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

Resolution adopted on 22 September 2011 during the seventh plenary meeting

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling resolution GC(54)/RES/7 and previous General Conference resolutions on matters relating to measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety,
- (b) Acknowledging the Agency's statutory functions with respect to safety and recognizing the central role of the Agency in promoting international cooperation and in coordinating international efforts to strengthen global nuclear safety, in providing expertise and advice in this field and in promoting nuclear safety culture worldwide,
- (c) Noting with appreciation the Director General's report in document GC(55)/15 on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety,
- (d) Mindful of the need to undertake active measures at the national and the international level to ensure the highest level of nuclear safety and to provide for harmonization of national requirements on nuclear safety, taking into account national differences, building on Agency Safety Standards,
- (e) Recalling the 11 March 2011 earthquake and tsunami and their devastating consequences, and the accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, expressing sympathy for and solidarity with Japan for the loss of life and severe damage caused, and emphasizing the resolve of the international community to continue to assist Japan in its efforts to mitigate and overcome the consequences of the disaster and the accident,
- (f) Noting with appreciation the convening by the Director General of the Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety on 20-24 June 2011, welcoming the Ministerial Declaration and noting the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety (GC(55)/14),

- (g) Recognizing the need for urgent and longer-term responses and actions to be taken internationally to ensure that the post-Fukushima nuclear safety framework is strengthened and the highest and most robust level of nuclear safety is in place worldwide,
- (h) 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,
- (i) Recognizing that nuclear accidents may have transboundary effects and raise the concerns of the public about nuclear energy and the radiological effects on people and the environment, and emphasizing the importance of timely and effective responses based on scientific knowledge and full transparency, should a nuclear accident occur,
- (j) Recognizing the efforts of the international community to enhance knowledge in nuclear safety and radiation protection and strengthen international standards in nuclear safety, emergency preparedness and response, and the radiation protection of people and the environment, and the need to draw lessons from the accident at Fukushima,
- (k) Recognizing the importance of Member States establishing and maintaining effective and sustainable regulatory infrastructures for nuclear, radiation, transport, and waste safety,
- (l) Recognizing the opportunity to strengthen the international legal framework regulating the safe development of nuclear power and the safety of nuclear installations,
- (m) Recalling the objectives of the Convention on Nuclear Safety, the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management (Joint Convention), the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident (Early Notification Convention) and the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency (Assistance Convention) and the respective obligations of States Parties, and recognizing the need to ensure effective and sustainable implementation of these conventions,
- (n) Recalling the objectives of the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors and 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,
- (o) Encouraging close cooperation and coordination between the Agency and relevant inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations on nuclear safety-related matters,
- (p) 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 the radiation protection for patients,
- (q) Noting with interest United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/65/96 of 10 December 2010 related to the effects of atomic radiation, and recalling the Board decision in March 1960 (INFCIRC/18), which was reconfirmed in its 847th meeting, of 12 September 1994, related to the basis for the Agency's basic safety standards,
- (r) Recalling that States have under international law the obligation to protect and preserve the environment, including the marine and terrestrial 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 the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR),

(s) 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,

(t) Recalling maritime and air navigation rights and freedoms, as provided for in international law and as reflected in relevant international instruments,

(u) 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,

(v) 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,

(w) Recalling resolution GC(54)/RES/7 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,

(x) Recognizing the need to strengthen national capacities to ensure safety in uranium mining and ore processing, particularly in Member States entering or re-entering the uranium mining industry, and to address the remediation of contaminated sites,

(y) Emphasizing the importance of education and training in establishing and maintaining an adequate nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety infrastructure,

(z) Emphasizing the importance of the implementation of national emergency preparedness and response measures, based on the Agency's Safety Standards, for improving preparedness and response and communication in an emergency and contributing to harmonization of national criteria for protective and other actions,

(aa) Acknowledging the Secretariat's role in response to nuclear or radiological incidents or emergencies and recognizing the need to improve the timeliness of the collection, validation, analysis and dissemination by the Secretariat of incident or emergency information to Member States and the public, as well as the Secretariat's role in facilitating and rendering assistance upon request;

(bb) Commending the Secretariat, Member States and other international organizations for finalizing the International Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies, and recognizing the need to review and strengthen the international emergency preparedness and response framework, taking into account the strategy outlined in the final report of that Plan,

(cc) Recognizing the importance of having in place effective and coherent nuclear liability mechanisms at the national and global levels to ensure prompt compensation for damage inter

alia to people, property and the environment, including actual economic loss due to a nuclear accident or incident, 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

(dd) 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 Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage, 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. Welcomes the IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety held in June 2011 and the Ministerial Declaration (INFCIRC/821), and notes the Director General's Statement, which collectively began the process of learning and acting upon lessons learned from the accident at Fukushima to strengthen nuclear safety, emergency preparedness and radiation protection of people and the environment worldwide;
4. Endorses the Board of Governors' decision to approve the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety (GOV/2011/59-GC(55)/14) and calls upon the Secretariat and the Member States to implement the actions as an overarching priority in a comprehensive and coordinated manner;
5. Reiterates the importance of a comprehensive and fully transparent assessment by Japan and the Agency of the accident at Fukushima, including by identifying root causes of the accident, in order for the international community to be able to draw and act upon the lessons learned, and welcomes the reports submitted by Japan and the IAEA International Fact-Finding Mission to Japan, which include preliminary assessments of the accident in this regard;
6. Acknowledges the need to strengthen global nuclear safety, building upon knowledge gained from the investigation of the accident at Fukushima, and looks forward to the international conference on nuclear safety to be co-hosted by Japan and the IAEA in 2012;
7. Requests the Secretariat to continue to establish its safety priorities using an integrated assessment process in close cooperation with Member States using that process, taking into account the advice of the relevant standing bodies and the relevant proposals in the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety, and to incorporate the results into the delivery of its review services;
8. Looks forward to the extraordinary meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety in 2012, which will provide an opportunity to consider further measures to strengthen nuclear safety and to review the effectiveness and, if necessary, the continued suitability of the provisions of the Convention;

9. Encourages the Secretariat and Member States to make effective use of the Agency's technical cooperation resources for the further enhancement of safety;

10. Welcomes the Agency's capacity building activities for nuclear safety for countries expanding or embarking on nuclear power programmes;

11. 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;

12. Recalls that the Agency is authorized by its Statute:

- (i) to establish or adopt, in consultation and, where appropriate, in collaboration with the competent organs of the United Nations and with the specialized agencies concerned, standards of safety; and,
- (ii) to provide for the application of these standards, inter alia at the request of a State to any of that State's relevant activities,

and, in this regard,

- (iii) welcomes the activities of the Commission on Safety Standards and the Safety Standards Committees, supported by the Secretariat, in developing and endorsing the safety standards being established by the Board and the Director General,
- (iv) notes with appreciation the various specialized and ad hoc services rendered by the Secretariat to provide for the application of these standards at the request of a State by, inter alia, appraising its compliance in specific situations; and
- (v) encourages Member States to make use of such services, as appropriate;

13. Recognizes the importance of an effective regulatory body as an essential element of national nuclear infrastructure, emphasizes that Member States should ensure that effective regulatory independence and clarity of roles are preserved in all circumstances in line with IAEA Safety Standards, urges Member States to strengthen regulatory effectiveness in the field of nuclear, radiation, transport, and waste safety, and to continue sharing findings and lessons learned in their regulatory area, including promoting cooperation and coordination among regulatory bodies, and further urges Member States to make use of the Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS);

14. Recognizes the primary responsibility of operators for ensuring safety, further recognizes the value of the Agency's review services for operators, and urges Member States to avail themselves of these services;

15. Encourages the sharing of findings and lessons learned between regulators, operators, industry and the public;

16. Encourages Member States and the Secretariat to promote recognition of the importance of technical and scientific support organizations in enhancing nuclear safety;

17. Recognizes that the Agency has developed guidance on *Establishing a Nuclear Safety Infrastructure for a National Nuclear Power Programme (SSG-16)*, encourages the Secretariat to ensure ongoing consistency amongst related nuclear power infrastructure publications, 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;

18. Welcomes the maturing regional safety fora and related networks, encourages the Secretariat to assist in the establishment of similar fora and networks in regions where they do not exist, further encourages Member States to join relevant fora and networks, urges the Secretariat to continue to support the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN) and the international Regulatory Network (RegNet) and further encourages Member States to join and actively support these networks;

19. Welcomes the international conferences on safety-related issues held by the Agency and requests the Secretariat to report to the policy-making organs the conclusions and recommendations from these conferences, as well as the Secretariat's proposed follow-up actions;

20. Recognizes that there are ongoing projects to construct transportable nuclear power plants, requests the Secretariat to facilitate information exchange on this issue, and encourages the Secretariat and Member States to continue considering the safety and security aspects related to such facilities throughout their life cycle, including through INPRO;

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

22. Welcomes the valuable work of International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability (INLEX), encourages its continuation, including the consideration and identification of specific actions to address gaps in the scope and coverage of the international nuclear liability regime, the recommendation of actions to facilitate the achievement of a coherent global nuclear liability regime, and outreach activities, and requests the Secretariat to report at appropriate times on the continuing work of INLEX,

23. 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;

24. Further requests that the implementation of actions by the Secretariat called for in this resolution be given priority, subject to the availability of financial resources;

25. Requests the Director General to report in detail at its fifty-sixth (2012) regular session on implementation of this resolution, including other relevant developments in the intervening period, and to report on implementation of the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety;

2.

The Agency's Safety Standards Programme

26. Emphasizes the importance of implementing enhanced national and international measures to ensure that the highest and most robust levels of nuclear safety are in place, based on IAEA safety standards, which should be continuously reviewed, strengthened and implemented as broadly and effectively as possible and commits to increase bilateral, regional and international cooperation to that effect;

27. Supports the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS) in its review of the relevant safety standards, in particular those pertaining to multiple severe hazards such as tsunamis and earthquakes, and to the particular requirements in siting, design and severe accident management;

28. Encourages Member States to use the safety standards issued by the IAEA in their national regulatory programmes, and notes the need to consider the periodic alignment of national regulations

and guidance to internationally established standards and guidance, for the inclusion particularly of new lessons learned from global experiences of the impact of external hazards;

29. Notes that the Safety Requirements: Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards (revised BSS) were endorsed by the Commission on Safety Standards at its meeting in May 2011 and approved by the Board in September 2011 (as GOV/2011/42), urges the Secretariat to ensure the timely publication of the revised BSS, further notes that the new Safety Requirements: Safety of Nuclear Power Plants: Design (revised NS-R-1) reflects feedback and experience accumulated up to 2010, and requests that lessons from Fukushima are reflected in subsequent safety requirements;

30. Urges the Secretariat:

- i. to continue to use the estimates of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) for the development of the Agency safety standards, to continue to base such standards, as much as possible, on the recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) and to maintain close cooperation with UNSCEAR and ICRP to these ends, and
- ii. to cooperate closely with UNSCEAR on the development and use of such databases — that also support UNSCEAR assessments — as an Information System on occupational Exposure in Medicine, Industry and Research (ISEMIR), a database on Discharges of Radionuclides to the Atmosphere and the Aquatic Environment (DIRATA), the Directory of Radiotherapy Centres (DIRAC) and the Nuclear Medicine DataBase (NUMDAB);
- iii. to liaise closely with UNSCEAR in the Committee's follow-up of the estimates of exposures, and health and environmental effects from the Fukushima accident;

31. Requests the Secretariat, given the importance of the Safety Standards Committees, to facilitate the effective participation of all interested Member States in those committees;

3.

Nuclear Installation Safety

32. Urges all Member States operating, commissioning, constructing or planning nuclear power plants, or considering a nuclear power programme, to become Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, recognizes that implementation of the Convention may be further enhanced, and invites Contracting Parties to consider proposals for its amendment;

33. Recognizes the value of the Agency's review services for operators in enhancing nuclear installation safety, including the Operational Safety Review Teams (OSART), the Design and Safety Assessment Peer Review Services and Integrated Site Safety Review Services, and urges Member States to avail themselves of these services;

34. Emphasizes the responsibility of national nuclear industry and operators for taking timely measures on nuclear safety, including spent fuel storage and criticality safety;

35. Calls upon all Member States with nuclear installations that have not yet done so 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;

36. Notes the Secretariat's efforts in the area of plant life management for the long-term operation of nuclear power plants, and invites all Member States with nuclear power plants to consider the Agency's guidance and services in this area;

37. Requests the Agency to undertake a full review of the implications of the Fukushima accident and to ensure that the lessons learned are considered in the further development and revisions of the IAEA Safety Standards and safety services;
38. Continues to endorse the principles and objectives of the non-legally-binding 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;
39. Acknowledges the continued assistance provided by the Secretariat for monitoring and enhancing the safety of research reactors, notes the conclusions of the technical Meeting on the Safety of Research Reactors held in June 2011, and looks forward to the implementation of its recommendations, including the review of the application of the current IAEA Safety Standards with regard to Project and Supply Agreements;
40. Calls upon Member States, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to continue projects related to the development of nuclear power technologies and implementation of innovative technologies, to strengthen nuclear safety;
41. Further encourages Member States to exchange regulatory information and share experiences with regard to new nuclear power plant designs and design certification;

4.

Radiation Safety

42. Requests the Secretariat to support the effective implementation of the revised BSS in relation to occupational, public and medical exposure, including the development of new guidance in this respect;
43. Notes the advances and increasing use of radiodiagnostics and radiotherapy, welcomes the Secretariat's continued progress in implementing the International Action Plan for the Radiation Protection of Patients, and encourages the Secretariat to develop further guidance on justification of medical exposures and optimization of protection;
44. Encourages Member States to take advantage of regional technical cooperation projects on medical exposure and to use safety reporting systems for radiological procedures and radiotherapy developed by the IAEA, and further encourages networking and information-sharing among medical professionals using ionizing radiation;
45. Welcomes the approval by the Board of Governors of technical cooperation project RAS/7/21 – marine benchmark study on the possible impact of the Fukushima radioactive releases in the Asia-Pacific region;

5.

Transport Safety

46. Urges Member States that do not have national regulatory documents governing the transport of radioactive material to adopt and implement 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. Stresses the importance of having effective liability mechanisms in place to ensure prompt compensation for damage to people, property and the environment as well as actual economic loss due to a radiological accident or incident during the transport of radioactive material, including maritime

transport, and 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;

48. 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, 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;

49. 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, welcomes the ongoing informal discussions on communication between relevant shipping and coastal States, including with Agency involvement, and expresses the hope that further enhancements to mutual confidence, particularly through voluntary communication practices, with due regard to particular circumstances, will result;

50. Requests the Secretariat, Member States and relevant international organizations in their follow-up of the Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies also to emphasize the specific challenges and requirements for efficient international cooperation in relation to nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies in relation to the transport of radioactive materials, and encourages the Secretariat to discuss with interested Member States how appropriate information can be made available to authorities preparing for or responding to an incident or emergency during the transport of radioactive material, taking fully into account the requirements of physical protection and safety;

51. Welcomes the Secretariat initiative to develop guidance for Member States on how to respond to a maritime emergency involving radioactive material;

52. Notes the Agency's work on the security of radioactive material during transport, welcomes the development and provision of relevant training courses, and encourages Member States to make relevant training available;

53. 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;

54. Welcomes and encourages efforts to address problems related to denials and delays in the shipment of radioactive material, including through the implementation of the action plan developed by the International Steering Committee on Denial of Shipment of Radioactive Material and the creation of regional action plans and networks to address key issues, calls upon Member States to facilitate the transport of radioactive material when it is carried out in compliance with the Agency's Transport Regulations, calls upon Member States to each nominate a national focal point on denials of shipment of radioactive material to assist the Steering Committee in its work, welcomes the efforts to address problems related to denials of air shipments of radioactive material (in particular for medical applications), and looks forward to a satisfactory and timely resolution of this issue;

55. 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, including through the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP), in particular to ensure synergy between regional training courses and the Agency's work related to denials of shipment, involving to the extent possible experts from the regions concerned;

56. Looks forward to the International Conference on the Safety and Security of Transport of Radioactive Material: The Next Fifty Years of Transport – Creating a Safe, Secure and Sustainable Framework, to be held in Vienna in October 2011, requests that the conference take account of the transport safety and security issues identified in this resolution, and requests the Secretariat to report the conclusions and recommendations of the International Conference;

6.

The Safety of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Management

57. Welcomes the increase in the number of Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention to 60, and urges all Member States, in particular those exploring nuclear energy, to become Parties to the Joint Convention;

58. Notes the importance of regional activities 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;

59. Notes the Secretariat's efforts in upgrading the Net Enabled Waste Management Database for timely, transparent and authoritative information on global radioactive waste inventory and management programmes;

7.

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

60. Emphasizes the importance of IAEA decommissioning activities and 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;

61. Acknowledges the successful work of the International Decommissioning Network (IDN) in training and the exchange of knowledge and information and encourages its further development, and encourages participating States to implement the lessons learned in the Research Reactor Decommissioning Demonstration Project;

62. Commends the Government of Iraq for putting together the first overarching decommissioning plan for the nuclear legacy sites in Iraq, welcomes and encourages Member States' continuing support for this work, and encourages the Government of Iraq to promulgate its statutory and regulatory framework;

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 uranium mining and ore processing, and requests the Secretariat to assist Member States in promoting the use of 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 mining and ore processing 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 Member States to ensure that plans for the remediation of contaminated sites are developed and mechanisms are put in place for the establishment and maintenance of the resources necessary for implementation;

66. Notes the baseline document that identifies the need and priorities for environmental impact assessments at legacy uranium production sites in Central Asia, encourages interested Member States to participate in a multilateral initiative to remediate those sites, supports the Agency's involvement in this international initiative as technical coordinator, and encourages Member States to participate in the international working forum for the regulatory supervision of legacy contaminated sites that was launched in October 2010;

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 and sustainability 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. 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;

70. Supports the Secretariat's continued focus on developing sustainable educational training programmes in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, 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;

71. Welcomes the Secretariat's progress toward long-term agreements on education and training in radiation protection and nuclear safety, and looks forward to further long-term agreements conditional on the outcomes of EduTA missions;

10.

Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources

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

73. Continues to endorse the principles and objectives of the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, notes that, as at 23 May 2011, 103 States had notified the Director General of their intention to act in accordance with the Code, and urges other States to make such a notification;

74. Underlines the important role of the Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources for the establishment of continuous control of radioactive sources, notes that, as at 5 September 2011, 66 States had notified the Director General of their intention to act in accordance with the Guidance, encourages other States to make such a notification, 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;

75. 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;

76. Endorses the revised Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources contained in document GC(55)/11, and notes that the revision of the Guidance does not require States which have previously notified the Director General of their intention to act in accordance with the Guidance to do so again;

77. Encourages Member States to support the review meetings on the Code of Conduct and its supplementary Guidance to ensure their maintenance, and requests the Secretariat to continue to foster information exchange on implementation of the Code of Conduct and its supplementary Guidance;

78. Notes the outcomes of an open-ended meeting of technical and legal experts held in July 2011 concerning the development of a non-binding instrument on the transboundary movement of scrap metal that may inadvertently contain radioactive material, and calls upon the Secretariat to proceed with the development of a Code of Conduct;

11.

Nuclear and Radiological Incident and Emergency Preparedness and Response

79. 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;

80. Recognizes that implementation of the Assistance Convention and the Early Notification Convention may be further enhanced, and invites Contracting Parties to the Early Notification Convention to consider proposals to amend the Convention;

81. Welcomes the conclusion 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 and relevant international organizations to implement the strategy outlined in the final report of that Plan;

82. Emphasizes the importance for all Member States to implement emergency preparedness and response mechanisms and develop mitigation measures at a national level, consistent with the Agency's Safety Standards, for improving emergency preparedness and response, facilitating communication in an emergency and contributing to harmonization of national criteria for protective and other actions;

83. Encourages Member States to conduct prompt national emergency preparedness and response reviews and thereafter regular reviews of their emergency preparedness and response arrangements and capabilities, with the Secretariat providing support and assistance through the Emergency Preparedness Review (EPREV) service, as requested;

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, as identified, inter alia, in the Response and Assistance Network (RANET), Unified System for Information Exchange in Incidents and Emergencies (USIE) and Incident and Emergency Centre Emergency Preparedness and Response (IEC-EPR) documents;

85. Welcomes the support by Member States for the Secretariat's implementation of the Response and Assistance Network (RANET), and in particular the registration by 19 Member States of assistance capabilities in the event of nuclear or radiological incidents and emergencies, strongly encourages all Member States and relevant international organizations to strengthen assistance mechanisms to ensure that necessary assistance is made available promptly if requested, and to consider enhancing and fully utilizing RANET, including expanding its rapid response capabilities and inclusion of Member States' national rapid response teams on a voluntary basis, and requests the Secretariat to facilitate the establishment in interested regions of regional emergency response arrangements through RANET;

86. Notes the Agency's newly developed protected website the Unified System for Information Exchange in Incidents and Emergencies (USIE) for providing timely and relevant information regarding nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies, which replaces the Early Notification and Assistance Conventions (ENAC) website, urges the Secretariat to continue exercising its functions in accordance with the provisions of the Conventions, as well as to continue efforts to streamline event reporting mechanisms, and urges Member States to reinforce emergency notification, reporting and information sharing arrangements and capabilities utilizing USIE;

87. Requests the Secretariat, in collaboration with other relevant international organizations and institutions, to provide Member States and the general public with timely, clear, factually correct, objective and easily understandable information on nuclear emergencies and their potential radiological impact, including analysis of the emergency and prognosis of possible scenarios based on scientific knowledge and evidence;

88. Recommends that the Secretariat and Member States, in consultation with the OECD/NEA and the INES Advisory Committee, review the application of the International Nuclear and Radiological Events Scale (INES) as a communication tool, and urges Member States to designate INES National Officers and utilize the scale;

89. Notes the Agency's role as coordinator of the Joint Radiation Emergency Management Plan of the International Organizations and encourages all relevant international organizations to co-sponsor the Joint Plan;

90. 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; and

91. Requests the Director General to report to the General Conference at its fifty-sixth (2012) session on efforts to improve the capabilities of the Agency's Incident and Emergency Centre as coordinator and facilitator of cooperation among Member States and international organizations in the area of emergency preparedness and response, in line with the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety.