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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Strengthening of the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications

Support to the African Union's Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign (AU-PATTEC)

Draft resolution submitted by Sudan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling its resolution GC (47)/RES/9 on “Strengthening of the Agency ‘s technical cooperation activities” and its resolutions GC (45)/RES/12.D, GC (46)/RES/11.D, GC(48)/RES/13.B , GC (49)/RES/12.D and GC (50)/RES/13.A.4 on support to the African Union’s Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign (AU-PATTEC),
- (b) Recognizing that tsetse flies and the trypanosomosis disease which they transmit are a major transboundary African challenge and constitute one of the greatest constraints on the African continent’s socio-economic development, affecting the health of humans and livestock, limiting land use and thus causing increased poverty,
- (c) Recognizing that this disease continues to claim tens of thousands of human lives and millions of livestock every year and threatens over 60 million people in rural communities in 35 countries, most of which are Agency Member States, and that the situation continues to worsen,
- (d) Recognizing the upstream work of the Agency under its Joint FAO/IAEA Programme in developing the sterile insect technique (SIT) against the tsetse fly and in spearheading successful pilot field projects financed from the Technical Cooperation Fund, which have formed the basis for renewed interest on the part of African Member States in addressing the tsetse fly and trypanosomosis problem in a more holistic and sustainable manner,

- (e) Recognizing the significant contribution by the Agency's programmes in addressing the objectives of the African Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),
 - (f) Recalling decisions AHG/Dec.156 (XXXVI) and AHG/Dec. 169 (XXXVII) of the Heads of State and Government of the then Organization for Africa Unity (now African Union) to free Africa of tsetse flies and on a plan of action for implementing PATTEC,
 - (g) Noting the steps taken by the Commission of the African Union to establish at its headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, an office to act as the focal point for AU-PATTEC and with the mandate to coordinate the implementation of the AU-PATTEC Plan of Action,
 - (h) Noting the progress being made by the Commission of the African Union in building partnerships for AU-PATTEC, including with the African Development Bank and other funding organizations and partners,
 - (i) Cognizant that the SIT is a proven technique for the creation of tsetse-free zones when integrated with other control techniques and when applied within an area-wide integrated pest management (AW-IPM) approach, and
 - (j) Acknowledging the continued support given to AU-PATTEC by the Agency as outlined in the report submitted by the Director General in document GC(51)/4, Annex 3,
1. Appreciates the continuous support of the Agency to Member States in their efforts to build capacity and further develop the techniques for integrating the SIT with other control techniques in creating tsetse-free zones in sub-Saharan Africa, and also appreciates the contributions provided by some Member States and United Nations specialized agencies in support of these efforts ;
 2. Welcomes the special donors' conference organized in February 2007 in Addis Ababa by the African Union and the African Development Bank to generate further loans and grants for additional countries embarking on subregional tsetse and trypanosomosis control programmes;
 3. Calls upon Member States to strengthen the provision of technical, financial and material support to African States in their efforts to create tsetse-free zones ;
 4. Requests the Secretariat, in cooperation with Member States and international organizations, to continue – through Regular Budget activities under the Joint FAO/IAEA Programme and the Technical Cooperation Fund – supporting R&D and technology transfer to African Member States in order to complement their efforts to create and subsequently expand tsetse-free zones ;
 5. Stresses the need for continued cooperation with the Commission of the African Union and other regional international partners, particularly FAO and WHO, with the aim of harmonizing efforts in line with the AU-PATTEC Plan of Action and providing guidance and quality assurance in planning and implementing national and subregional AU-PATTEC projects; and
 6. Requests the Director General to report on the progress made in the implementation of this resolution to the Board of Governors and to the General Conference at its fifty-second (2008) regular session.