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## NUCLEAR SECURITY – PROGRESS ON MEASURES TO PROTECT AGAINST NUCLEAR TERRORISM

### MEASURES TO IMPROVE NUCLEAR SECURITY AND PROTECTION AGAINST NUCLEAR TERRORISM

Resolution adopted on 20 September 2002 during the 10<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling the 45th General Conference's unequivocal condemnation of the attacks which took place on 11 September 2001,
- (b) Recalling resolution GC(45)/RES/14 on measures to improve the security of nuclear materials and other radioactive materials,
- (c) Recalling relevant resolutions of the General Conference on measures against illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive materials,
- (d) Considering the need to continue to devote attention to the potential implications of terrorist acts for the security of nuclear materials, nuclear facilities and other radioactive materials, and emphasizing the importance of physical protection, measures against illicit trafficking and national control systems for ensuring protection against nuclear terrorism and other malicious acts,
- (e) Recognizing the importance of promoting an effective security culture in the field of physical protection of nuclear materials, nuclear facilities and other radioactive materials,
- (f) Conscious of the necessity to ensure appropriate security of radioactive sources to avoid their use in acts of terrorism, and concerned by risks to human lives and the environment resulting from orphan sources and the increase of incidents and accidents involving such sources,
- (g) Mindful of the obligations of every Member State to keep its peaceful nuclear programmes safe and secure, asserting that responsibility for nuclear security within a

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State rests entirely with that State, and noting the important contribution of international co-operation in supporting the efforts of States to fulfil their responsibilities,

(h) Mindful that every Member State might face the threat of nuclear terrorism and would bear serious consequences if any were attacked,

(i) Noting United Nations Security Council resolution 1373's call for all States to work, particularly through bilateral and multilateral arrangements, to prevent acts of terrorism,

(j) Reaffirming the importance of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, as the only multilateral legal instrument dealing with the physical protection of nuclear material, ,

(k) Recalling that other international agreements, negotiated under the auspices of the Agency, are relevant to nuclear security and the physical protection of nuclear materials and other radioactive sources against the threat of nuclear terrorism, including the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident, the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency, the Convention on Nuclear Safety and the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management,

(l) Noting also the contribution of Agency safeguards agreements and additional protocols to preventing illicit trafficking, deterring and detecting diversion of nuclear materials,

(m) Recalling the Director General's initial and refined proposals for new and enhanced activities to prevent nuclear terrorism, contained in document GOV/2001/50 and GOV/2002/10 respectively, and their approval in principle by the Board of Governors in March 2002, and

(n) Stressing the importance of ensuring the confidentiality of information relevant to nuclear security that might be of interest to terrorists,

1. Commends the Director General and the Secretariat for their prompt and constructive response to the requests made in resolution GC(45)/RES/14 relevant to the improvement of nuclear security (including the security of radioactive materials) and protection against nuclear terrorism;

2. Takes note of the progress report submitted by the Director General in document GC(46)/14 on nuclear security and measures to protect against nuclear terrorism;

3. Notes the arrangements implemented to provide funding for the Nuclear Security Fund through voluntary contributions, and notes further that those funding arrangements will be reviewed in one or two years in accordance with the relevant decision taken by the Board of Governors in March 2002;

4. Calls upon all Member States to continue to provide political, financial and technical support, including in-kind contributions, to improve nuclear security and prevent nuclear terrorism; and to provide to the Nuclear Security Fund the political and financial support it needs;

5. Welcomes the activities in the physical protection of nuclear materials and facilities and the prevention and detection of and response to illicit activities involving nuclear and other radioactive materials undertaken by the Agency to improve nuclear security and prevent nuclear terrorism;
6. Welcomes the Agency's programmes and renewed efforts to assist States in establishing and strengthening systems of radiation protection appropriate to their circumstances, which may include national registries of radioactive sources, and in particular commends the Secretariat and Member States for the progress that has been made in upgrading radiation protection infrastructure through the relevant Model Projects and commends the Secretariat for the action it has taken in a number of countries, in co-operation with Member States, to locate, secure and remove orphan sources;
7. Urges Member States to strengthen their national efforts to secure all radioactive sources within their borders, and invites Member States to take note of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and to consider means of ensuring its wide application;
8. Also welcomes the activities undertaken to provide for an exchange of information with Member States, including continued maintenance of the Illicit Trafficking Database programme, as well as to improve the exchange of information by making the best use of the modernized database, and invites all States to participate in the Illicit Trafficking Database programme on a voluntary basis;
9. Welcomes the decision of the Director General to convene and maintain an Advisory Group on Security which will continue to provide advice from Member States' experts on the orientations and the implementation of Agency activities relevant to nuclear security, and invites the Director General to suggest that the Advisory Group place further emphasis on the issue of the security of radioactive sources, its scope, the associated threat and possible solutions;
10. Appeals to States that have not yet done so to accede to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, and encourages States to apply the physical protection objectives and fundamental principles endorsed by the Board of Governors and set out in document GOV/2001/41;
11. Notes with concern the lack of progress of the work of the open-ended group of legal and technical experts convened by the Director General in order to prepare a draft of a well-defined amendment aimed at strengthening the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, and calls for the early finalization of the negotiations on such an amendment;
12. Takes note of the steps taken by the Secretariat to ensure confidentiality of information relevant to nuclear security, and requests the Secretariat to provide a preliminary report to the Board of Governors in November 2002 on the status of the implementation of the new confidentiality measures;
13. Invites the Director General to continue to implement, in consultation and co-ordination with Member States, and subject to the availability of resources, Agency activities relevant to nuclear security and protection against nuclear terrorism; and
14. Requests the Director General to submit a report to the General Conference at its forty-seventh session on activities regarding these issues undertaken by the Agency.