

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling resolution GC(39)/RES/14 on "Strengthening of the Agency's technical co-operation activities",
 - (b) Noting 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 is not used to further any military purpose,
 - (c) Noting also that one of the statutory functions of the Agency is to "encourage and assist research on, and development and practical application of, atomic energy for peaceful uses throughout the world",
 - (d) Considering that an expansion of technical co-operation activities relating to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy will contribute to the well-being of the peoples of the world, and particularly those of developing Member States of the Agency,
 - (e) Stressing the importance of the transfer of nuclear technology to the developing countries for enhancing their scientific and technological capabilities and thereby generating rapid economic development,
 - (f) Conscious of the great potential of nuclear power for meeting energy requirements in many countries and the need to protect the environment,
 - (g) Desiring that the Agency's resources for technical co-operation activities be assured and sufficient,
 - (h) Taking note of the report by the Director General contained in document GOV/2857-GC(40)/5,
 - (i) Appreciating the formation of the Standing Advisory Group on Technical Assistance and Co-operation (SAGTAC), and
 - (j) Welcoming the new developments relating to Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC),
1. Stresses the need, in conformity with the Statute, to strengthen technical co-operation activities and also their effectiveness and efficiency;

2. Requests the Director General to pursue efforts to strengthen the technical co-operation activities of the Agency through the development of effective programmes aimed at improving the scientific and technological capabilities of developing countries, in consultation with Member States, and taking into consideration the infrastructure and the level of technology of the countries concerned, in the fields of peaceful applications of nuclear energy, including both the applications of nuclear methods and techniques and the production of electricity;
3. Emphasizes that these programmes should contribute to achieving sustainable development in developing countries;
4. Further requests the Director General to follow up actions on initiatives mentioned in his report and with regard to TCDC activities to encourage developing countries to provide more experts, training and equipment;
5. Requests the Director General to continue to take account of the view of the General Conference on this question when requesting Members States to pledge their respective shares of the Technical Co-operation Fund targets and to make timely payments to the Fund; and
6. Requests the Director General and the Board of Governors to remain seized of this matter and further requests the Director General to report to the Board of Governors periodically and to the General Conference at its forty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution under an agenda item entitled "Strengthening of the Agency's technical co-operation activities".

*20 September 1996
Agenda item 13
GC(40)/OR.10, para. 26*