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STRENGTHENING THE AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES RELATED TO NUCLEAR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND APPLICATIONS

Resolution adopted on 22 September 2000 at the tenth plenary meeting

The General Conference,

- (a) Noting that the Agency's objectives as outlined in Article II of the Statute include "to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world",
- (b) Noting also that the statutory functions of the Agency as outlined in Article III of the Statute, paragraphs A.1 to A.4, include encouraging research and development, fostering the exchange of scientific and technical information and the training of scientists and experts in the field of peaceful uses of atomic energy, including the production of electric power, with due consideration for the needs of developing countries,
- (c) Noting the Medium Term Strategy as guidance and input in this respect,
- (d) Aware of the present role of nuclear power in meeting 17% of the electricity needs of mankind and that a number of countries consider that applications of Nuclear Science are making a crucial input to development strategies in Member States,
- (e) Stating that Nuclear Science, Technology and Applications address and contribute to a wide variety of basic socio-economic human development needs of Member States, such as in the areas of energy, industry, food, nutrition and agriculture, human health and water resources management,
- (f) Aware that the development and management of safe nuclear power, science and applications in those Member States which have chosen or will choose the nuclear option require the preservation of knowledge and experience and the maintenance of an adequate technologically and scientifically competent human resource potential in the nuclear sphere,

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- (g) Confirming the important role of technology and engineering in enhancing nuclear safety and security,
 - (h) Acknowledging the need to resolve the issues of managing in a sustainable manner the waste from the nuclear fuel cycle, and
 - (i) Taking note of the “Nuclear Technology Review 2000” (GC(44)/9) prepared by the Secretariat,
1. Stresses the need, in conformity with the Statute, to continue to pursue activities of the Agency in the areas of Nuclear Science, Technology and Applications for meeting basic sustainable development needs of Member States;
 2. Underlines the importance of facilitating effective programmes in the areas of Nuclear Science, Technology and Applications aimed at pooling and further improving the scientific and technological capabilities of Member States through co-ordinated research and development and direct assistance;
 3. Recognizes the importance of and endorses the Agency activities which meet the objective of fostering sustainable development and protecting the environment;
 4. Suggests that the Secretariat continue to implement efforts which contribute to a greater understanding and a well-balanced picture as to the role of Nuclear Science and Technology in a global, sustainable development perspective including the Kyoto commitments;
 5. Requests the Director General to continue to pursue, in consultation with Member States, the Agency’s activities in the areas of Nuclear Science, Technology and Applications, with special emphasis on supporting the development of power and non-power applications in Member States with a view to preserving nuclear knowledge, sustaining nuclear infrastructures and fostering science, technology and engineering for enhancing nuclear safety;
 6. Invites all interested Member States to combine their efforts under the aegis of the Agency in considering the issues of the nuclear fuel cycle, in particular by examining innovative and proliferation-resistant nuclear technology;
 7. Calls upon the Secretariat to address specific needs and requirements of Member States, including those which do not have nuclear power facilities in the areas of Nuclear Science, Technology and Applications;
 8. Requests that the actions of the Secretariat called for above be undertaken within available resources; and
 9. Recommends that the Secretariat report biennially to the Board of Governors and to the General Conference on the progress made in the areas of Nuclear Science, Technology and Applications.