

**A CONVENTION ON THE SAFETY OF  
RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT**

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling resolution GC(XXXVIII)/RES/6, by which the General Conference invited the Board and the Director General inter alia "to commence preparations for a convention on the safety and waste management",
- (b) Welcoming the Convention on Nuclear Safety, which will enter into force on 24 October 1996, and recalling that its preambular paragraph (ix) affirms "the need to begin promptly the development of an international convention on the safety of radioactive waste management as soon as the ongoing process to develop waste management safety fundamentals has resulted in broad international agreement",
- (c) Recalling also resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530, by which the General Conference adopted the IAEA Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste and expressed, inter alia, "the desirability of concluding a legally binding instrument under the auspices of the IAEA", and
- (d) Mindful of the needs of Member States, particularly the developing countries, to upgrade, with the co-operation and assistance of the Agency, their institutional and technical capabilities to safely manage radioactive waste,
1. Expresses its appreciation to the Open-ended Group of Legal and Technical Experts on a Convention on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management for the progress achieved so far;
  2. Welcomes the invitation of the Government of South Africa to host the forthcoming fifth meeting of the Group in Pilansberg, South Africa, and expresses the hope that substantial progress will be made in resolving the outstanding issues in a spirit of compromise so as to allow timely completion of the preparatory work and adoption of a convention in the near future; and
  3. Requests the Board and the Director General to report on the implementation of this resolution to the Conference at its forty-first regular session.

*20 September 1996*

*Agenda item 12*

*GC(40)/OR.10, paras 24 and 25*