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GENERAL CONFERENCE

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Agenda item 13
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MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN NUCLEAR, RADIATION AND WASTE SAFETY

Resolution adopted on 3 October 1997 during the 9th plenary meeting

SAFETY OF TRANSPORT OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

The General Conference,

- (a) Welcoming the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, which was opened for signature at the Headquarters of the Agency in Vienna on 29 September 1997,
- (b) Taking into account the fact that the off-site transportation of radioactive waste and spent fuel is excluded from the scope of application of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management,
- (c) Noting that preambular paragraph (xvi) of the Joint Convention reads "Recognizing the desirability of strengthening the international control system applying specifically to radioactive materials as referred to in Article 1(3) of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (1989)",
- (d) Recalling resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530, by which the General Conference adopted the Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste and in which it decided to keep the question of international transboundary movement of radioactive waste under active review, including the desirability of concluding a legally binding instrument under the auspices of the IAEA,

(e) Further taking into account the Resolution Relating to Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel adopted by consensus by the Diplomatic Conference convened to adopt a Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, and

(f) Aware of the concerns about the safety of transport of radioactive materials and of its importance for the protection of populations and the environment,

1. Requests the Secretariat to prepare, for consideration at the June 1998 session of the Board of Governors, a report on legally binding and non-binding international instruments and regulations concerning the safe transport of radioactive materials and their implementation; and

2. Requests the Board of Governors and the Director General to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Conference at its forty-second regular session.