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International Atomic Energy Agency

GENERAL CONFERENCE

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Thirty-eighth regular session
Agenda item 16
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STRENGTHENING OF THE AGENCY'S MAIN ACTIVITIES

Resolution adopted on 23 September 1994, during the ninth plenary meeting

EXTENSIVE USE OF ISOTOPE HYDROLOGY FOR WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

The General Conference,

- (a) Appreciating the work done by the Agency in the area of isotope hydrology,
- (b) Recognizing that the quality and quantity of available water resources, particularly in arid and semi-arid zones, are inadequate and that the availability of clean water is a minimal requisite for sustaining development,
- (c) Underlining that the availability of clean drinking water is directly linked to human health and has consequent serious economic implications,
- (d) Aware of techno-economic benefits arising from the use of isotope hydrology techniques in water resources management,
- (e) Recognizing that these techniques are valuable in studying processes like groundwater recharge, surface and sub-surface water interaction, water salination, seepage and the pollution of water bodies and that their use should be integrated with conventional techniques, and
- (f) Noting views expressed at the meetings of the Board of Governors in June 1994 to the effect that special attention should be paid to the utilization of isotope hydrology for water resources management,

1. Requests the Director General to direct the available expertise and resources to a few concrete and cogent projects which would result in a visible impact in improved water resources management through isotope techniques;
2. Urges the Agency to work in conjunction with other concerned international organizations and solicit their co-operation in such projects;
3. Urges the Secretariat to endeavour to secure resources needed for this purpose; and
4. Requests further that the Director General report on the progress achieved in the implementation of this resolution to the Board of Governors and to the General Conference at its thirty-ninth regular session.