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GC(XXXII)/RES/490
September 1988

GENERAL Distr.

International Atomic Energy Agency

GENERAL CONFERENCE

Thirty-second regular session
Agenda item 10
(GC(XXXII)/856)

MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN NUCLEAR SAFETY AND RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION

Resolution adopted during the 311th plenary meeting, on 23 September 1988

DUMPING OF NUCLEAR WASTES

The General Conference,

(a) Bearing in mind "resolution CM/RES 1153 (XLVIII) on the dumping of nuclear and industrial wastes in Africa" adopted by the Organization of African Unity and circulated to Member States of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

(b) Recognizing the global role of the Agency in the area of nuclear safety and waste management,

(c) Aware of the potential hazards underlying the mismanagement of nuclear wastes for human health and the environment and also the transboundary radiological consequences thereof, and

(d) Reaffirming that each State engaged in nuclear energy activities has the responsibility to ensure that these activities do not endanger other countries,

1. Condemns all nuclear waste dumping practices which would infringe upon the sovereignty of States and/or would endanger the environment or public health of other countries and calls upon all Member States to ensure that no such practices occur;

2. Calls upon the Agency to ensure that any assistance provided by it or under its auspices shall not in any way allow such practices;

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3. Further calls upon the Agency to give priority consideration to requests by developing countries for assistance in the field of nuclear waste management;
4. Requests each Member State to take necessary measures to ensure that its international nuclear waste transactions take place in accordance with appropriate requirements of the exporting, importing and transit States;
5. Urges all States and intergovernmental organizations concerned with environmental protection to co-operate with developing countries, at their request, in dealing with any potential disposal of nuclear wastes in their territories;
6. Requests the Director General of the Agency to establish a representative technical working group of experts with the objective of elaborating an internationally agreed code of practice for international transactions involving nuclear wastes based on, inter alia, a review of current national and international laws and regulations on waste disposal;
7. Requests the Director General to bring this resolution to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations; and
8. Further requests the Director General to report to the General Conference at its thirty-third regular session on the implementation of this resolution.