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

Resolution adopted on 18 September 2009 during the eleventh plenary meeting

The General Conference.

- (a) Recalling resolution GC(52)/RES/9 and previous General Conference resolutions on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety,
- (b) Recognizing that a global nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety culture is a key element of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, ionizing radiation and radioactive substances, and that continuous efforts are required to ensure its maintenance at the optimal level,
- (c) Emphasizing the important role of the Agency in enhancing nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety through its safety programmes and initiatives and in promoting international cooperation and sharing experience in this regard,
- (d) Recognizing the importance of Member States establishing and maintaining effective and sustainable regulatory infrastructures for nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety,
- (e) Noting with appreciation the Director General's report in document GC(53)/2 on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety,
- (f) Emphasizing the vital need for sustainable, appropriate and predictable resourcing, as well as efficient management, of the Secretariat's work in the field of nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety,
- (g) Recalling the objectives of the Convention on Nuclear Safety,
- (h) Recalling the objective of the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors,

- (i) Recognizing the central role of the Agency's safety standards in providing authoritative guidance to Member States on matters related to nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety,
- (j) Underscoring that medical uses of ionizing radiation constitute by far the largest source of man-made exposure, and emphasizing the need for enhanced efforts to optimize radiation protection for patients in view of the increase in average annual doses from medical exposures, including through the sharing of experience at the international level,
- (k) Recalling that States have under international law the obligation to protect and preserve the environment, including the marine environment, and emphasizing the importance of the Secretariat's continued collaboration with the contracting parties of international and regional instruments aimed at protecting the environment from radioactive wastes, such as the London Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and other Matter, and at the relative progressive reduction or elimination of radioactive discharges to the sea,
- (l) Recognizing that, historically, the safety record of civilian transport, including maritime transport, of radioactive materials has been excellent, and stressing the importance of international cooperation to enhance the safety of international transport,
- (m) Reaffirming maritime and air navigation rights and freedoms, as provided for in international law and as reflected in relevant international instruments,
- (n) Recalling the policy approved by the Board in June 2005 for reviewing the Agency's Transport Regulations, and for revising the Regulations where a proposal is assessed as sufficiently important for safety by the Transport Safety Standards Committee (TRANSSC) and the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS),
- (o) Noting the potential impacts of changing global weather patterns on the transport of radioactive materials,
- (p) Noting the importance of security for the safe transport of radioactive material and the strong concern of some States in this regard, and stressing the need to take adequate measures to prevent the loss of control of radioactive material during transport, including to deter or defeat terrorist and other hostile or criminal actions directed against carriers of radioactive material, in accordance with international law,
- (q) Noting that the timely shipment of radioactive materials, particularly those having important uses in the medical, academic and industrial sectors, is being affected by incidents of denial and delay of shipment in circumstances where the shipment complies with the Agency's Transport Regulations,
- (r) Recalling resolution GC(52)/RES/9 and the previous resolutions which invited Member States shipping radioactive material to provide, as appropriate, assurances to potentially affected States, upon their request, that their national regulations take into account the Agency's Transport Regulations and to provide them with relevant information relating to shipments of such material, and noting that the information provided should in no case be contradictory to the measures of physical protection and safety,
- (s) Emphasizing that the General Conference has encouraged Member States to make use of the Agency's appraisal service for the safety of the transport of radioactive material,
- (t) Recalling the objectives of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management (the Joint Convention),

- (u) Recognizing the need to strengthen national capacities to ensure safety in uranium mining and processing, particularly in Member States entering or re-entering the uranium mining industry, and to address the remediation of contaminated sites,
- (v) Emphasizing the importance of education and training in establishing and maintaining an adequate nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety infrastructure, and noting the Secretariat's actions in developing strategies for sustainable education and training in this regard, including the safety and security of radioactive sources,
- (w) Recalling the objectives and principles of the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, and the supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources,
- (x) Recognizing that potential nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies, regardless of their origin, may lead to significant radiological and other serious consequences over wide geographical areas, thereby requiring an international response,
- (y) Recalling the obligations of States 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), and recalling further the functions of the Agency under these conventions,
- (z) Noting the progress made by the Secretariat, Member States and other international organizations in the implementation of the International Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies, and recognizing the need for the establishment of mechanisms to ensure effective and sustainable implementation of the Early Notification Convention, the Assistance Convention and the Action Plan,
- (aa) Noting the importance of ensuring the highest level of nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety for the protection of people, property and the environment, and recognizing concerns about the potential for damage to arise in the event of an accident or incident in a nuclear installation or during the transport of radioactive material, including actual economic loss as defined under international law,
- (bb) Recognizing the importance of having in place effective and coherent nuclear liability mechanisms at the national and global levels to provide compensation, if necessary, for damage inter alia to people, property and the environment due to a nuclear accident or incident, taking fully into account legal and technical considerations, and believing that the principle of strict liability should apply in the event of a nuclear accident or incident, including during the transport of radioactive material, and
- (cc) Recalling the Paris Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy, the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage, the Brussels Convention supplementary to the Paris Convention, the Joint Protocol Related to the Application of the Vienna Convention and the Paris Convention and the protocols amending these conventions, and the objectives thereof, and noting also the intention of the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage to establish a worldwide nuclear liability regime based on the principles of nuclear liability law, without prejudice to other liability regimes,

1. General

1. Urges the Secretariat to continue to strengthen its efforts to maintain and improve nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, focusing particularly on mandatory activities and on technical areas and regions where the need is greatest;
2. Requests the Director General to continue the current programme to assist Member States in developing and improving their national infrastructure, including legislative and regulatory frameworks, for nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety;
3. Requests the Secretariat to continue to establish its safety priorities using an integrated assessment process, taking into account the advice of the relevant standing bodies, and to incorporate the results into the delivery of its review services;
4. 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;
5. Acknowledges that safety measures and security measures have in common the aim of protecting human life and health and the environment, calls upon the Secretariat to enhance its efforts to ensure coordination of its safety activities and security activities, and encourages Member States to work actively to ensure that neither safety nor security is compromised;
6. Endorses the efforts of the International Nuclear Safety Group (INSAG), the CSS and the safety standards committees in promoting nuclear safety worldwide, and notes the establishment of a joint AdSec-CSS taskforce to further address issues related to safety and security synergies and interfaces,
7. Recognizes the importance of an effective regulatory body as an essential element of national nuclear infrastructure, urges Member States to continue to increase regulatory effectiveness in the field of nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, recognizes the importance of the *International Conference on Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems* to be held in South Africa in December 2009, invites Member States to continue to share findings and lessons learned in the regulatory area, and in this regard takes note of the outcomes of the *International Workshop on Lessons Learned from Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS)* missions held in November 2008 in Spain and underscores their value;
8. Recognizes that the Agency is developing guidance on *Establishing a Nuclear Safety Infrastructure for a National Nuclear Power Programme*, and encourages Member States embarking on new nuclear power programmes to take timely and proactive steps, based upon gradual and systematic application of Agency safety standards to establish and sustain a strong safety culture and a competent regulatory body with effective independence and the necessary human and financial resources to fulfil its responsibilities;
9. Welcomes the maturing of thematic and regional safety networks, including the work undertaken by the Asian Nuclear Safety Network (ANSN), the European Technical Safety Organisations Network (ETSON), and the Asia Region ALARA Network (ARAN), encourages the Secretariat to establish similar networks in regions where they do not exist, encourages Member States to join relevant networks of this kind, requests the Secretariat and Member States as appropriate to facilitate such efforts, and requests the Secretariat to report on the development of the DISPONET and the ENVIRONET networks;
10. Acknowledges the established role of the Ibero-American Forum of Radiological and Nuclear Regulatory Agencies in promoting a high level of safety, recognizes the launch in South Africa in

March 2009 of the Forum for Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in Africa, and requests the Secretariat to continue to support the activities of these fora;

11. Notes the Agency's efforts in upgrading the Regulatory Authority Information System (RAIS) to assist Member States in improving regulatory control and inventories of radiation sources, and encourages Member States to evaluate the upgraded RAIS for use;

12. Welcomes the valuable work of the International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability (INLEX), encourages relevant Member States to participate in INLEX's workshop in December 2009 for countries having expressed an interest in launching a nuclear power programme, looks forward to the continuation of INLEX's work, and its further outreach efforts to promote adherence to nuclear liability instruments, and requests the Secretariat to report at appropriate times on the continuing work of INLEX;

13. Encourages Member States, as appropriate, to give due consideration to the possibility of joining international nuclear liability instruments;

14. Requests the Secretariat to undertake in-house coordination to fulfil the immediate, medium-term and longer-term resource requirements, including financing, of the Agency's safety activities, and to consider prioritization, cost savings, and innovative means of financing;

15. Further requests that the actions of the Secretariat called for in this resolution be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources;

16. Requests the Director General to report in detail to its 54th (2010) regular session on implementation of this resolution and relevant developments in the intervening period;

2.

The Agency's Safety Standards Programme

17. Welcomes the publication of the Safety Requirements approved by the Board, and encourages Member States to use these requirements in their national regulatory programmes;

18. Requests the Secretariat to follow the priorities decided by the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS) in establishing these safety standards;

19. Commends the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS), the safety standards committees and the Secretariat for the establishment and approval of a roadmap for the long-term structure for the safety standards, requests the Director General to report to the Board in this regard, and looks forward to the integration of all thematic areas in a coherent and harmonized set of publications, complemented by a series of facility- and activity-specific safety requirements, which will inter alia promote stability in regulatory approaches;

20. Requests the Secretariat to continue to develop, in a timely manner, the revised International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources (BSS) in involvement with the co-sponsors, and underscores that the revised BSS should reflect current challenges in radiation protection, and that changes to the current BSS be justified and take account of the relevant International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) recommendations to the extent possible;

21. Notes resolution A/RES/63/89 of the United Nations General Assembly dated 5 December 2008 related to the effects of atomic radiation, encourages the Secretariat to continue to take account of the scientific information provided by the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic

Radiation (UNSCEAR) when developing Agency safety standards, and encourages the Secretariat to make all efforts to ensure the maintenance of a strong relationship with UNSCEAR;

22. Encourages the Secretariat to continue to provide for the application of the Agency safety standards at the request of the Member States;

3.

Nuclear Installation Safety

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

24. Welcomes the outcomes of the *International Conference on Topical Issues in Nuclear Installation Safety: Ensuring Safety for Sustainable Development*, hosted by India in November 2008, and looks forward to the publication of its proceedings;

25. Calls upon all Member States with nuclear installations to establish effective operational experience feedback programmes and to share freely their experience, assessments and lessons learned, including through the submission of incident reports to the Agency's web-based incident reporting systems, recognizes the value of the Agency's operational safety review services in further enhancing nuclear safety, and encourages Member States that have not yet done so to avail themselves of these services;

26. Recognizes the importance of strong leadership and effective management for the safe and reliable performance of nuclear installations, appreciates the Secretariat's efforts in assisting Member States with the establishment of an integrated management system including safety culture oversight and assessment, further recognizes the value of the Agency's safety culture review services, encourages Member States to avail themselves of such review services, and encourages the Secretariat to facilitate the exchange of information and experience arising from such review services;

27. Commends the Secretariat's efforts in the area of plant life management for nuclear installations, looks forward in particular to the Agency technical meeting on *Research Reactor Ageing Management and Modernization and Refurbishment* to be held in October 2009, and invites all Member States with nuclear installations to consider the Agency's guidance and services as an integral part of their operational safety strategies;

28. Acknowledges the assistance that the Secretariat is providing to Member States by carrying out, based on the application of Agency safety standards, safety reviews of existing reactor designs and generic safety aspects of new reactor designs, and urges the Secretariat to continue its efforts to develop services and tools that support Member States in promoting the safety of existing and new reactor designs;

29. Welcomes further strengthening of the Secretariat's efforts in fostering cooperation between Member States on the seismic safety of nuclear installations, commends the establishment of the International Seismic Safety Centre (ISSC) within the Agency, encourages the Secretariat's efforts to extend the ISSC's activities towards other external hazards including tsunamis and volcanoes, and further encourages Member States to actively participate in sharing relevant experience;

30. Welcomes the publication of safety standards on the safety of uranium fuel fabrication facilities, encourages the Agency to continue to develop a comprehensive set of fuel cycle safety standards, further encourages the Secretariat to facilitate the exchange of operating experience in such facilities,

and invites Member States to utilize Agency safety review services for fuel cycle facilities;

31. Continues to endorse the principles and objectives of the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors, notes with satisfaction the findings and outcomes of the international meeting on the application of the Code held in Austria in October 2008, and encourages Member States constructing, operating or decommissioning research reactors or with research reactors in extended shutdown to participate in international and regional meetings on the application of the Code and to apply the guidance in the Code;

32. Encourages Member States to promote regional activities to enhance the safety of the operation, utilization, shutdown and decommissioning of research reactors, notes with satisfaction the release of the web-based Fuel Incident Notification and Analysis System (FINAS) in time for the sixth *Meeting of National Coordinators for the Incident Reporting System for Research Reactors*, to be hosted by the Netherlands in November 2009, and encourages Member States to submit relevant incident reports;

33. Further encourages Member States to exchange regulatory information with regard to new nuclear power plant designs and design certification;

4.

Radiation Safety

34. Welcomes the Secretariat's progress in implementing the International Action Plan for the Radiological Protection of Patients, encourages the Secretariat to develop further guidance on justification of medical exposures and optimization of protection, taking into account, inter alia, the outcomes of the September 2009 workshop hosted jointly with the European Commission, and encourages the Secretariat to continue development of a system aimed at addressing the long-term recording of the cumulative exposures of individual patients, and requests the Secretariat to take account of the ICRP recommendations on radiological protection for medical, occupational and public exposure situations;

35. Notes the advances and growing complexity in the medical field, and the need to exchange information, looks forward to the outcomes of the *International Conference on Modern Radiotherapy: challenges and advances in radiation protection of patients* co-sponsored by the Agency, WHO and the European Commission to be held in France in December 2009, encourages Member States to participate in that conference, and requests the Secretariat, when planning its conference schedule, to note the importance of holding a follow-up conference to the *Conference on Radiological Protection of Patients* held in Malaga in 2001;

36. Encourages Member States to take advantage of regional technical cooperation projects on medical exposure, welcomes the first training course in 2009 on the avoidance of accidental exposure in radiotherapy, and further encourages networking and information-sharing among medical professionals using ionizing radiation;

37. Welcomes the achievement of objectives for 80% of actions under the joint IAEA-International Labour Organization (ILO) International Action Plan for Occupational Radiation Protection, encourages the Agency and ILO Secretariats to continue their productive cooperation and evaluate the need for further actions;

38. Notes with pleasure the results of the April 2009 surveillance audit, which confirmed the quality of dosimetry services provided by the Agency to its occupationally-exposed workers and contracted experts, requests the Secretariat to report on the future re-accreditation of the dosimetry services, and encourages Member States to make use of the Occupational Radiation Protection Appraisal Service (ORPAS);

39. Notes resolution 63/89 of 18 December 2008 of the UN General Assembly inviting the provision of relevant data about doses, effects and risks from various sources of radiation to the UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR), notes the work of the Secretariat to establish an Information System on Occupational Exposure in the Medical, Industrial and Research Areas (ISEMIR) and to update a database on discharges of radionuclides to the atmosphere and the aquatic environment (DIRATA), and urges the Secretariat to cooperate closely with UNSCEAR with a view to avoiding duplication and inconsistencies;

40. Notes with satisfaction the Secretariat's successful efforts to ensure the wide participation of developing countries in the *XIIIth Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association: Strengthening Radiation Protection Worldwide* (IRPA 12), held in Argentina in October 2008, and urges the Secretariat to publish its proceedings;

5.

Transport safety

41. 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 a radiological accident or incident during the maritime transport of radioactive material, notes the application of the principles of nuclear liability, including strict liability, in the event of a nuclear accident or incident during the transport of radioactive material, welcomes the continuing valuable work of the International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability (INLEX), including the examination of the application and scope of the international nuclear liability regime and the consideration and identification of further specific actions to address any gaps in scope and coverage of the regime, looks forward to the continuation of INLEX's work, in particular its further outreach activities, and requests the Secretariat to report at appropriate times on the continuing work of INLEX;

42. 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 material, and notes that the information and responses provided should in no case be contradictory to measures of physical protection and safety;

43. 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 material, and in this context welcomes the informal discussions on communication held since July 2003, including in September 2009, between relevant shipping States and coastal States, with Agency involvement, notes the intention of those States to hold further discussions with Agency involvement, looks forward to further progress towards addressing and understanding concerns of coastal and shipping States, welcomes the discussions at the bilateral level between relevant shipping and coastal States on issues of mutual concern, and expresses the hope that further enhancements to mutual confidence, particularly through voluntary communication practices, with due regard to particular circumstances, will result;

44. Welcomes the implementation so far of the Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies and looks forward to its further implementation and to further measures to improve the international emergency response capabilities, especially with respect to potential maritime incidents, and encourages the Secretariat to discuss with interested Member States how appropriate information can be made available to authorities responding to an emergency that has occurred during the transport of radioactive material, taking fully into account the requirements of physical protection and safety;

45. Commends those Member States that have already made use of the Agency's Transport Safety Appraisal Service (TransSAS) 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 Agency appraisal missions and to improve transport practices based on recommendations and suggestions of such missions;
46. Urges Member States that do not have national regulatory documents governing the transport of radioactive material to adopt such documents expeditiously, and further urges all Member States to ensure that such regulatory documents are in conformity with the current edition of the Agency's Transport Regulations;
47. Notes the Agency's work on the security of radioactive material during transport and welcomes the development and provision of relevant training courses, and encourages Member States to make this training available;
48. Calls upon the Agency to continue to take into account scientific evidence of changing global weather patterns, changes to infrastructure and changes to industry operations in the ongoing review of the relevant Agency safety standards, and encourages the Secretariat to facilitate the development of new fissile-excepted material requirements for the transport of radioactive material;
49. Welcomes networks of competent authorities whose goal is to support the harmonized implementation of the Agency's transport safety standards, and calls upon Member States to use these networks to build capacity in the effective regulation of the safe transport of radioactive material;
50. Notes the development by the International Steering Committee on Denials of Shipment of Radioactive Material of an action plan, urges the Secretariat to actively facilitate implementation of the action plan, calls upon Member States to each nominate a national focal point for denials of shipment of radioactive material to assist the Steering Committee in its work, welcomes the creation of regional action plans and networks to address key issues, encourages further regional workshops, welcomes the efforts to address problems related to denials of air shipments of radioactive material (in particular for medical applications), looks forward to a satisfactory and timely resolution of this issue, and in this context further calls upon Member States to facilitate the transport of such radioactive material when it is carried in compliance with the Agency's Transport Regulations;
51. Acknowledges the progress made in relation to education and training for the safe transport of radioactive material, including the preparation and translation of training materials into official languages, and requests the Director General to continue to strengthen and widen the Agency's efforts in this area, in particular to ensure synergy between regional training courses and the Agency's work related to denials of shipment (by including information on the uses of radioactive material as a module in the training), involving to the extent possible experts from the concerned regions;

6.

The Safety of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Management

52. Welcomes the increase in the number of Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention from 32 at the first Review Meeting to 51 by the time of the 53rd General Conference session, and invites Member States to consider becoming parties to the Joint Convention;
53. Notes the importance of regional conferences for promoting the benefits of the Joint Convention, encourages Member States that are Contracting Parties to continue such efforts through extra-budgetary contributions, and recognizes the valuable role of the Agency in assisting Member States to become Contracting Parties;

54. Welcomes the continuing efforts of the Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention to enhance the transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the review process, and notes the outcomes of the third Review Meeting, held in May 2009;

55. Welcomes the organization of an *International Workshop on Demonstrating the Safety and Licensing of Radioactive Waste Disposal* to further enhance the development of a common international approach to demonstrate the safe disposal of all types of radioactive waste, and encourages Member States to participate in this workshop;

56. Encourages Member States to participate actively in the Agency's database on discharges of radionuclides to the atmosphere and the aquatic environment (DIRATA) and in the Net-Enabled Waste Management Database (NEWMDB) on annual radioactive waste management data from Member States;

57. Notes the outcomes from the *International Conference on Control and Management of Inadvertent Radioactive Material in Scrap Metal* held in Spain in February 2009, and requests the Secretariat to take into account the recommendations of this conference;

58. Encourages Member States, particularly those planning to embark upon new nuclear power programmes, to participate actively in the Agency's *International Conference on Management of Spent Nuclear Fuel from Nuclear Power Reactors* that will be held May-June 2010;

7.

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

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

60. Takes note of the expanded activities of the International Decommissioning Network (IDN), and encourages the Secretariat to continue its support to the IDN activities, including through technical cooperation;

61. Notes the completion of the Agency's first decommissioning peer review covering both planning and implementation, conducted in the United Kingdom, and invites relevant Member States to avail themselves of this service;

62. Notes the progress made on the decommissioning and remediation of former nuclear sites in Iraq, welcomes and encourages Member States' continuing support for this work, and encourages the Secretariat to continue its technical support for the project;

8.

Safety in Uranium Mining and Processing and Remediation of Contaminated Sites

63. Encourages Member States, where necessary, to strengthen the development and implementation of appropriate safety standards in the uranium production cycle, and requests the Secretariat to assist Member States in using such safety standards;

64. Emphasizes the need to address shortfalls in the availability of experienced and trained personnel in order to ensure safety in uranium production worldwide, and encourages the Secretariat to respond to requests for assistance from Member States, particularly those entering or re-entering the uranium mining industry;

65. Encourages relevant Member States to participate in a multilateral initiative to remediate the uranium mining legacy sites in Central Asia, supports the Agency's involvement in this international initiative as technical coordinator and requests the Secretariat to report on further developments; notes the conclusions of the *International Conference on Remediation of Land Contaminated by Radioactive Material Residues* in Kazakhstan in May 2009, and supports, as recommended by the conference, the development of an international working forum for the regulatory supervision of legacy sites;

66. Commends the Secretariat's efforts to bring together regulators and operators from the major uranium mining countries to produce a code of practice in radiation, environmental and occupational safety designed to assist new partners in the uranium resource development industry, and encourages interested Member States to use the Uranium Production Site Assessment Team (UPSAT) review service;

9.

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

67. Underlines the fundamental importance of sustainable programmes for education and training in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, remaining convinced that such education and training is a key component of safety infrastructure, and encourages Member States to develop national strategies for training and education;

68. Emphasizes the need to address, in a timely manner, shortfalls in the availability of trained and experienced personnel in order to ensure safety in the projected expansion of nuclear power generation worldwide, and encourages the Secretariat to assist Member States in this context, where possible and appropriate, upon their request;

69. Encourages Member States to promote knowledge management, including higher education programmes, to enhance nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, and to provide for the transfer of knowledge from experts leaving the field to younger generations of professionals;

70. Welcomes the ongoing commitment of the Secretariat and Member States to the implementation of the Strategy for Education and Training in Nuclear, Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety, and calls upon the Secretariat to strengthen and expand its programme of training and education activities, while focusing on building institutional capacity and technical and managerial capabilities in Member States;

71. Supports the Secretariat's continued focus on developing sustainable educational training programmes in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, including by identifying training needs through Education and Training Appraisal (EduTA) missions, drawing up programmes to meet training requirements, continuing the development of up-to-date training materials including e-learning and multimedia materials, establishing national and regional training centres and networks, and further developing a network of trainers, regional training centres and 'train-the-trainer' workshops, and encourages the Secretariat to implement the relevant technical support;

72. Welcomes the Secretariat's progress toward long-term agreements on education and training in radiation protection and nuclear safety, notes with satisfaction the conclusion in September 2008 of the first such agreement with Argentina, and looks forward to the early conclusion of further long-term agreements with other regional centres hosting Agency postgraduate educational and specialized training courses;

73. Welcomes the establishment of an inter-departmental Education and Training Support Group within the Secretariat, with the objective of optimizing the use of resources and continuously improving the effectiveness and coordination of the Agency's education and training activities;

10.

Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources

74. Commends the many national and multinational efforts to recover and maintain control of vulnerable and orphan sources, and encourages the Secretariat and Member States to strengthen and continue this effort and invites Member States to consider establishing radiation detection systems as appropriate;

75. 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 30 June 2009, 95 States had made a political commitment to it in line with resolution GC(52)/RES/9.A.9 and previous resolutions, and urges other States to make such a commitment;

76. 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 30 June 2009, 53 States had notified the Director General of their intention to act in accordance with the Guidance, pursuant to resolution GC(48)/RES/10.D, encourages other States to make such a commitment, reiterates the need for States to implement the Guidance in a harmonized and consistent fashion, and requests the Secretariat to continue to provide support to facilitate States' implementation of the Guidance;

77. Welcomes the progress made by many Member States in working towards sustainable control of radioactive sources through implementing the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and the supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources;

78. Takes note of the report of the Chairman of the Technical Meeting on *Implementation of the Code of Conduct on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources with Regard to Long Term Strategies for the Management of Sealed Sources* held in Austria in June/July 2009, contained in document 2009/Note38, calls for the report to be made available in all official languages of the Agency, notes the conclusions of the meeting, particularly those encouraging States to facilitate the return of disused sources to suppliers, to develop central storage or disposal facilities for disused or orphan sources which cannot be returned to suppliers, and those relating to information sharing between those Member States implementing the Code and contracting parties to the Joint Convention, and requests the Secretariat to take the conclusions of the meeting into account in developing its future programmes;

79. Looks forward to the *Open-ended Meeting of Technical and Legal Experts for Sharing of Information as to States' Implementation of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources* and its supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources to be held in Austria in May 2010, and encourages Member States to support the review meetings on the code of conduct to assure its maintenance;

80. Welcomes the progress made by Member States in strengthening, where necessary, their regulatory infrastructures to ensure control of radioactive sources, and requests the Secretariat to continue providing support to Member States;

11.

Nuclear and Radiological Incident and Emergency Preparedness and Response

81. 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 stronger international emergency response capability, to the benefit of all Member States;

82. Recognizes that implementation of the Assistance and Early Notification Conventions may be further enhanced, and therefore requests the Secretariat to consider consolidating the cooperative arrangements for international nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness and response;

83. Continues to encourage all Member States to enhance, where necessary, their own preparedness and response capabilities for nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies, by improving capabilities to prevent accidents, to respond to emergencies and to mitigate any harmful consequences and, where necessary, to request support from the Secretariat or from other Member States in developing national capabilities consistent with international standards;

84. Emphasizes the importance of well developed national emergency response capabilities as the foundation of a well functioning international assistance regime, welcomes the efforts made by the Secretariat and Member States in this respect, requests the Secretariat to continue, in collaboration with Member States, the work towards streamlining a system of international assistance, including by considering common and compatible guidelines, and further requests the Secretariat to identify mechanisms for the timely allocation of resources for international assistance in the event of nuclear or radiological incidents and emergencies;

85. Welcomes the support by Member States for the Secretariat's implementation of the Response Assistance Network (RANET), and in particular the registration by 16 Member States of assistance capabilities in the event of radiological incidents and emergencies, and strongly urges States Parties to the Assistance Convention to support the fulfilment by the Agency of its obligations under the Convention by registering their internationally available response capabilities under RANET;

86. Welcomes the progress in implementation of the International Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies, and requests the Secretariat, in collaboration with Member States, relevant international organizations and the National Competent Authorities Coordinating Group, to continue the implementation of the Action Plan, but notes with concern that the Secretariat has been largely dependent on extrabudgetary contributions in their implementation of the Action Plan;

87. Requests the Secretariat to continue its efforts to finalize and implement a global and unified system for reporting and sharing information on nuclear and radiological accidents and incidents, and to act upon the feedback provided by Member States on the system's functionality and usability;

88. Recognizes the efforts of the Secretariat and Member States in implementing the International Nuclear and Radiological Events Scale (INES);

89. Requests the Secretariat to continue improving the capabilities of the Agency's Incident and Emergency Centre, to better enable it to fulfil the Agency's functions under the Conventions, including as coordinator and facilitator of cooperation among Member States in the area of emergency preparedness and response;

90. Welcomes the endorsement of the mandate and methods of work of the *Meeting of Representatives of Competent Authorities identified under the Early Notification and Assistance Conventions*, and encourages representatives of competent authorities from Member States to participate and engage actively in future meetings; and

91. Requests the Secretariat to continue improving methods of exchange of knowledge and experience in the area of emergency preparedness and response and strongly encourages Member States to participate actively in this exchange.