against the threat of nuclear and radiological terrorism, those agreements including the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident, the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency, the Convention on Nuclear Safety and the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management,
- (n) Noting the central contribution of Agency safeguards agreements and additional protocols, and also of States' Systems of Accounting for and Control of Nuclear Materials, to preventing illicit trafficking and to deterring and detecting diversion of nuclear materials, and
- (o) Stressing the essential importance of ensuring the confidentiality of information relevant to nuclear and radiological security, in particular information that might be of interest to terrorists,
1. Takes note of the progress report submitted by the Director General in document GC(48)/6 on measures to improve nuclear security and protection against nuclear and radiological terrorism, and commends the Director General and the Secretariat for their action to improve nuclear and radiological security and prevent nuclear and radiological terrorism;
 2. Calls upon all Member States to continue to provide political, financial and technical support, including in-kind contributions, to improve nuclear and radiological security and prevent nuclear and radiological terrorism, and to provide to the Nuclear Security Fund the political and financial support it needs;
 3. Welcomes the activities in the physical protection of nuclear materials and facilities and the prevention and detection of and response to illicit activities involving nuclear material and other radioactive materials undertaken by the Agency to improve nuclear and radiological security and prevent nuclear and radiological terrorism;

4. Appeals to States that have not yet done so to accede to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, and encourages States to apply the physical protection objectives and fundamental principles endorsed by the Board of Governors and set out in document GOV/2001/41;
5. Calls upon all State parties to work towards the adoption by consensus of amendments to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material,
6. Welcomes also the activities undertaken to provide for an exchange of information with Member States, including continued maintenance of the Illicit Trafficking Database programme, invites all States to participate in the Illicit Trafficking Database programme on a voluntary basis, and further invites all States to consider the potential danger of illicit trafficking across their borders and within their countries;
7. Welcomes the Agency's work in the field of nuclear forensics and urges Member States to provide continued support to the Agency's activities in connection with the detection of the origin of illicitly trafficked nuclear or radioactive material;
8. Notes with appreciation the work of the Advisory Group on Security to provide advice from Member States' experts on the orientations and the implementation of Agency activities relevant to nuclear and radiological security, and to review associated documents and services;
9. Takes note of the steps taken by the Secretariat to ensure confidentiality of information relevant to nuclear and radiological security, and requests the Secretariat to continue its efforts to implement appropriate confidentiality measures and to report as appropriate to the Board of Governors on the status of the implementation of the new confidentiality measures;
10. Looks forward to the convening of the forthcoming International Conference on Nuclear Security to be held in March 2005 in London, United Kingdom;
11. Invites the Director General to continue to implement, in consultation and coordination with Member States, and subject to the availability of resources, Agency activities relevant to nuclear and radiological security and protection against nuclear and radiological terrorism and looking forward to a decision of the Board of Governors to review in accordance with GC(46)/RES/13 the funding arrangements for these activities;
12. Welcomes the Agency's initiative to assist States in planning their future nuclear security activities and encourages the Agency to prepare an annual report highlighting significant accomplishments of the prior year and establishing goals and priorities for the year to come; and
13. Requests the Director General to submit a report to the General Conference at its forty-ninth session on activities regarding these issues undertaken by the Agency.