

General Conference

GC(50)/RES/10

Date: September 2006

General Distribution

Original: English

Fiftieth regular session

Item 14 of the agenda
(GC(50)/21)

Measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and transport safety and waste management

Resolution adopted on 22 September 2006 during the ninth plenary meeting

A.

Measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and transport safety and waste management

The General Conference

- (a) Recalling resolution GC(49)/RES/9 on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and transport safety and waste management,
- (b) Recognizing that a global nuclear, radiation and waste safety culture is a key element of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and that continuous efforts are required in order to ensure that the technical and human elements of safety are maintained at the optimal level,
- (c) Emphasising the important role of the Agency in enhancing nuclear, radiation and waste safety through its various safety programmes and initiatives and in promoting international cooperation in this regard,
- (d) Recognizing the importance of Member States establishing and maintaining effective and sustainable regulatory infrastructures for the promotion of nuclear, radiation and waste safety,
- (e) Noting with appreciation document GC(50)/3 containing the Secretariat's responses to nuclear, radiation and waste safety issues of concern,
- (f) Recalling the request from the Board of Governors in June 1995 to develop a single Safety Fundamentals document presenting a common, coherent philosophy across radiation protection, nuclear safety and waste safety,

- (g) Recalling the objective of the Convention on Nuclear Safety to achieve and maintain a high level of nuclear safety worldwide through the enhancement of national measures and international cooperation, including, where appropriate, safety-related technical cooperation,
- (h) Underscoring the relevance to all Member States of the objective of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management (the Joint Convention) to achieve and maintain a high level of safety worldwide in the management of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste through the enhancement of national measures and international cooperation, including, where appropriate, safety-related technical cooperation,
- (i) Noting with satisfaction the report of the Second Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention, particularly the conclusion that significant progress had been made since the First Review Meeting in the improvement of Contracting Parties' overall safety regimes,
- (j) Re-emphasizing the importance of education and training in establishing and maintaining an adequate radiation protection and nuclear safety infrastructure, and noting the actions of the Secretariat directed towards developing strategies for sustainable education and training in nuclear, radiation and waste safety, including on the safety and security of radioactive sources,
- (k) Recalling the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident (the Early Notification Convention) and the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency (the Assistance Convention),
- (l) Taking note of the completion of the work of the Chernobyl forum, and recalling the conclusions on the necessity to continue scientific research and monitoring of long term environmental, health and social consequences of the accident and to preserve tacit knowledge developed in the mitigation of the accident consequences,
- (m) Recalling the objective of the Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors to achieve and maintain a high level of safety in research reactors worldwide,
- (n) Recalling its previous resolutions relevant to the safety and security of radioactive sources, and the objectives and principles of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources,
- (o) Recognizing that nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies, and acts with malicious intent associated with nuclear and radiological terrorism, may lead to significant radiological and other serious consequences over wide geographical areas, thereby requiring an international response, and
- (p) Recalling the ongoing need to protect individuals, society and the environment from the harmful effects of incidents and emergencies, and malicious acts, involving radioactive sources,

1.
General

1. Urges the Secretariat to continue and strengthen, subject to available financial resources, its efforts relating to nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, focusing particularly on mandatory activities and on technical areas and regions where the need for improvement is greatest;
2. Requests the Director General to continue the current programme to assist Member States in improving their national infrastructures for nuclear installation, radiation, transport and waste safety;

3. Encourages Member States to continue requesting Agency safety review services in order to enhance nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, and integrated regulatory review missions in order to improve regulatory effectiveness continuously;
4. Encourages the Secretariat to implement a more integrated assessment process in the establishment of its safety priorities, and to incorporate the insights of this process into all of its review services;
5. Encourages the Secretariat and Member States, if they so desire, to make effective use of the Agency's technical cooperation resources for the further enhancement of safety;
6. Acknowledges the interactions between nuclear safety and related issues including nuclear security, calls upon the Agency to ensure that interrelated nuclear safety and security activities including the development of guidance are mutually supportive, and encourages Member States to work actively to maintain an appropriate balance between them so as to ensure that the safety of workers, the public and the environment is not compromised;
7. Endorses the efforts of the International Nuclear Safety Group (INSAG) in promoting nuclear safety worldwide and encourages Member States to incorporate the concepts identified in INSAG 20, *Stakeholder Involvement in Nuclear Issues* and INSAG 21, *Strengthening the Global Nuclear Safety Regime* into their nuclear programmes, as appropriate;
8. Recognizes the importance of an effective regulatory body as an essential element of national nuclear infrastructure, urges Member States to continue their efforts to increase regulatory effectiveness in the field of nuclear, radiation and transport safety and waste management, and consider availing themselves of the Secretariat's new Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) and notes with satisfaction the increased interest of the Member States in the IRRS;
9. Welcomes the contributions of the Ibero-American Radiation Safety Network (IARSN) of the Ibero-American Forum of Regulators, the Asian Nuclear Safety Network (ANSN) and the Radiation Safety Regulators Network (RaSaReN) to the promotion of effective and sustainable nuclear and radiation safety regimes in Member States, and encourages Member States to work with the Secretariat in the development and implementation of other similar initiatives;
10. Welcomes the outcomes of the *International Conference on Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems*, held in Moscow from 27 February to 3 March 2006 (IAEA Proceedings Series, "Proceedings of an International Conference, Moscow, 27 February–3 March 2006") and calls upon the Agency to consider the appropriate findings of the Conference in its regulatory guidance and its regulatory review service;
11. Welcomes the valuable work that the International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability (INLEX) has done over the past year to clarify the application and scope of the international nuclear liability regime, including its outreach workshop in Australia in November 2005, and looks forward to the continuation of INLEX's work, including its further examination of possible ways in which identified gaps in the regime might be addressed, and its outreach workshop in Peru in December 2006;
12. Requests the Director General to report, as appropriate, to its fifty-first (2007) regular session on developments relevant to this resolution in the intervening period;

2.

The Agency's Safety Standards Programme

13. Welcomes with satisfaction the Board's decision to establish as Agency safety standards, in accordance with Article III.A.6 of the Statute, the Safety Fundamentals: "*Fundamental Safety Principles*", (GOV/2006/42), and notes that the Fundamental Safety Principles constitute a common and coherent safety philosophy for the establishment of all requirements for the safety of facilities and activities to protect people and the environment against the harmful effects of ionizing radiation;

14. Welcomes the Board's decision to establish as Agency safety standards, in accordance with Article III.A.6 of the Statute, the Safety Requirements "*The Management System for Facilities and Activities*", (GOV/2006/5), and the Safety Requirements "*Decommissioning of Facilities using Radioactive Material*", (GOV/2006/51), and encourages Member States to use these Safety Requirements as a basis for their national regulatory programmes;

15. Welcomes the report on the progress of the Action Plan for the Development and Application of the IAEA Safety Standards contained in GOV/2006/40-GC (50)/3, notes with satisfaction the view of the Commission on Safety Standards that the implementation of the Action Plan has resulted in significant improvement in the quality of the safety standards and their utilization by Member States, and looks forward to the proposals from the Secretariat for the continuing development of the safety standards to be considered by the Commission on Safety Standards in November 2006;

16. Takes note of the Secretariat's review of the International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and the Safety of Radiation Sources (BSS) carried out in response to paragraph 10 of resolution GC(49)/RES/9, notes that the revision of the BSS is to be coordinated by a secretariat established by the Agency with the participation of the co-sponsors, and urges that secretariat to carefully consider and justify potential changes, taking into account their implications for national regulations;

17. Encourages the Secretariat to continue assisting Member States to apply the safety standards, including the development of supporting guidance on their application;

3.

Nuclear Installation Safety

18. Notes with satisfaction that all States currently operating nuclear power plants are now Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, and urges all Member States considering a nuclear power programme to become parties to the Convention as part of the establishment and maintenance of the requisite nuclear power infrastructure;

19. Welcomes the efforts of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety to enhance the transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the review process, including the creation of a website to facilitate the sharing of safety information between Review Meetings, and encourages them to pursue these efforts in preparation for the Review Meeting in 2008;

20. Re-emphasizes the need for all operating organizations and regulatory authorities to retain nuclear safety as the foundation upon which development, construction and operational decisions relating to nuclear installations are based, and encourages the Secretariat to continue its efforts to provide guidance, support and assistance to Member States to establish and maintain adequate safety standards and infrastructure, with particular regard to the needs of Member States considering the development of nuclear power as part of their national energy strategy;

21. Endorses the findings of the *International Conference on Operational Safety Performance in Nuclear Installations* hosted by the Agency from 30 November to 2 December 2005, and calls upon all Member States with power reactors, research reactors or fuel cycle facilities to establish effective operational experience feedback programmes and to share their assessments and insights freely with all other countries with such nuclear installations, including the exchange of information on and lessons learned from incidents, abnormal occurrences and operational events to help preclude their recurrence;
22. Continues to acknowledge the benefits of incorporating both deterministic and probabilistic considerations into operational and regulatory decision-making, urges the Agency to continue its efforts to develop guidance and services that integrate both approaches, and acknowledges the benefit of establishing a Centre for Advanced Safety Assessment Tools to ensure sustainable service to the Member States in the area of safety assessment capabilities;_
23. Appreciates the efforts of the Secretariat in the development of safety standards and safety review services for fuel cycle facilities, commends Brazil for its willingness to host the pilot mission for such a review service, and urges other Member States to avail themselves of such services;
24. Calls upon Member States to continue supporting the Agency in developing guidance concerning the life-cycle management and the long-term operation of nuclear installations, and calls upon all Member States with nuclear installations to consider such guidance as an integral part of their operational safety strategies;
25. Commends the Agency's efforts to integrate Safety Culture assessments into its review services, recognizes the need for a specific review service dedicated to Safety Culture assessments, commends the Republic of South Africa for its efforts in having hosted a pilot safety culture mission focused on the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor (PBMR), and encourages Member States to consider the safety culture factors behind any significant operational incidents or events and to avail themselves of the Agency's service in this area;
26. Continues to endorse the principles and objectives of the Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors, encourages Member States constructing, operating or decommissioning research reactors or with research reactors in extended shutdown to apply the guidance in the Code, supports the recommendation of the open-ended meeting on the effective application of the Code hosted by the Agency from 14 to 16 December 2005 that periodic meetings be organized to discuss the application of the Code in Member States, and looks forward to the convening of such meetings;
27. Looks forward to the outcomes of the *International Conference on Research Reactors: Safe Management and Effective Utilization* to be held in Australia in November 2007, including discussion of the implementation of the Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors;
28. Supports the continuing assistance provided by the Secretariat to monitoring and improving the safety and security of all research reactors, especially those subject to IAEA Project and Supply Agreements, encourages Member States as appropriate to collaborate closely with the Secretariat in facilitating such assistance, and calls upon the Agency in cooperation with Member States having Project and Supply Agreements to review the appropriate application of current safety standards with regard to those agreements;
29. Acknowledges the Secretariat's current assistance to Member States in nuclear power plant design safety review efforts and urges the Agency to develop and promote internationally the generic safety aspects of new nuclear plant designs;

4. Radiation Safety

30. Welcomes the progress in implementing the International Action Plan for the Radiological Protection of Patients, including the widespread use by health professionals of the Agency's training and educational materials, and the successful development of a dedicated website to facilitate information exchange, welcomes also the continued cooperation with WHO, PAHO, the EU and relevant professional bodies, encourages Member States to continue supporting these activities, and to take advantage of the regional technical cooperation projects on medical exposure, and requests the Secretariat to continue to keep it informed about the implementation of the Action Plan, including the organization of a second International Conference similar to the first one held in 2001;

31. Welcomes the good progress made in implementing, jointly with ILO, the International Action Plan for Occupational Radiation Protection, encourages the Agency and ILO Secretariats to continue their productive cooperation, and requests the Director General to keep it informed of developments in this area;

32. Welcomes the Secretariat's continuing promotion of effective and sustainable national regulatory infrastructures for the control of radiation sources, in particular high-risk sources, urges Member States to play an active role in the implementation of strategies that will help to enhance the regulatory control of radiation sources, and requests the Secretariat to continue to keep it informed about the implementation of these activities;

33. Urges the Secretariat to continue to use the regional approach with emphasis on the sub-regional country groupings in its activities to promote the upgrading of radiation protection infrastructure;

34. Welcomes the Secretariat's progress in implementing the Plan of Activities on the Radiation Protection of the Environment contained in GOV/2005/49, notes that the Agency has brought together all the concerned international organizations and interested Member States and formulated a range of activities aimed at developing a framework and methodology to provide for protection of the environment based on recommendations of the International Commission Radiological Protection, and requests the Director General to report to the Board and the General Conference on progress in the implementation of the plan;

35. Notes the forthcoming XIIth Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association, "Strengthening Radiation Protection Worldwide" (IRPA 12), which will take place in Buenos Aires in October 2008 and encourages the Secretariat to support the dissemination of information arising from this event and to support the participation of developing countries, subject to the availability of resources;

5. The Safety of Radioactive Waste Management

36. Welcomes the increase in the number of Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention from 32 at the first review meeting in 2003 to 41 at the second review meeting in 2006, and appeals to all Member States which have not yet become party to the Joint Convention to do so;

37. Endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the Second Review Meeting, and calls upon the Contracting Parties to take steps to further improve the implementation of their obligations and to further enhance safety in the management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, particularly in those areas identified as warranting further attention;

38. Welcomes the successful conclusion of the Action Plan on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, and the integration of further activities into the ongoing radioactive waste management programme;

39. Welcomes the work underway regarding the development of a consolidated safety requirement on radioactive waste disposal and comprehensive safety guidance for all types of waste disposal facilities and on the assessment and demonstration of their safety;

40. Welcomes the significant contribution of the *International Conference on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Disposal*, held in Japan in October 2005, to the progress in developing internationally harmonized approaches to demonstrating the safe disposal of radioactive waste of all types;

41. Welcomes the outcome of the *International Conference on the Management of Spent Fuel from Nuclear Power Reactors*, held in Vienna from 19 to 23 June 2006, and encourages the Secretariat to pursue the conference's expectations of greater international cooperation on research and development related to technical aspects of spent fuel management;

6.

The Safe Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities and Other Facilities Using Radioactive Material

42. Encourages Member States to ensure that plans for decommissioning of facilities are developed and mechanisms are put in place for establishment and maintenance of the necessary resources for the implementation of decommissioning activities;

43. Welcomes the progress made on implementation of the International Action Plan on Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities, and encourages the Secretariat to review the Action Plan in the light of the outcomes and findings of the *International Conference on Lessons Learned from the Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities and the Safe Termination of Nuclear Activities*, to be held in December 2006 in Athens, Greece;

44. Encourages the Secretariat to continue its support for planning for the decommissioning of research reactors, specifically through the Research Reactor Decommissioning Demonstration Project undertaken in cooperation with the Asian Nuclear Safety Network;

45. Welcomes Member States' support for the remediation of contaminated sites in Iraq, encourages the Agency to continue its technical support to this new project, and requests the Director General to report to the Board and the General Conference on the progress of the project activities;

46. Endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the Chernobyl Forum related to the future remediation of the Chernobyl NPP site and management of the associated radioactive waste, and encourages the Agency to continue to provide technical assistance in implementing these recommendations.

7.

Education and Training in Nuclear, Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety

47. Underlines the fundamental importance of sustainable programmes for education and training in nuclear, radiation, transport safety and waste management, remaining convinced that such education and training is a key component of any adequate safety infrastructure;

48. Welcomes the ongoing commitment of the Secretariat and Member States to the implementation of the Strategy for Education and Training in Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety for a long-term and sustainable programme of education and training, and calls upon the Secretariat to strengthen and

expand this programme of activities to include nuclear installations, especially research reactors, subject to the availability of financial resources;

49. Supports the Secretariat's continued focus on developing sustainable educational and training programmes, including through Education and Training Appraisal missions to identify training needs and draw up programmes to meet training requirements, and the further development of a network of training centres and 'train-the-trainer' workshops, and urges the Secretariat to continue to strengthen its activities in these areas, subject to the availability of financial resources;

50. Encourages the Secretariat to employ electronic networking and outreach (ENO) projects to implement e-learning;

51. Requests the Secretariat to take into consideration the recommendation of the Steering Committee on Education and Training that the Secretariat give high priority to the assessment of training needs in Member States;

52. Urges the Secretariat to enhance its support for regional postgraduate training courses, and to conclude long-term agreements with the regional centres organizing such courses to ensure their sustainability, subject to the availability of financial resources;

8.

Nuclear and Radiological Incident and Emergency Preparedness and Response

53. Urges all Member States to become parties to the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident (the Early Notification Convention) and the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency (the Assistance Convention), thereby contributing to a broader and improved basis for international emergency response, to the benefit of all Member States;

54. Continues to encourage all Member States to enhance, where necessary, their own preparedness and response capabilities for nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies, including their arrangements for responding to acts involving the malicious use of nuclear or radioactive material and to threats of such acts, and to adopt and implement relevant international standards and guidelines, and encourages the Secretariat to continue facilitating information exchange between first responder organizations;

55. Welcomes the new operational capabilities of the Agency's Incident and Emergency Centre, and requests the Director General to continue enhancing the capability of the Agency in order to fulfill its role as a global focal point for preparedness and response and as coordinator and facilitator of cooperation among Member States and international organisations in relation to nuclear and radiological incidents, regardless of whether such incidents arise from accident, negligence, or a deliberate act;

56. Welcomes the initiative to develop a new Code of Conduct on International Emergency Management related to nuclear and radiological incident and emergency response, with the objective of ensuring appropriate development, implementation and maintenance of harmonized emergency preparedness and response programmes;

57. Requests the Secretariat to coordinate the development of the international mechanisms for rendering assistance, including the Agency's Response Assistance Network (RANET) and encourages Member States to put in place arrangements for effective response to requests made under the Assistance Convention and, within their respective capabilities, to make resources available for responding to such requests, and to consider joining the RANET;

58. Welcomes the progress made by the Secretariat and Member States in implementing the International Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies, notes with concern that the Secretariat has been largely dependent on extrabudgetary contributions in its implementation of the Action Plan, and requests that the Agency provide a detailed analysis of needs to ensure adequate resources for the long-term sustainability of the international incident and emergency response system;

59. Acknowledges the Secretariat's achievements in streamlining its mechanisms for sharing information on nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies, and encourages Secretariat and Member States to collaborate in further strengthening the effectiveness of international information-sharing mechanisms;

9.

Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources

60. Takes note of the progress report submitted by the Director General in document GC(50)/3(H) on the safety and security of radioactive sources, and commends the Secretariat for the work it has undertaken in this respect;

61. Welcomes the successful completion of the IAEA/Russian Federation/USA "Tripartite" Initiative on Securing and Managing Radioactive Sources, and expresses appreciation to the Governments of the Russian Federation and the USA for their financial and in-kind contributions;

62. Commends the many national and multinational efforts to recover and maintain control of vulnerable and orphan sources, and encourages the Secretariat to continue providing support to the efforts of Member States to strengthen control over radioactive sources;

63. Continues to endorse the principles and objectives of the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, welcomes the high level of global support for the Code, noting that, as at 11 September 2006, 86 States had made a political commitment to it in line with resolutions GC(47)/RES/7.B and GC(48)/RES/10.D, and urges other States to make such a commitment;

64. Underlines the important role of the Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources for the establishment of continuous, global control of radioactive sources, notes that, as at 11 September 2006, 33 States had notified the Director General, pursuant to resolution GC(48)/RES/10.D, of their intention to act in accordance with the Guidance on a harmonized basis, reiterates the need for States to implement the Guidance in a cooperative, harmonized and consistent fashion, noting that the Guidance is supplementary to the Code, encourages those States which have not already notified the Director General to do so, recalling operative paragraph 6 of resolution GC(47)/RES/7.B, and encourages the Secretariat to make available relevant information that will facilitate States' implementation of the Guidance, subject to the consent of the States concerned;

65. Welcomes the progress made by many Member States in working towards implementing the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and the supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources, and encourages other States to do the same to ensure the sustainability of the control of radioactive sources;

66. Recognizes the value of information exchange on national approaches to controlling radioactive sources; takes note of the Board's endorsement of the proposal for a formalized process for a voluntary, periodic exchange of information and lessons learned and for the evaluation of progress made by States towards implementing the provisions of the non-legally binding Code of Conduct on

the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources given in Annex 2 to document GC(50)/3; taking into consideration concerns expressed by Member States on the legal and financial aspects;

67. Notes that the Secretariat is taking account of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, and of feedback from Member States on how they are implementing the Code, in any revision of the International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and the Safety of Radiation Sources (BSS), and encourages the Secretariat to make all Agency guidance documents that pertain to the safety and security of radioactive sources consistent with and complementary to the Code of Conduct; and

68. Welcomes the progress made by Member States in strengthening, as necessary, their regulatory infrastructures to ensure the sustainability of the control of radioactive sources, and requests the Secretariat to continue providing support for the efforts of Member States to strengthen those infrastructures subject to the availability of resources.

B.

Transport Safety

The General Conference,

- (a) Noting the report on transport safety contained in document GC (50)/3,
- (b) Noting concerns about a potential accident or incident during the transport of radioactive materials by sea and about the importance of the protection of people, human health and the environment as well as protection from actual economic loss, as defined in relevant international instruments, due to an accident or incident,
- (c) Recognizing that, historically, the safety record of maritime transport of nuclear materials has been excellent,
- (d) Recalling that States have under international law the obligation to protect and preserve the maritime environment,
- (e) Reaffirming the competence of the Agency in relation to the safety of transport of radioactive materials,
- (f) Reaffirming maritime and air navigation rights and freedoms, as provided for in international law and as reflected in relevant international instruments,
- (g) Stressing the importance of international cooperation to enhance the safety of international navigation,
- (h) Emphasizing that the General Conference has encouraged Member States to make use of the Transport Safety Appraisal Service (TranSAS),
- (i) Recalling resolutions GC(49)/RES/9, GC(48)/RES/10, GC(47)/RES/7 and GC(46)/RES/9, and the previous resolutions which invited Member States shipping radioactive materials to provide, as appropriate, assurances to potentially affected States, upon their request, that their national regulations take into account the Agency's recently amended Transport Regulations and to provide them with relevant information relating to shipments of such materials. The information provided should in no case be contradictory to the measures of physical protection and safety,

- (j) Recognizing concerns about the potential for damage to arise in the event of an accident or incident during the maritime transport of radioactive materials, including pollution of the marine environment, recognizing also the importance of having in place effective liability mechanisms, and believing that the principle of strict liability should apply in the event of nuclear damage arising from an accident or incident during the transport of radioactive materials, and
- (k) Noting the importance of security for the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials and the strong concern of some States in this regard, and stressing the need to take adequate measures to deter or defeat terrorist and other hostile or criminal actions directed against carriers of radioactive materials, in accordance with international law,
1. Notes the progress on implementation of the Action Plan on the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Materials, approved by the Board in March 2004 and based on the results of the International Conference on the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material held in July 2003 and the request at the 2003 General Conference for the Agency to develop this Action Plan, and encourages the Secretariat to pursue implementation of all areas of the Action Plan and Member States to cooperate fully with the Secretariat to that end;
 2. Stresses the importance of having effective liability mechanisms in place to insure against harm to human health and the environment as well as actual economic loss due to an accident or incident during the maritime transport of radioactive materials, welcomes the continuing valuable work of the International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability (INLEX), including the publication and wide dissemination of its explanatory text on the various nuclear liability instruments, the examination of the application and scope of the Agency's nuclear liability regime, including the examination of any identified gaps, and the holding of a workshop in Australia in November 2005 for representatives of countries in Asia and the Pacific, looks forward to the continuation of INLEX's work, in particular its further outreach activities, welcomes the workshop in Peru in December 2006 for Latin American countries, and requests the Secretariat to report at appropriate times on the continuing work of INLEX;
 3. Welcomes the practice of some shipping States and operators of providing in a timely manner information and responses to relevant coastal States in advance of shipments for the purpose of addressing concerns regarding safety and security, including emergency preparedness, and invites others to do so in order to improve mutual understanding and confidence regarding shipments of radioactive materials. The information and responses provided should in no case be contradictory to measures of physical protection and safety;
 4. Emphasizes the importance of maintaining dialogue and consultation aimed at improving mutual understanding, confidence building and enhanced communication in relation to the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials, and in this context welcomes the informal discussions on communication which took place in July 2005 and September 2006 between shipping States and relevant coastal States, with Agency involvement, as recommended by the President of the 2003 International Conference and included in the Action Plan, notes the intention of those States to hold further discussions with Agency involvement, looks forward to progress towards addressing and understanding concerns of coastal and shipping States and expresses the hope that further enhancements to mutual confidence, particularly through voluntary communication practices, with due regard to particular circumstances, will result;
 5. Welcomes the constructive exchange of views at the seminar on complex technical issues regarding the transport of radioactive materials held in Vienna in January 2006, which reviewed the latest information related to these issues;

6. Welcomes the implementation so far of the Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies, approved by the Board in June 2004, and looks forward to its further implementation and to further measures to improve the overall international emergency response capability, especially with respect to potential maritime incidents;
7. Welcomes the publication of the report on the TranSAS mission to Japan in December 2005, commends those Member States that have already made use of TranSAS and encourages them to put into effect the resulting recommendations and suggestions, as well as to share their good practices with other Member States, and encourages other Member States to avail themselves of TranSAS and to improve transport practices based on recommendations and suggestions of TranSAS missions;
8. Urges Member States that do not have national regulatory documents governing the transport of radioactive materials to adopt such documents expeditiously, and further urges all Member States to ensure that such regulatory documents are in conformity with the current, recently amended, edition of the Agency's Transport Regulations;
9. Notes the Secretariat's work on the security of transport of radioactive materials, and that a meeting, with wide participation by Member States, was convened on this issue in January 2006;
10. Requests Member States to cooperate with the Agency in using the procedures for rating radiological incidents during transport and providing information required for the effective operation of the Database on Events in the Transport of Radioactive Material (EVTRAM) and the International Nuclear Event Scale (INES);
11. Recalls that the Board approved in June 2005 a policy for reviewing and revising the Agency's Transport Regulations whereby the Regulations will be reviewed every two years (the current review cycle of the relevant international bodies), with the decision on revision and publication based on the assessments of the Transport Safety Standards Committee (TRANSSC) and the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS) as to whether a proposal for change is sufficiently important for safety;
12. Looks forward to the development of a dialogue with the United Nations leading to the establishment of a process in which language differences between IAEA and UN Model Regulations may be reconciled;
13. Welcomes the progress made in conjunction with the International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations (IFALPA) on the problems related to refusals of air shipments of radioactive materials (in particular for medical applications), looks forward to a satisfactory resolution of this issue, encourages the Secretariat to continue addressing the denial of shipping issues, and welcomes the establishment of a steering committee to oversee the resolution of the problem;
14. Acknowledges the progress made in relation to education and training for the safe transport of radioactive materials, including the preparation and translation of training materials into official languages, welcomes the course to be held in Malaysia this year and the plans to hold other regional training courses every two or three years, and requests the Director General to continue to strengthen and widen the Agency's efforts in this area, involving to the extent possible experts from the concerned regions, subject to the availability of resources; and
15. Requests the Director General to report at the fifty-first (2007) regular session of the General Conference on the implementation of this resolution.