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**STRENGTHENING THE AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES RELATED TO
NUCLEAR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND APPLICATIONS**

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

A.**STRENGTHENING THE AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES RELATED TO
NUCLEAR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND APPLICATIONS**

The General Conference,

- (a) Noting that the Agency's objectives as outlined in Article II of the Statute include "to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world",
- (b) Noting also that the statutory functions of the Agency as outlined in Article III of the Statute, paragraphs A.1 to A.4, include encouraging research and development and fostering the exchange of scientific and technical information and the training of scientists and experts in the field of peaceful uses of atomic energy, including the production of electric power, with due consideration for the needs of developing countries,
- (c) Noting the Medium Term Strategy as guidance and input in this respect,
- (d) Aware of the present role of nuclear power in meeting 16% of the electricity needs of mankind, and that a number of countries consider that applications of nuclear science are making a crucial input to development strategies in Member States,
- (e) Stating that nuclear science, technology and applications address and contribute to a wide variety of basic socio-economic human development needs of Member States, in such areas as energy, industry, food, nutrition and agriculture, human health and water resources management,
- (f) Confirming the important role of science, technology and engineering in enhancing nuclear safety and security,
- (g) Acknowledging the need to resolve the issues of managing in a sustainable manner the waste from the nuclear fuel cycle, and

(h) Taking note of the “Nuclear Technology Review 2002” (GC(46)/INF/5) prepared by the Secretariat,

1. Stresses the need, in conformity with the Statute, to continue to pursue activities of the Agency in the areas of nuclear science, technology and applications for meeting basic sustainable development needs of Member States;
2. Underlines the importance of facilitating effective programmes in the areas of nuclear science, technology and applications aimed at pooling and further improving the scientific and technological capabilities of Member States through co-ordinated research and development within the Agency and between the Agency and Member States and through direct assistance;
3. Recognizes the importance of and endorses the Agency activities which meet the objective of fostering sustainable development and protecting the environment;
4. Suggests that the Secretariat continue to implement efforts which contribute to a greater understanding and a well-balanced picture of the role of nuclear science and technology in a global, sustainable development perspective, including the Kyoto commitments;
5. Requests the Director General to continue to pursue, in consultation with Member States, the Agency’s activities in the areas of nuclear science, technology and applications, with special emphasis on supporting the development of power and non-power applications in Member States with a view to strengthening infrastructures and fostering science, technology and engineering for enhancing nuclear safety and nuclear security;
6. Calls upon the Secretariat to address specific needs and requirements of Member States, including those which do not have nuclear power facilities, in the areas of nuclear science, technology and applications;
7. Requests that the actions of the Secretariat called for above be undertaken subject to the availability of resources; and
8. Recommends that the Secretariat report to the Board of Governors and to the General Conference on the progress made in the areas of nuclear science, technology and applications.

B. NUCLEAR KNOWLEDGE

The General Conference,

- (a) Recognizing that preserving and enhancing nuclear knowledge is vital to the continued and expanded safe utilization of all nuclear technologies for peaceful purposes,
- (b) Aware of growing concerns about a possible approaching shortage of personnel in nuclear fields,
- (c) Recognizing that preserving and enhancing nuclear knowledge involves both education and training for succession planning and the preservation or growth of existing knowledge in nuclear science and technology,

- (d) Noting that the need to preserve, enhance or strengthen nuclear knowledge arises irrespectively of future expansion in the applications of nuclear technologies,
- (e) Recognizing the useful role of international co-ordination and co-operation in facilitating exchanges of information and experience and in implementing actions to help address common problems, and also in benefiting from opportunities relating to education and training and nuclear knowledge preservation,
- (f) Commending the Secretariat for its efforts to address and increase awareness of issues related to preserving and enhancing nuclear knowledge, particularly through the 17-19 June 2002 meeting of senior officials on Managing Nuclear Knowledge, and
- (g) Taking note with appreciation of the presentations and discussions on nuclear knowledge management that occurred during the Scientific Forum,
1. Welcomes the conclusions and recommendations of the 17-19 June 2002 meeting of senior officials on Managing Nuclear Knowledge;
 2. Requests the Secretariat, within available resources, to further increase the level of attention given to activities for preserving and enhancing nuclear knowledge that are undertaken or supported by the Agency and to increase the level of awareness of those activities;
 3. Requests the Secretariat to assist Member States in their efforts to ensure the preservation of nuclear education and training for peaceful purposes, which is a necessary prerequisite for succession planning;
 4. Encourages Member States to promote the networking of institutions for such nuclear education and training;
 5. Requests the Director General to evaluate the relevance of currently ongoing programmes and activities aimed at addressing common problems identified by Member States regarding the preservation and enhancement of nuclear knowledge and to identify approaches aimed at addressing the problems;
 6. Requests the Director General to note the high level of interest of Member States in the range of issues associated with preserving and enhancing nuclear knowledge in the process of preparing the Agency's programme; and
 7. Requests the Director General to report on the progress made in the implementation of this resolution to the Board of Governors and to the General Conference at its forty-seventh (2003) session under an appropriate agenda item and thereafter to update the report as deemed appropriate by the General Conference.

C. AGENCY ACTIVITIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INNOVATIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling the Agency's statutory functions "to encourage and assist research on, and development and practical application of, atomic energy for peaceful uses ... and ... to foster the exchange of scientific and technical information",
 - (b) Conscious of the potential contribution of nuclear energy to meeting growing energy needs in the 21st century,
 - (c) Recalling its resolutions GC(44)/RES/21, GC(44)/RES/22 and GC(45)/RES/12.F and inviting all interested Member States to combine their efforts under the aegis of the Agency in considering the issues of the nuclear fuel cycle, in particular by examining innovative, safe, economically competitive and proliferation-resistant nuclear technology for sustainable development,
 - (d) Noting the progress achieved in a number of Member States in the development of innovative nuclear technology and the high technical and economic potential of international collaboration in the development of such technology,
 - (e) Noting also the progress of other initiatives, such as the Generation IV International Forum, the Three Agency Initiative of the IAEA, NEA and the IEA, and their contribution to developing innovative approaches to nuclear power, and
 - (f) Recognizing the unique role that the Agency can play in international collaboration in the nuclear field,
1. Commends the Director General and the Secretariat for the activities in these areas, in particular with respect to the International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles (INPRO), in response to the relevant General Conference resolutions;
 2. Emphasizes the unique role that the Agency can play in developing user requirements and in addressing safeguards, safety and environmental questions for innovative reactors and their fuel cycles;
 3. Stresses the need for international collaboration in the development of innovative nuclear technology and the high potential and added value achieved through joint developments;
 4. Emphasizes the need for appropriate extrabudgetary funding and resources for INPRO, and invites all interested States to contribute to innovative nuclear technology activities in terms of scientific and technical information, financial support or technical and other relevant experts;
 5. Welcomes the arrangements in place for an international conference on "Innovative technologies for nuclear fuel cycles and nuclear power" to be held in Vienna in June 2003, and looks forward to a constructive discussion on issues relating to developing innovative nuclear technologies; and

6. Requests the Director General to report on the progress made in the implementation of this resolution to the Board of Governors and to the General Conference at its forty-seventh (2003) session under an appropriate agenda item.

D.

SUPPORT TO THE AFRICAN UNION'S PAN AFRICAN TSETSE AND TRYPANOSOMOSIS ERADICATION CAMPAIGN (PATTEC)

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling its resolution GC(45)/RES/12.D on “Support to the Organization of African Unity’s Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Campaign (PATTEC)” and earlier resolutions on strengthening of the Agency’s technical co-operation activities,
- (b) Recognizing the importance of the provisions of the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD),
- (c) Recalling decisions AHG/Dec. 156(XXXVI) and AHG/Dec. 169(XXXVII) of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on an Africa free of tsetse flies and in support of the OAU’s Plan of Action for PATTEC,
- (d) Recognizing that tsetse flies and the transboundary character of the diseases they transmit, affecting 37 African countries and causing unacceptable human suffering and an estimated annual loss of US\$ 4.5 billion, are one of Africa’s greatest constraints to socio-economic development, severely affecting human and livestock health, limiting land use and preventing an ecologically appropriate and sustainable utilization of available natural resources, causing poverty and perpetuating underdevelopment on the African continent,
- (e) Recognizing that, in the short and medium term, the creation and subsequent expansion of tsetse fly-free zones and, in the longer term, the ultimate eradication of tsetse flies from affected African Member States would significantly contribute to increased productivity of crops and livestock and reduce rural poverty on the African continent,
- (f) Recognizing the technical and economic feasibility, the environmental friendliness and the essential role of the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) in building on the work of other anti-tsetse initiatives for creating tsetse fly-free zones, the sustainable results achieved so far in some African countries and the ensuing development opportunities,
- (g) Acknowledging the efforts and support of the Agency over several years for R&D and for the establishment of technical standards for integrating tsetse fly SIT into area-wide campaigns of tsetse and trypanosomosis intervention,
- (h) Appreciating the extrabudgetary resources provided by a number of Member States in support of those efforts,
- (i) Noting decision CM/Dec. 661 of the 76th Ordinary Session of the African Union’s Council of Ministers, which specifically expressed the Council’s gratitude to the Agency for the support and assistance extended to Member States in the implementation of the PATTEC initiative,

(j) Noting FAO Conference Resolution 4/2001 in support of PATTEC, and

(k) Appreciating the steps taken by Agency and other relevant organizations regarding improved international co-operation and the harmonization of efforts in support of the PATTEC initiative,

1. Appreciates the increased efforts being made by the Director General to support expanded application of the SIT in the creation of tsetse fly-free zones in African Member States in support of the OAU Plan of Action for PATTEC;
2. Calls upon Member States to continue to provide technical, financial and material support to African States in their efforts to eradicate tsetse flies;
3. Requests the Secretariat, in co-operation with Member States and relevant international organizations, to continue supporting African Member States in their efforts to create and subsequently expand tsetse fly-free zones in line with the OAU's Plan of Action for the eradication of tsetse flies through utilization of the SIT, and to continue to further develop scientific research in this field, within available resources;
4. Stresses the need for continued international co-operation and the harmonization of efforts in support of PATTEC, including through the TCDC mechanism;
5. Further requests the Secretariat to co-ordinate with the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) in order to implement this resolution; and
6. Requests the Director General to report on the progress made and the effectiveness in the implementation of this resolution to the Board of Governors and to the General Conference at its forty-seventh (2003) session, subject to the availability of resources.