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Strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities

Resolution adopted on 25 September 2020 during the eleventh plenary meeting

1.

General

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling resolution GC(63)/RES/9 on “Strengthening of the Agency’s technical cooperation activities”,
- (b) Bearing in mind that the objectives of the Agency, as stated in Article II of the Statute, are “to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world” and to ensure that the assistance provided by it is not used “to further any military purpose”,
- (c) Recalling that one of the statutory functions of the Agency, as stated in Article III of the Statute, is to “encourage and assist research on, and development and practical application of, atomic energy for peaceful uses throughout the world”,
- (d) Acknowledging that developing countries, including least developed countries (LDCs), consider the technical cooperation (TC) programme as the major vehicle through which they benefit from this statutory function,
- (e) Recalling that the Statute and the Revised Guiding Principles and General Operating Rules to Govern the Provision of Technical Assistance by the Agency as contained in INFCIRC/267 are the Agency’s established guidelines for the formulation of the TC programme and the allocation of its resources, and also recalling other directives from the General Conference and the Board of Governors relevant to the formulation of the TC programme,
- (f) Recalling the Agency’s relevant strategy for the coming years relating, inter alia, to providing effective technical cooperation, which was taken note of by the Board of Governors,

- (g) Further recalling the Board of Governors' requirement, in light of the document GOV/1931 of 12 February 1979, that all Member States receiving technical assistance from the Agency should have signed a Revised Supplementary Agreement (RSA) Concerning the Provision of Technical Assistance by the Agency,
 - (h) Stressing the importance of the RSA,
 - (i) Recalling the adoption of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and welcoming the progress made in its implementation,
 - (j) Recalling the Brussels Declaration on the LDCs and the 2011–2020 Programme of Action of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the Istanbul Declaration on the Least Developed Countries: Time for Action,
 - (k) Taking into account that the TC programme of the Agency continues to be needs-based and implemented in a transparent and non-discriminatory manner,
 - (l) Stressing that INFCIRC/267 states, inter alia, that “the nature, extent and scope of technical assistance to be provided to the requesting State or group of States shall be defined by the Government or Governments concerned, and the assistance actually provided shall be in conformity with the Government’s request and shall be given only to or through Governments”, and that “if requested, the Agency shall help the Government or Governments concerned in defining the nature, extent and scope of the technical assistance being sought”,
 - (m) Mindful of the increasing number of Member States requesting TC projects, which requires adequate resources for the Agency to meet these demands,
 - (n) Noting the substantive outcomes of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons relating to the Agency’s TC activities,
 - (o) Recognizing that Member States and the Secretariat continue to work to promote transparency and accountability in project formulation, management, monitoring and evaluation of the TC programme,
 - (p) Mindful of the shared responsibility of all Member States towards supporting and enhancing TC activities of the Agency, and
 - (q) Recalling the International Conference on the IAEA Technical Cooperation Programme: Sixty Years and Beyond – Contributing to Development held in 2017 as part of the Agency’s initiatives to strengthen the TC programme and, inter alia, to highlight the achievements of the TC programme in supporting Member States in meeting their socio-economic development priorities and also welcoming with satisfaction that the Conference participants recognized the benefits derived by Member States from the TC programme,
1. Requests that the Secretariat, when formulating the TC programme, should adhere strictly to the provisions of the Statute and the guiding principles and policies as contained in the Revised Guiding Principles and General Operating Rules (INFCIRC/267) and to the relevant directives from the General Conference and the Board of Governors, and welcomes the Secretariat’s efforts to ensure that TC projects are consistent with the Agency’s Statute;
 2. Calls upon all Member States receiving technical cooperation to sign an RSA Concerning the Provision of Technical Assistance by the Agency and implement its provisions; and
 3. Requests the Secretariat to continue to assist Member States in the peaceful, safe and secure application of nuclear science and technologies;

2.

Strengthening technical cooperation activities

- (a) Considering that the strengthening of technical cooperation activities in all fields of TC activities, in particular, food and agriculture, human health, water resource management, biotechnology, nanotechnology, environment, industry, knowledge management, and nuclear energy programming, planning and production will substantially contribute to the sustainable socio-economic development and help improve the quality of life and the well-being of the peoples of the world, and particularly those of developing Member States of the Agency, including the least developed ones,
- (b) Stressing the importance of the development of nuclear technology and know-how and its transfer to and among Member States for peaceful uses in order to sustain and enhance their scientific and technological capabilities,
- (c) Recognizing that the TC programme continues to contribute to the achievement of national and regional goals for sustainable development, particularly in developing countries,
- (d) Further recognizing that the TC programme has contributed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),
- (e) Looking forward to the Agency's continued support to Member States, in particular through the TC programme, in realizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in line with the principle of national ownership,
- (f) Acknowledging that many Member States assign importance to climate change adaptation and mitigation through the use of nuclear applications and receive support from the TC programme, and recognizing the role of the Agency in this regard,
- (g) Recognizing the Director General's initiative in selecting 'Nuclear Power and the Clean Energy Transition' as a key focus area in 2020, as reflected in the Scientific Forum during the 64th General Conference, and aware of the role of TC projects in strengthening national and regional capacities in this regard,
- (h) Conscious of the potential of nuclear power for meeting increasing energy requirements in a number of countries, and of the need for sustainable development, including environmental protection, and of the need for the application of the Agency's safety standards and nuclear security guidance to be applied in all uses of nuclear technology in order to protect humankind and the environment, and noting the Agency's support aimed at human resources and nuclear power infrastructure development,
- (i) Taking note with appreciation of the activities being developed by the Agency in the field of nuclear knowledge management, education and training and particularly of the initiatives being emphasized by the TC programme in assisting national nuclear and other entities to build and enhance the basic infrastructure and regulatory framework in this field, and to further improve their technical capacity for ensuring sustainability,
- (j) Noting international cooperation through the IAEA in providing support to Member States, upon request, in response to radiation overexposure accidents with a view to building their national capacities in this regard,
- (k) Recognizing that human capital planning, the development of human resources through scientific visits, fellowships and training courses, expert services and appropriate equipment supply continue to be important components of TC activities to ensure impact and sustainability,

and expressing appreciation for the extra budgetary contributions of some States, as well as in-kind contributions such as, inter alia, experts, training courses and infrastructure, that make those TC activities possible,

(l) Recognizing that human health, mainly cancer, has been the top priority for Member States over several TC programme cycles, as stated in GOV/INF/2019/2,

(m) Recognizing the important role of the Agency in supporting Member States in comprehensive cancer control, including through the Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT) and in coordination with all relevant stakeholders, and noting that the establishment of a unified approach for the Agency's cancer control should contribute to strengthening and facilitating enhanced programmatic delivery to Member States, through, inter alia, enhancing coordination and systematic implementation of the Agency's cancer control related activities,

(n) Recalling the report by the Director General entitled *Addressing the Challenges Facing Least Developed Countries in the Peaceful Application of Nuclear Energy through the Technical Cooperation Programme* (GOV/INF/2016/12), which was published in October 2016, and noting the provision of assistance through the TC programme to LDCs over the past 17 years and the Agency's efforts in this regard,

(o) Recognizing the need for furthering the work of the Agency in promoting nuclear science, technologies and applications for peaceful uses, and their delivery to Member States through the Agency's TC programme, and the role of convening regular ministerial conferences,

(p) Welcoming the Secretariat's ongoing efforts to promote gender equality throughout the TC programme, including the support shown to the *International Gender Champions* initiative,

(q) Welcoming the development of the strategic frameworks for the TC programme by Member States in different regions, and

(r) Welcoming the Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology: Addressing Current and Emerging Development Challenges, and its Ministerial Declaration, held in Vienna in November 2018, where Member States reaffirmed their commitment to the Agency's objectives and functions, and recognized the important role of science, technology and innovation in addressing the current challenges and meeting the common goals of achieving sustainable development,

1. Requests the Secretariat to continue to facilitate and to enhance the development of nuclear technology and know-how and its transfer to and among Member States for peaceful uses as embodied in the Agency's TC programme, taking into account and emphasizing the importance of specific needs of developing countries, including those of LDCs in line with Article III of the Statute, and encourages Member States to contribute in sharing knowledge and technology in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy;

2. Requests the Director General to continue to strengthen the Agency's TC activities, in consultation with Member States, through development of effective, efficient and outcomes oriented programmes aimed at promoting and improving the scientific, technological, research and regulatory capacities and capabilities of the Member States implementing projects, with account being taken of the infrastructure and the level of technology of the countries concerned, by continuing to assist them in their peaceful, safe and secure applications of atomic energy and nuclear techniques;

3. Requests the Secretariat, in close coordination with Member States, to continue its efforts to further advance gender mainstreaming and gender balance, including among experts and lecturers, in

the TC programme and encourages Member States to cooperate closely with the Secretariat in this regard;

4. Requests the Director General to make every effort to ensure, where relevant, that the Agency's TC programme, taking into account specific needs of each Member State, particularly developing countries and LDCs, as well as the Agency's adoption of the 'technical cooperation among developing countries' (TCDC) modality in assisting LDCs, contributes to the implementation of the principles expressed in the Istanbul Declaration, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 and to the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the SDGs, and further requests the Director General to keep Member States informed of the Agency's activities in this regard;

5. Calls upon the Secretariat to continue to provide assistance to Member States, upon request, on climate change adaptation and mitigation through the use of nuclear techniques, including through the TC programme;

6. Requests the Secretariat to continue, within the framework of the TC programme, to work actively to provide assistance and support services to Member States to identify and implement the lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident;

7. Requests the Secretariat to continue, within the framework of the TC programme, to work actively to render assistance and radiological support to the most affected countries in mitigating the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster and rehabilitating the contaminated territories;

8. Requests the Secretariat to continue examining in depth the specific characteristics and problems of the LDCs with respect to the peaceful applications of nuclear energy and, in this regard, also requests the Secretariat to continue to address this matter and to report accordingly in the Technical Cooperation Reports;

9. Requests the Secretariat to implement the new unified approach to cancer control as outlined by the Director General in his report GOV/INF/2019/2, in a manner that enables Member States to continue receiving robust support in maintaining, expanding and improving their cancer control capacity by integrating medical uses of ionizing radiation into a comprehensive cancer control programme that maximizes its effectiveness and public health impact;

10. Requests the Secretariat to update Member States on the efforts to reform PACT as well as on the status of all recommendations, as contained in document GOV/2018/11;

11. Encourages the Secretariat to continue implementing the Programme Cycle Management Framework (PCMF) in phases, and to make it simpler and user-friendly so that Member States may use the tools effectively, and to take into account, in designing and implementing subsequent phases, difficulties experienced and concerns of Member States, including lack of adequate training, equipment and IT infrastructure in developing countries, particularly in LDCs; and

12. Requests the Secretariat to commence consultations with Member States towards convening a follow up to the 2018 Ministerial Conference on nuclear science, technology and applications and the Technical Cooperation Programme in 2023 with a view to convening every four years thereafter;

3.

Effective execution of the technical cooperation programme

(a) Reiterating the need to strengthen technical cooperation activities and to further enhance the effectiveness, efficiency, transparency and sustainability of the TC programme, specifically in accordance with Member States' requests, based on their needs and national priorities and

emphasizing that all measures taken in this regard should also preserve and enhance the ownership of TC projects by recipient Member States,

(b) Stressing the importance for the Agency of regular internal and external evaluations (as performed by the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the External Auditor, respectively), which contribute to achieving more effectiveness, efficiency, transparency and sustainability of the TC programme, with a view to having a positive impact on results,

(c) Appreciating the efforts of the Secretariat in continuing to apply a two-step mechanism of quality assessment and review of the project designs for the 2020–2021 cycle, on the basis of TC quality criteria, in particular the central criterion of the Logical Framework Approach (LFA),

(d) Noting that the key lessons from the review process carried out by the Secretariat in 2011 showed that consideration should be given to moving towards more focused and comprehensive projects, and that a differentiation in LFA treatment should be made between large, complex projects and small, simple ones,

(e) Recognizing the growing number of Member States and their increasing demands on the TC programme, as well as the Agency's role in supporting Member States to achieve the SDGs, in line with the principle of national ownership, and the importance of enhancing within available resources the capacity of Agency staff to meet the needs of Member States, so as to effectively service Member States in line with the Agency's statutory requirements, in particular Articles II and III of the Statute, and further recognizing the valuable contribution of general service staff,

(f) Recognizing the efforts of the Secretariat to introduce outcome monitoring to the TC programme, through a number of pilot projects in the 2016–2017 programme cycle,

(g) Recognizing that the Secretariat will continue to promote to the extent possible gender equality and equitable geographical representation in the Agency, especially at managerial levels, and recalling that the recruitment and retention of staff of the highest standards of efficiency, technical competence and integrity are essential for the success and impact of the Agency's programme, and

(h) Considering that the expanded use of the IAEA official languages would increase the universality of the TC programme and recalling in this regard the 2019 report by the Director General GOV/INF/2019/15 on multilingualism,

1. Urges the Secretariat to continue to work, in close cooperation with Member States, to strengthen TC activities, including the provision of sufficient resources, in accordance with Member States' requests based on their needs and national priorities, inter alia through ensuring that the components of TC projects, training, expertise and equipment are readily available to the Member States that have made such requests;

2. Requests the Secretariat, within available resources, to enhance TC project implementation capacity by ensuring that staff are adequately and appropriately assigned at all levels;

3. Also requests the Secretariat to give due consideration to qualified experts nominated by all Member States, particularly developing and LDCs, for participation in TC expert missions;

4. Welcomes and further encourages the continuing efforts of the Secretariat to optimize the quality, the number and the impact of TC projects and to create synergies among them, whenever feasible, and in coordination with the Member States concerned;

5. Requests the Secretariat to continue to provide Member States with adequate information and training on project development, including through e-learning, according to the LFA sufficiently in

advance of their consideration by the Technical Assistance and Cooperation Committee and the Board of Governors;

6. Recognizes the importance of regular reporting on the implementation and outcomes of TC projects, urges Member States to adhere to all the requirements in this regard, welcomes the progress achieved and encourages further progress by Member States in the submission of their Project Progress Assessment Reports (PPARs), including through electronic PPARs and, in this regard, requests the Secretariat to continue to provide necessary guidance to Member States on improving their reporting, as appropriate;

7. Requests the Secretariat to keep Member States informed of the results of the efforts to implement outcome monitoring in the TC programme and to report on the implementation of outcome monitoring in the pilot projects on human health and nutrition, including the associated potential human and financial resource implications;

8. Requests the Secretariat, when applying the two-step mechanism in monitoring the quality of TC projects, to reflect on the findings in the TC annual report in this regard, as appropriate;

9. Encourages the Secretariat and Member States to enhance adherence to the central criterion and all the TC requirements, and calls upon the Secretariat to guide Member States in this regard;

10. Requests the Secretariat to continue providing updates on the progress of TC programme implementation in between annual TC reports;

11. Stresses that the regular work of OIOS and the External Auditor should, within resources allocated to these offices from the Regular Budget, be consistent across all Major Programmes; further stresses that, in this context, OIOS should evaluate TC projects on the basis of specific outcomes achieved in relation to objectives outlined in the relevant Country Programme Framework (CPF) or national development plan and further requests the External Auditor to report the results to the Board of Governors; and

12. Encourages the Secretariat to continue to seek to carry out each TC project in the IAEA official language chosen by the beneficiary Member State, where possible;

4.

Technical cooperation programme resources and delivery

(a) Recalling that the financing of TC should be in line with the concept of shared responsibility and that all Member States share a common responsibility towards financing and enhancing the TC activities of the Agency, and welcoming the contributions made by Member States, on a voluntary basis through government cost-sharing,

(b) Stressing that the Agency's resources for TC activities should be sufficient, assured and predictable (SAP) to meet the objectives mandated in Article II of the Statute, and welcoming, in this regard, the *Report of the Working Group on Financing the Agency's Activities (WGFAA)*, including to examine the ways and means to render resources for the Technical Cooperation Fund sufficient, assured and predictable (GOV/2014/49) and the recommendations contained therein, as well as the subsequent Progress Reports on the Secretariat's Implementation of the Recommendations of the WGFAA as contained in GOV/INF/2015/4 and GOV/INF/2016/7,

(c) Recognizing that the Technical Cooperation Fund (TCF) target should be set at an adequate level, taking into account not only the growing needs of Member States but also funding capabilities, and mindful of the increasing number of Member States requesting TC projects,

- (d) Noting the decision of the Board of Governors, as contained in document GOV/2019/25, to set the target for voluntary contributions to the TCF at the level of €88 061 000 in 2020 and €89 558 000 in 2021, and that the Indicative Planning Figure (IPF) for 2022 shall be €89 558 000 and for 2023 shall be €89 558 000,
- (e) Recalling the statutory objective of the Agency to seek to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world, and recognizing the important contribution of its work through the TC programme in support of Member States, including in the attainment of the SDGs, and aware of the need for sufficient, assured and predictable resources,
- (f) Aware of the significant number of approved projects that remain unfunded (footnote-a/ projects) in the TC programme,
- (g) Also aware that the existence of a significant number of such projects also results in an increased workload on the Secretariat in terms of project planning and design review,
- (h) Stressing the importance of maintaining an appropriate balance between the promotional and other statutory activities of the Agency, and taking note of the decision of the Board, which — inter alia — notes that the synchronization of the TC programme cycle with the budget cycle provides a framework beginning in 2012, to consider appropriate increases to the resources for the TC programme, including the TCF target where such adjustments would take into account the changes in the level of the regular operational budget from 2009 onwards, the price adjustment factor and other relevant factors as contained in document GOV/2009/52/Rev.1,
- (i) Acknowledging the decision contained in GOV/2019/25 regarding the application of the due account mechanism with a view to guaranteeing the maximum quality of all national, regional and interregional TC projects as well as the TC programme,
- (j) Stressing that Major Programme 6 should be funded appropriately through the Regular Budget, and recalling the decision GOV/2011/37 that recommends — inter alia — one Working Group dealing with both the level of the Regular Budget and the TCF target,
- (k) Expressing appreciation to those Member States which have paid in full their TCF target shares and their obligatory National Participation Costs (NPCs) in a timely manner, noting the improvement in the number of Member States paying their NPCs and thus their strong commitment to the TC programme, and noting the Rate of Attainment of 2019, which was 94.0%,
- (l) Encouraging Member States in a position to do so, to consider contributing on a voluntary basis through government cost-sharing to future national and regional TC projects, while recognizing that government cost-sharing is a sovereign decision,
- (m) Noting the use of the PCMF and emphasizing the need for assessing its impact on, inter alia, enhancing coordination, programme planning and the quality of programme delivery as well as increasing the implementation rate, and
- (n) Recognizing that the Agency requests that shipments of radioactive materials in the framework of the TC programme are carried out in compliance with the Agency's Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material,
1. Stresses the need for the Secretariat to continue to work, in consultation with Member States, towards establishing means, including mechanisms, that would achieve the goal of making TC resources sufficient, assured and predictable;

2. Urges Member States to pay in full and on time their voluntary contributions to the TCF, encourages Member States to pay their NPCs on time, and requests those which are in arrears with Assessed Programme Costs (APCs) to meet this obligation;
3. Requests the Secretariat to ensure that the commencement of projects within a national programme will take place upon the receipt of at least the minimum payment of the NPCs without affecting the preparatory activities and that, in the event of a failure to pay any second instalment during a biennium, funding for a core project in the next biennium will be suspended until full payment is received;
4. Requests the Secretariat to strictly apply the due account mechanism in line with all the elements contained in GOV/2019/25 with a view to guaranteeing the maximum quality of all national, regional and interregional TC projects as well as the TC programme;
5. Further requests the Director General to continue to take account of the views of the General Conference when requesting Member States to pledge and pay their respective shares of the TCF targets and to make timely payments to the TCF;
6. Requests the Secretariat, within available resources, to continue its support to Member States' development efforts, including the attainment of the SDGs;
7. While cognizant of the diverse nature of export control regimes, urges Member States to work in close cooperation with the Agency to facilitate the transfer of necessary equipment for TC activities, in accordance with the Statute, in order to ensure that TC project implementation is not delayed by denials of necessary equipment supply to Member States;
8. Requests the Secretariat to continue to actively seek resources to implement footnote-a/ projects;
9. Encourages Member States in a position to make voluntary contributions to show flexibility as regards their use in order to enable the implementation of more footnote-a/ projects;
10. Welcomes all extra budgetary contributions announced by Member States, including the Agency's Peaceful Uses Initiative, which is designed to raise extra budgetary contributions to Agency activities, and encourages all Member States in a position to do so to make contributions to meet this goal, and requests the Secretariat to continue to work with all Member States in matching contributions to Member States' needs;
11. Encourages Member States to make full use of the tools to share voluntarily their CPFs and footnote-a/ project details, via the electronic search engine;
12. Requests that the actions of the Secretariat called for in this resolution that are not directly related to the implementation of TC projects be undertaken subject to the availability of resources; and
13. Calls upon the Agency to continue to take the necessary actions on the recommendations made by the WGFAA including to examine the ways and means to render resources for the TCF sufficient, assured and predictable, as contained in GOV/2014/49, GOV/INF/2015/4 and GOV/INF/2016/7;

5.

Partnership and cooperation

- (a) Noting that interested Member States making their CPFs available to potential partners on a voluntary basis could facilitate additional cooperation and improve understanding of how TC projects respond to the needs of Member States,

- (b) Recognizing that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development presents another opportunity for partnership building and resource mobilization for the benefit of Member States,
- (c) Appreciating the sustained increase in the number of United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) signed by the Agency, resulting in improving coordination and collaboration with the UN and other partners, including towards the implementation of the SDGs, while emphasizing the role of the CPF as the main strategic planning tool of national TC programmes for Member States, and that by virtue of their specialized technical focus, some aspects of TC projects may not fit within UNSDCFs, which should not be a requirement for TC projects,
- (d) Recognizing that national nuclear and other entities are important partners in the implementation of TC programs in Member States and in promoting the use of nuclear science, technology and innovation for achieving national development objectives, and recognizing also in this regard the role of the National Liaison Officers, the Permanent Missions to the Agency, the Programme Management Officer (PMO), the Project Counterparts (PCs) and the Technical Officers (TOs), and importance of coordination among them,
- (e) Recalling previous resolutions favouring innovative educational partnerships — such as the World Nuclear University — involving academia, government and industry, and confident that such initiatives can, with the Agency’s support, play a valuable role in promoting strong educational standards and building leadership for an expanding global nuclear profession,
- (f) Appreciating the work done by the Agency in promoting partnerships with relevant partners and donors, including regional and multilateral organizations, as well as development agencies, and other entities, as appropriate, and recognizing that such partnerships can play a key role in further disseminating the contribution of the Agency in nuclear applications for peaceful uses, health, and prosperity; maximizing the impact of TC projects; and integrating TC activities into relevant international development frameworks,
- (g) Noting with appreciation the Agency’s efforts in building relationships with international organizations, as well as bodies and agencies within the UN system, which also contribute to achieving the SDGs, including the participation of representatives of the Agency in the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, and
- (h) Recalling the approval of the Strategic Guidelines on Partnerships and Resource Mobilization, as contained in document GOV/2015/35, and, noting the 2019 progress report of the Director General on the implementation of these guidelines, encouraging the Secretariat to ensure that future regular reports are published in the year immediately following the reporting year so that they are aligned with the budget cycle while recalling the importance of keeping Member States regularly informed of developments in this regard,
1. Requests the Secretariat to continue to strengthen strategic partnerships and to work in close cooperation with Member States and other relevant partners with a view to assisting Member States in implementing the 2030 Agenda, in accordance with their national priorities, and optimizing the impact and benefits of the Agency’s support, and requests the Secretariat to report on the implementation of these partnerships;
 2. Requests the Secretariat to continue consultations and interactions with interested States, the competent organizations of the UN system, multilateral financial institutions, regional development bodies and other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies, to ensure the coordination and optimization of complementary activities, including by participating in relevant UN processes such as the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, and to ensure that they are regularly

informed, where relevant, about the developmental impact of the TC programme, while aiming at achieving sufficient, assured and predictable resources for the TC programme;

3. Welcomes the Agency's participation and contribution with respect to South–South and triangular cooperation which is an essential tool in addressing common challenges of developing countries efficiently and effectively, as well as fostering the exchange of best practices and encourage networking, and in this regard, welcomes the Agency's cooperation with the United Nations Office for South–South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and its participation, in consultation with Member States, in the relevant fora and conferences, including the 2nd High-level UN Conference on South–South Cooperation held in 2019 in Buenos Aires, Argentina;

4. Requests the Director General to promote, in close consultation with Member States, TC activities supporting the self-reliance, sustainability and further relevance of national nuclear and other entities in Member States, particularly in developing countries, and, in this context, requests the Director General to continue and further enhance regional and interregional cooperation by (a) encouraging activities under and seeking complementarities between national projects and regional cooperation, including regional cooperation agreements, (b) identifying, utilizing and strengthening established regional capacities and resource centres or other qualified institutes, (c) formulating guidelines for the use of such centres and (d) strengthening guidance for partnership mechanisms; and in this regard to keep Member States informed of the Agency's activities;

5. Requests the Director General to resume and to further develop and facilitate cost-sharing, outsourcing and other forms of partnership in development by reviewing and amending or simplifying, as appropriate, relevant financial and legal procedures for these partnerships, to ensure that their objectives are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely (SMART);

6. Notes the adoption of UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/72/279 on 'Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system' and encourages the Agency to identify and inform Member States of its possible impacts on the TC programme in any area, including resource mobilization, while noting the relationship between the Agency and the UN system and the nature, character and specificity of the TC programme; and

7. Requests the Secretariat to strengthen, as appropriate, its public communication, in all official languages of the Agency, on the impact of the TC activities, with a view to showcasing the contribution of atomic energy, including to sustainable development, and to reaching out to new partners, and to regularly provide information to Member States in this regard;

6.

Implementation and reporting

1. Requests the Director General to report to the Board of Governors periodically and to the General Conference at its sixty-fifth (2021) regular session on the implementation of all the content of this resolution, highlighting significant accomplishments of the prior year and indicating goals and priorities for the year to come under an agenda item entitled "Strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities".