DUMPING OF NUCLEAR WASTES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Draft resolution submitted by Egypt on behalf of the African Group

The General Conference,

(a) Concerned about the growing practice of the dumping of nuclear and other toxic wastes in developing countries by transnational corporations and other enterprises from industrialized countries,

(b) Aware of the harmful effects of radiation from nuclear wastes on human health and the environment and also of the transboundary radiological consequences for the countries which are neighbours of a State receiving such wastes,

(c) Bearing in mind Organization of African Unity (OAU) resolution 1153 (XLVIII) of May 1988 on the Dumping of Nuclear and Industrial Wastes in Africa, and

(d) Recognizing the global role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the area of nuclear safety and waste management,

1. Deplores all practices that involve the export of nuclear wastes to and the dumping of such wastes in developing countries;

2. Vehemently condemns those enterprises and transnational corporations which, taking advantage of the financial needs of some developing countries, particularly in Africa, dump nuclear wastes in them;

9314y

88-04049
3. Demands that these illegal and dangerous practices cease forthwith;

4. Calls upon the International Atomic Energy Agency to ensure that any assistance provided by it or under its auspices shall not in any way further such practices;

5. Further calls upon the International Atomic Energy Agency to give priority consideration to requests by developing countries for assistance in the field of nuclear waste management;

6. Appeals to all States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with environmental protection to co-operate with developing countries in monitoring the movement and disposal of nuclear wastes in developing countries;

7. Urges all Member States to take necessary measures to ensure that all international nuclear waste transactions take place in accordance with appropriate licensing requirements of the exporting, importing and transit States;

8. Requests the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency to elaborate an internationally agreed code of practice for international transactions involving nuclear wastes, in the light of the increased international traffic in dangerous wastes primarily from industrialized countries to Third World countries;

9. Requests the Director General to bring this resolution to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations; and

10. Further requests the Director General to report to the General Conference at its thirty-third session on the implementation of this resolution.