

General Conference

GC(55)/RES/10

Date: September 2011

General Distribution

Original: English

Fifty-fifth regular session

Item 15 of the agenda
(GC(55)/25)

Nuclear security

Resolution adopted on 23 September 2011 during the tenth plenary meeting

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling its previous resolutions on measures to improve the security of nuclear and other radioactive materials and on measures against the illicit trafficking of these materials,
- (b) Taking note of the Nuclear Security Report 2011 submitted by the Director General in document GC(55)/21) and the Nuclear Security Plan for 2010-13 approved by the Board of Governors in September 2009,
- (c) Mindful of the responsibilities of every Member State, in accordance with its international obligations, to maintain effective nuclear security, and asserting that the responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests entirely with that State, and noting the important contribution of the Agency in facilitating international cooperation in supporting the efforts of States to fulfil their nuclear security responsibilities,
- (d) Noting United Nations Security Council resolutions 1373, 1540, 1673, 1810 and 1977, United Nations General Assembly resolution 65/62, the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, and international efforts in conformity with these instruments to prevent access by non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction and related materials,
- (e) Reaffirming the importance of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the value of the Amendment extending its scope,
- (f) Noting the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 NPT Review Conference relating to nuclear security,
- (g) Recognizing the Agency's leading role in the field of nuclear security and the need for improved cooperation and co-ordination of international efforts in order to avoid duplication and overlap,
- (h) Noting the central role of the Agency in developing comprehensive nuclear security guidance documents and, on request, providing assistance to Member States in their implementation,

- (i) Emphasizing the need for the involvement of all Member States of the Agency in nuclear security related activities and initiatives in an inclusive manner; and noting the role that international processes and initiatives, including Nuclear Security Summits and the one to be held in Seoul in 2012, could play in facilitating synergy and cooperation in the area of nuclear security,
 - (j) Recalling that UN General Assembly Resolution 65/62 states that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism, and acknowledging the need to make further progress towards achieving nuclear disarmament,
 - (k) Reaffirming the importance and the value of the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and underlining the important role of the supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources,
 - (l) Noting the central contribution of Member States' systems of accounting for and control of nuclear materials to preventing loss of control and illicit trafficking and to deterring and detecting the unauthorized removal of nuclear materials,
 - (m) Underlining the importance of IAEA programmes for education and training in nuclear security, as well as other international, regional and national efforts in this area, and welcoming in that regard the efforts to establish a collaborative network of national nuclear security support centres,
 - (n) Recognizing the work done by the Agency in providing technical assistance and expert advice to countries hosting major public events,
 - (o) Recognizing the IAEA's central role in compiling and sharing information on illicit trafficking, and
 - (p) Stressing the essential importance of ensuring the confidentiality of information relevant to nuclear security,
1. Welcomes the Nuclear Security Report 2011 submitted by the Director General in document GC(55)/21), in particular the goals and priorities for the coming year, and invites the Director General and the Secretariat to continue to implement the Agency's activities relevant to nuclear security;
 2. Calls upon all Member States to maintain the highest possible standards of security and physical protection of nuclear materials and facilities;
 3. Calls upon all States to ensure that measures to strengthen nuclear security do not hamper international cooperation in the field of peaceful nuclear activities, production, transfer and use of nuclear and other radioactive materials, the exchange of nuclear materials for peaceful purposes and the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, without undermining the established priorities of the technical cooperation programme;
 4. Calls upon all Member States to consider providing the necessary support to international efforts to enhance nuclear security through various arrangements at the bilateral, regional and international levels, and recalls the decision of the Board of Governors on support for the Nuclear Security Fund;
 5. Calls upon all States Parties to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material to ratify the Amendment to the Convention as soon as possible and encourages them to act in accordance with the objectives and purposes of the Amendment until such time as it enters into force, and also

encourages all Member States that have not yet done so to adhere to the Convention and adopt its Amendment as soon as possible;

6. Encourages all Member States that have not yet done so to become party to the International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism as soon as possible;

7. Welcomes the publication of the three Nuclear Security Recommendation documents NSS 13, 14 and 15, and notes the intent of the Secretariat, at the request of some Member States, also to publish the recommendations in NSS 13 as INFCIRC/225/Rev.5, and encourages all Member States to take into account, as appropriate, these IAEA recommendations;

8. Encourages the Agency to establish a Nuclear Security Guidance Committee to enhance Member States' interaction with the Secretariat in producing Nuclear Security Series documents;

9. Encourages the Secretariat to continue, in coordination with Member States, to play a constructive and coordinated role in nuclear security-related initiatives, inter alia the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, and to work jointly, as appropriate, with relevant international and regional organizations and institutions, and notes in that regard the information exchange meeting held in May 2011;

10. Encourages the Secretariat, in cooperation with Member States, to continue training programmes and the education of trainers and to adapt the courses as appropriate to meet the needs of Member States;

11. Invites the Secretariat to provide assistance to Member States, upon their request, in fulfilling their obligations under United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 and to the 1540 Committee, provided that the requests are within the scope of the Agency's statutory responsibilities;

12. Encourages the Secretariat to provide assistance to Member States, upon request, to ensure the security of radioactive sources, particularly when the sources are provided by the Agency;

13. Calls upon all States to identify secure storage and disposition pathways for disused radioactive sealed sources so that such sources within their territories remain under regulatory control, unless exempted from regulatory control, and further calls upon States to address obstacles to the return of disused sources to the supplier State;

14. Strongly encourages all States to improve their national capabilities to prevent, detect, and deter illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and radioactive sources throughout their territories, to meet their relevant international obligations, and calls upon those States in a position to do so to work to enhance international partnerships and capacity-building in this regard;

15. Notes that the Agency's Illicit Trafficking Database (ITDB) Programme may help in identifying potential risks, and encourages the Secretariat to improve the reporting mechanism of the ITDB Programme, and Member States to provide timely and relevant information to the ITDB;

16. Reaffirms the leading role of the Agency, in cooperation with Member States, in ensuring coordination of activities in the field of nuclear security, whilst avoiding duplication and overlap, as mentioned in the Nuclear Security Report 2011;

17. Notes the Agency's efforts to raise awareness of the growing threat of cyber attacks and their potential impact on nuclear security, and encourages the Agency to assist Member States in this area by developing appropriate guidance documents, providing training courses, and hosting further expert meetings specific to cyber security at nuclear facilities;

18. Welcomes the Agency's work in the field of nuclear forensics, including the expansion of training courses aimed at assisting Member States in connection with the detection of, response to and determination of the origin of illicitly trafficked, stored or handled nuclear and other radioactive materials, and encourages Member States to provide continued support to the Agency's activities in this field, and encourages Member States which have not yet done so to establish national nuclear material databases, where practical;
19. Encourages the Member States concerned, on a voluntary basis, to further minimize HEU in civilian stocks and use LEU, where technically and economically feasible;
20. Encourages Member States to use the Agency's nuclear security advisory services for exchanges of views and advice on nuclear security measures, and welcomes in particular the increased recognition of IPPAS (International Physical Protection Advisory Service) missions by Member States;
21. Encourages the Secretariat, in cooperation with Member States, to establish and promote self-assessment methodologies and approaches that are based on universally applicable guidance within the Nuclear Security Series and can be used by Member States on a voluntary basis to ensure effective and sustainable national nuclear security infrastructure;
22. Encourages Member States to ensure, at an early stage, that nuclear security is fully taken into account in the design process for new nuclear facilities, from the initial planning stage through site selection, design, construction and operation, drawing on Agency assistance if required;
23. Supports the steps taken by the Secretariat to ensure confidentiality of information relevant to nuclear security and requests the Secretariat to continue its efforts to implement appropriate confidentiality measures in conformity with the Agency's confidentiality regime and to report as appropriate to the Board of Governors on the status of the implementation of the confidentiality measures;
24. Requests that the actions of the Secretariat called for in this resolution be undertaken subject to the availability of resources; and
25. Requests the Director General to submit an annual Nuclear Security Report to the General Conference at its fifty-sixth (2012) regular session on activities undertaken by the Agency in the area of nuclear security, highlighting significant accomplishments of the prior year and indicating programmatic goals and priorities for the year to come.