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GOV/1999/46-GC(43)/10  
17 August 1999

International Atomic Energy Agency  
**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**GENERAL CONFERENCE**

GENERAL Distr.  
Original: ENGLISH

Sub-item 2(b) of the Board's provisional agenda  
(GOV/1999/47)  
Sub-item 13(c) of the Conference's provisional agenda  
(GC(43)/1)

**MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION  
IN THE NUCLEAR, RADIATION AND WASTE SAFETY**

**The Safety of Radiation Sources and the Security of Radioactive Materials**

**BACKGROUND**

**General Conference resolution GC(42)/RES/12**

1. On 25 September 1998, in resolution GC(42)/RES/12, the General Conference - inter alia - welcomed a Secretariat report on the International Conference on the Safety of Radiation Sources and the Security of Radioactive Materials held in Dijon, France, from 14 to 18 September 1998, noted with interest the major findings of the Conference, encouraged all governments "to take steps to ensure the existence within their territories of effective national systems of control for ensuring the safety of radiation sources and the security of radioactive materials", requested the Secretariat "to prepare for the consideration of the Board of Governors a report on (i) how national systems for ensuring the safety of radiation sources and the security of radioactive materials can be operated at a high level of effectiveness and (ii) whether international undertakings concerned with the effective operation of such systems and attracting broad adherence could be formulated" and requested the Director General to report to it at its next (1999) regular session on the implementation of that resolution.

**Secretariat action pursuant to resolution GC(42)/RES/12**

2. Resolution GC(42)/RES/12 was brought to the attention of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Member States in a note verbale (JI.01.Circ) dated 1 December 1998, in which the Secretariat recalled that the IAEA had, jointly with other organizations, established International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the

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