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STRENGTHENING OF THE AGENCY'S TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES

Resolution adopted on 20 September 2002 during the 10th plenary meeting

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling resolution GC(45)/RES/11 on "Strengthening of the Agency's technical co-operation 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 is to "encourage and assist research on, and development and practical application of, atomic energy for peaceful uses throughout the world",
- (d) Considering that the strengthening of technical co-operation activities relating to the peaceful uses of atomic energy and its practical applications will substantially contribute to the well-being and help enrich the quality of life 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 sustaining and further enhancing their scientific and technological capabilities and thereby contributing to socio-economic development,
- (f) Conscious of the great potential of nuclear power for meeting increasing energy requirements in a number of countries, and of the need for sustainable development, including climate protection,
- (g) Also conscious of the need for the internationally recognized standards of safety to be applied in all uses of nuclear technology in order to protect mankind and the environment,

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- (h) Desiring that the Agency's resources for technical co-operation activities be assured, predictable and sufficient to meet the objectives mandated in Article II of the Statute,
- (i) Noting the decision of the Board of Governors to recommend that for 2003 and 2004 the target for voluntary contributions to the Agency's Technical Co-operation Fund (TCF) shall be US\$ 74 750 000 in each of these years, that the Indicative Planning Figures (IPFs) for 2005 and 2006 shall be no less than US\$ 75 000 000, and that the actual targets for the latter two years will be set in 2004, taking into account the results of the Board's review of the rate of attainment mechanism which will be then available, as well as other factors relevant to setting TCF targets,
- (j) Expressing appreciation to those Member States which have contributed to the TCF their full TCF target shares in a timely manner and welcoming the initial results of the rate of attainment mechanism as established by resolution GC(44)/RES/8, but recognizing that some other Member States do not contribute their full TCF target shares or do not contribute to the TCF at all,
- (k) Emphasizing the need to maintain an appropriate balance between the promotional activities and other statutory activities of the Agency,
- (l) Emphasizing the importance of the technical co-operation activities of the Agency, the financing of which should be guaranteed by, inter alia, results-based budgeting and the appropriate use of the Regular Budget in supporting and implementing those activities,
- (m) Recognizing that human resources development, expert services and appropriate equipment supply continue to be important components of technical co-operation activities to ensure impact and sustainability,
- (n) Taking note with appreciation of the different activities carried out by the Secretariat in implementing the Technical Co-operation Strategy, including holding regional meetings for planning purposes, carrying out Country Programme Frameworks and Thematic Planning, efforts to ensure that projects match the national priorities of Member States, and encouraging technical co-operation activities, particularly through technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) and regional resource centres, partnerships in development, greater outreach, and in-house co-ordination, in line with the Technical Co-operation Management Principles (SEC/NOT/1790: Annex 1),
- (o) Reiterating the need to strengthen technical co-operation activities and to continuously enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the programmes according to the needs of Member States,
- (p) Appreciating that these programmes contribute to the achievement of national goals for sustainable development in developing countries, and particularly in the least developed countries,
- (q) Also recognizing that national nuclear and other entities are important partners in the implementation of technical co-operation programmes in Member States and

promote the use of nuclear and related technologies for achieving national development objectives, and

(r) Taking note also with appreciation of the activities being developed by the Agency in the field of nuclear knowledge management, and particularly of the initiatives being emphasized by the technical co-operation programme in assisting national nuclear and other entities to enhance the basic infrastructure in this field, including safety aspects, and to further improve their capacity for self-reliance and sustainability,

1. Requests the Director General to continue 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 and by developing a model arrangement and agreement for outsourcing;
2. Requests the Secretariat to continue working with Member States, within relevant regional groups, in identifying regional resource centres and in developing and refining outsourcing mechanisms in the context of enhancing TCDC;
3. 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 in accordance with resolution GC(44)/RES/8;
4. Urges Member States to pay in full and on time their voluntary contributions to the TCF;
5. Recalls the obligation of recipient Member States to pay Assessed Programme Costs (APCs) and requests those recipient Member States which are in arrears to meet this obligation;
6. Stresses the need to strengthen technical co-operation activities, including the provision of sufficient resources, and to continually enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the programmes, and requests the Secretariat to continue to further refine the Technical Co-operation Strategy 2002 Review (GOV/INF/2002/8) in consultation with all Member States;
7. Also requests the Director General to pursue, in consultation with Member States, efforts to strengthen the technical co-operation activities of the Agency through the development of effective programmes aimed at promoting and improving the scientific, technological, research and regulatory capabilities of developing countries, account being taken of the infrastructure and the level of technology of the countries concerned, by continuing to assist them in their peaceful, safe, secure and regulated applications of atomic energy and nuclear techniques in the fields of – inter alia – (a) food and agriculture, human health, industry, water resource management and environment, and (b) nuclear energy planning and production for those States pursuing nuclear power as a component of their sustainable energy mix in the 21st century, through relevant areas of importance as identified by Member States;
8. Requests the Director General to continue consultations and interactions with interested States, the competent organizations of the United Nations system, multilateral financial

institutions, regional development bodies and other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies to ensure the co-ordination and optimization of complementary activities;

9. Requests the Director General to help interested Member States to obtain relevant information on (a) the role of nuclear power in mitigating GHG emissions, guided by the objective of sustainable development, and (b) the role of radiation and nuclear technology in mitigating polluting gases (FGs and GHGs), in managing agricultural and industrial wastes and effluents, and in improving water security, with particular emphasis on the use of electron beams and isotopes, and to prepare potential technical co-operation projects;

10. Requests the Director General to keep Member States informed of the Agency's follow-up plans that are relevant to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002;

11. Emphasizes the need to understand the marketplace for nuclear technology and to further develop mechanisms and best practices for working with the private and the public sector;

12. Requests the Director General to promote, within the framework of the technical co-operation programme, activities supporting the self-reliance, sustainability and further relevance of national nuclear and other entities in Member States, particularly in developing countries, including encouraging regional and interregional co-operation on this issue; and,

13. 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-seventh (2003) session on the implementation of this resolution under an agenda item entitled "Strengthening of the Agency's technical co-operation activities".