

# General Conference

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## **Forty-ninth regular session**

Item 15 of the agenda  
(GC(49)/20)

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

**Resolution adopted on 30 September 2005 during the ninth plenary meeting**

## **A.**

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

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling resolution GC(48)/RES/10 on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and transport and waste safety,
- (b) Recognizing that a global nuclear, radiation and waste safety culture is a key element of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and that continuous efforts are required in order to ensure that the technical and human elements of safety are maintained at the optimal level,
- (c) Recalling the request from the Board of Governors in June 1995 to develop a single Safety Fundamentals document presenting a common, coherent philosophy across radiation protection, nuclear safety and waste safety,
- (d) Stressing the important role of the Agency in enhancing nuclear, radiation and waste safety through its various safety programmes and initiatives and in promoting international cooperation in this regard,
- (e) Reiterating the importance of Member States establishing effective and sustainable regulatory infrastructures for the promotion of radiation safety,
- (f) Noting with appreciation document GC(49)/INF/5 containing the Secretariat's responses to nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety issues of concern,

- (g) Recalling the findings of the *International Conference “Chernobyl: Looking Back to Go Forwards”* held in Vienna, 6–7 September 2005,
- (h) Recalling the objective of the Convention on Nuclear Safety to achieve and maintain a high level of nuclear safety worldwide through the enhancement of national measures and international cooperation, including, where appropriate, safety-related technical cooperation,
- (i) Noting with satisfaction the report of the Third Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, particularly the conclusion that significant progress had been made since the Second Review Meeting in the improvement of Contracting Parties’ overall safety regimes,
- (j) Noting with satisfaction that, with India’s ratification of the Convention on Nuclear Safety in March 2005, all States currently operating nuclear power plants are now parties to the Convention,
- (k) Recalling the findings of the *International Conference on Topical Issues in Nuclear Installation Safety: Continuous Improvement of Nuclear Safety in a Changing World* held in Beijing, 18–22 October 2004,
- (l) Recalling the relevance to Member States of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management (the Joint Convention),
- (m) Welcoming Euratom’s decision to accede to the Joint Convention,
- (n) Recalling the endorsement by the General Conference in resolution GC(47)RES/7 of the revised Action Plan on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, and the findings of the *International Symposium on Disposal of Low Activity Radioactive Waste* held in Spain in December 2004,
- (o) Recalling the approval by the Board of Governors in June 2004 of the International Action Plan on the Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities, and looking forward to the *International Conference on Lessons Learned from the Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities and the Safe Termination of Nuclear Activities* to be held in Greece in October 2006,
- (p) Re-emphasizing the importance of education and training in establishing and maintaining an adequate radiation protection and nuclear safety infrastructure, and noting the actions of the Secretariat directed towards developing strategies for sustainable education and training in nuclear, radiation and waste safety,
- (q) Taking note of the long-term regional postgraduate courses organized in the appropriate official languages and conducted in Argentina, Belarus, Greece, Malaysia, Morocco and the Syrian Arab Republic,
- (r) Noting with concern the nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies that have occurred in different parts of the world in recent years, and recognizing that such incidents and emergencies, and possible acts with malicious intent, may lead to significant radiological consequences over wide geographical areas, thereby requiring an international response,
- (s) Recalling 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),
- (t) Recalling its previous resolutions relevant to the safety and security of radioactive sources,

- (u) Recalling the ongoing need to protect individuals, society and the environment from the harmful effects of possible incidents and emergencies, and malicious acts, involving radioactive sources,
- (v) Mindful that every Member State might face the threat of nuclear and radiological terrorism and would bear serious consequences if any were attacked,
- (w) Recognizing that effective and comprehensive regulatory infrastructures are an essential component in ensuring the continuous regulatory control of radioactive sources throughout their life cycle,
- (x) Recalling the findings of the *International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources: Towards a Global System for the Continuous Control of Sources throughout their Life Cycle* held in Bordeaux in June-July 2005,
- (y) Noting the statement of the 2005 Gleneagles G-8 Summit, which encouraged all States to adopt the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and welcomed Agency's endorsement of the Code's supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources, and
- (z) Noting the entry into force in December 2005 of European Union legislation on the regulatory control of high-activity sealed radiation sources and orphan sources as an initial step for the implementation of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources,

## **1. General**

1. Urges the Secretariat to continue and strengthen, subject to availability of financial resources, its efforts relating to nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, focusing particularly on mandatory activities and on technical areas and regions where the need for improvement is greatest;
2. Requests the Director General to continue the current programme to assist Member States in improving their national infrastructures for nuclear installation, radiation, transport and waste safety;
3. Encourages Member States to continue requesting Agency safety review services in order to enhance nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, and integrated regulatory review missions in order to continuously improve regulatory effectiveness;
4. Encourages the Secretariat to implement a more integrated assessment process in the establishment of its safety priorities, and to incorporate the insights of this process into all of its review strategies;
5. Encourages Member States to continue to promote technical co-operation for the further enhancement of safety;
6. Welcomes the valuable work that the International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability (INLEX) has done over the past year to clarify the application and scope of the Agency's nuclear liability regime, including the identification of any possible gaps, and looks forward to the continuation of INLEX's work, in particular its outreach workshops in Australia in November 2005 and in Peru during early 2006.
7. Requests the Director General to report, as appropriate, to it at its fiftieth (2006) regular session on developments relevant to this resolution in the intervening period.

## 2.

### The Agency's Safety Standards Programme

8. Welcomes the Board's decision to establish as Agency safety standards, in accordance with Article III.A.6 of the Statute, the Safety Requirements on "*Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material*, 2005 edition", (GOV/2004/88), the Safety Requirements on "*Safety of Research Reactors*" (GOV/2005/4) and the Safety Requirements on "*Geological Disposal of Radioactive Waste*" (GOV/2005/48), and encourages Member States to incorporate these Safety Requirements into their national regulatory programmes to the fullest extent possible;
9. Welcomes the development of a single Safety Fundamentals publication and looks forward to its submission to the Board of Governors in 2006 for approval and publication;
10. Notes that the *International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and the Safety of Radiation Sources* were approved by the Board of Governors more than ten years ago, and encourages the Secretariat to undertake a review of them, taking account of developments in radiation protection, knowledge and guidance, including, to the extent possible, the advice and information provided by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) and the reports of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation;
11. Encourages the Secretariat to continue assisting Member States to apply the safety standards, including the development of supporting guidance on their application;

## 3.

### Nuclear Installation Safety

12. Acknowledges the interactions between nuclear safety and related issues including nuclear security, calls upon the Agency to ensure that interrelated nuclear safety and security activities including the development of guidance are mutually supportive, and encourages Member States to work actively to maintain an appropriate balance between them so as to ensure that the safety of workers, the public and the environment is not compromised;
13. Endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the Third Review Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, and calls on the Contracting Parties to take steps to further improve the implementation of their obligations and to further enhance nuclear safety, particularly in those areas identified as warranting further attention;
14. Encourages the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety to continue to reform the structure of the review process at forthcoming meetings so that it is more open and transparent as well as more effective and efficient;
15. Appeals to all Member States, particularly those constructing or planning nuclear power reactors, which have not yet taken the steps necessary to become party to the Convention on Nuclear Safety to do so;
16. Re-emphasizes the need for all operating organizations and regulatory bodies to retain nuclear safety as the foundation upon which development, construction and operational decisions are based, and encourages these parties to freely share the details of and lessons learned from incidents, occurrences and events to help preclude their recurrence;
17. Acknowledges the benefits of incorporating both deterministic and probabilistic considerations into operational and regulatory decision-making, urges the Agency to continue in its efforts to develop guidance and services that integrate both approaches and encourages Member States to avail themselves of these services;

18. Appreciates the efforts of the Secretariat in the development of safety standards and safety review services for fuel cycle facilities, and urges relevant Member States to avail themselves of its capabilities;
19. Recognizes the support of Member States for the development by the Agency of guidance concerning the life cycle management and the long-term operation of nuclear installations; looks forward to the publication of the guidance, and calls upon Member States to continue to support the Agency's efforts to consistently apply the guidance;
20. Looks forward to the outcomes of the *International Conference on Operational Safety Performance in Nuclear Installations*, to be held in Vienna from 30 November to 2 December 2005, and of the *International Conference on Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems*, to be held in Moscow from 26 February to 2 March 2006, and expresses its appreciation to Russia for hosting this conference;
21. Recognizes the benefits that the development and implementation of the Asian Nuclear Safety Network (ANSN) have brought for the safety of nuclear installations and the effectiveness of regulatory bodies in the Southeast Asia, Pacific and Far East countries, encourages those countries in this geographic area not yet participating in this extrabudgetary programme to do so, and also encourages Member States in other geographic areas to work with the Secretariat in the development and implementation of similar initiatives;
22. Continues to endorse the principles and objectives of the Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors, welcomes the resolution of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety concerning the need to conduct international meetings on the application of the Code of Conduct, and looks forward to further progress towards implementation of the Code of Conduct and further development of the International Plan for Enhancing Research Reactor Safety;
23. Supports the continuing assistance provided by the Secretariat to monitoring and improving the safety and security of all research reactors, especially those subject to IAEA Project and Supply Agreements, and encourages relevant Member States to collaborate closely with the Secretariat in facilitating such assistance;

#### 4.

#### **Radiation Safety**

24. Welcomes the progress in implementing the International Action Plan for the Radiological Protection of Patients, including the widespread use by health professionals of the Agency's training and educational materials, and the ongoing efforts of the Secretariat to develop a dedicated website to facilitate information exchange, welcomes also the continued cooperation with WHO, PAHO, the EU and relevant professional bodies, encourages Member States to continue supporting these activities, and to take advantage of the regional technical cooperation projects on medical exposure, and requests the Secretariat to continue to keep it informed about the implementation of the Action Plan;
25. Welcomes the good progress made in implementing, jointly with ILO, the International Action Plan for Occupational Radiation Protection, encourages the Agency and ILO Secretariats to continue their productive cooperation, and requests the Director General to keep it informed of developments in this area;
26. Welcomes the Secretariat's continued efforts to implement the Agency's policy and actions for promoting *Effective and Sustainable National Regulatory Infrastructures for the Control of Radiation Sources*, including through the development of national action plans based on coordinated appraisal missions and the training of national regulators, encourages the Secretariat to continue its proactive

approach to assisting Member States in the improvement of their regulatory infrastructures, urges Member States to play a more active role in the implementation of strategies that will help to enhance the regulatory control of radiation sources, and requests the Secretariat to continue to keep it informed about the implementation of these activities;

27. Welcomes the contributions of the Ibero-American Radiation Safety Network (IARSN), the Asian Nuclear Safety Network (ANSN) and the Radiation Safety Regulators Network (RaSaReN) to the promotion of effective and sustainable nuclear and radiation safety regimes in Member States;

28. Urges the Secretariat to continue to use the regional and sub-regional country groupings in its activities to upgrade radiation protection infrastructure;

29. Welcomes the adoption by the Board in September 2005 of the Plan of Activities on the Radiation Protection of the Environment, paying special attention to scientific developments in the field, including methodological approaches which are already developed for the protection of the environment, and requests the Secretariat to keep it informed about the implementation of the Plan of Activities;

## 5.

### **The Safety of Radioactive Waste Management**

30. Reminds Member States of the relevance of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, appeals to all Member States which have not yet taken the steps necessary to become Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention to do so, and encourages active participation by Contracting Parties in the second Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention, to be held in Vienna in May 2006;

31. Welcomes progress in implementing the Action Plan on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, in particular the further development of coherent safety standards for waste classification, storage and disposal, and requests the Secretariat to keep it informed about further progress in the implementation of the Action Plan;

32. Welcomes the significant contribution of the *International Symposium on Disposal of Low Activity Radioactive Waste*, held in Spain in December 2004, to the development of solutions for managing radioactive waste, urges Member States to participate actively in the *International Conference on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Disposal* taking place in Japan in October 2005, expresses its appreciation to Japan for hosting this conference, and requests the Director General to report to the Board and the General Conference on its findings;

33. Urges Member States to participate actively in the *International Conference on the Management of Spent Fuel from Nuclear Power Reactors*, to be held in Vienna from 19 to 23 June 2006, and requests the Director General to report to the Board and the General Conference on the outcomes of that conference;

## 6.

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

34. Welcomes progress in implementing the International Action Plan on the Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities, including the preparation of a Safety Requirements document for the *Decommissioning of Facilities Using Radioactive Material* and the commencement, in October 2004, of a three-year international project on *Evaluation and Demonstration of Safety during Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities*, and requests the Director General to keep it informed of further developments in its implementation;

35. Welcomes the progress made towards establishing a demonstration project on research reactor decommissioning, and urges Member States to support this project;

36. Welcomes the agreement of Greece to host, in October 2006, the *International Conference on Lessons Learned from the Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities and the Safe Termination of Nuclear Activities*, aimed at improving the exchange of information and experience to facilitate decommissioning, and urges Member States to support this conference;

## 7.

### **Education and Training in Nuclear, Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety**

37. Underlines the fundamental importance of sustainable programmes for education and training in nuclear, radiation, transport safety and waste management, remaining convinced that such education and training is a key component of any adequate safety infrastructure;

38. Welcomes the ongoing commitment of the Secretariat and Member States to the implementation of the Strategy for Education and Training in Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety for a long-term and sustainable programme of education and training;

39. Supports the Secretariat's continued focus on developing sustainable educational and training programmes, including through Education and Training Appraisal missions to identify training needs and draw up programmes to meet training requirements, and the further development of a network of training centres and 'train-the-trainer' workshops, and urges the Secretariat to continue to strengthen, subject to the availability of financial resources, the activities in these areas;

40. Urges the Secretariat to work towards maintaining the sustainability of postgraduate courses;

41. Encourages the Secretariat to employ electronic networking and outreach (ENO) projects to implement e-learning;

42. Requests the Secretariat to take into consideration the recommendation of the Steering Committee on Education and Training that the Secretariat give high priority to the assessment of training needs in Member States;

43. Encourages the Secretariat to maintain its support for regional postgraduate training courses and to consider concluding long-term agreements with the regional centres organizing such courses;

## 8.

### **International Nuclear and Radiological Emergency Preparedness and Response**

44. Urges all Member States to become Contracting 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);

45. Continues to encourage Member States to improve, where necessary, their own preparedness and response capabilities for nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies, including their arrangements for responding to acts involving the malicious use of nuclear or radioactive material and to threats of such acts, and to adopt the relevant Agency standards, procedures and practical tools;

46. Welcomes the report of the Third Meeting of the Representatives of Competent Authorities identified under the Early Notification Convention and the Assistance Convention held in Vienna 12-15 July 2005;

47. Welcomes the progress made by the Secretariat and by Member States and their competent authorities in implementing the International Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies;
48. Notes with concern, however, that the Secretariat, in its implementation of the Action Plan, has been largely dependent on extrabudgetary contributions, and encourages Member States to provide adequate resources;
49. Requests Member States and the Secretariat to take into account the long-term objectives of the Action Plan in the future development of the Agency's programme and budget, especially bearing in mind the need for adequate resources for the long-term sustainability of the Agency's Incident and Emergency Response System and for the building of capacity in Member States;
50. Requests the Director General to continue evaluating and, as necessary, to enhance the capability of the Agency's Incident and Emergency Response System to fulfil its role as coordinator and facilitator of international preparedness and response;
51. Requests the Secretariat to continue to review and, as necessary, streamline its mechanisms for reporting and for sharing information, and encourages Member States to do the same;
52. Expresses appreciation to Romania for hosting the ConvEx-3 2005 exercise to test and evaluate international emergency response arrangements, and urges the Secretariat and all competent authorities to take prompt and relevant actions on the key lessons identified;

## 9.

### Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources

53. Takes note of the progress report submitted by the Director General in document GC(49)/INF/5 (Annex 8) on the safety and security of radioactive sources, and commends the Secretariat for the work it has undertaken;
54. Welcomes the progress made by Member States in strengthening, as necessary, their regulatory infrastructures to ensure the sustainability of the control of radioactive sources, and requests the Secretariat to continue providing support for the efforts of Member States to strengthen those infrastructures;
55. Commends the many national and multinational efforts, including the IAEA/Russian Federation/USA "Tripartite" Initiative and other regional partnerships, to recover and maintain control of vulnerable and orphan sources;
56. Welcomes the findings of the President of the *International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources: Towards a Global System for the Continuous Control of Sources throughout their Life Cycle*, and requests the Secretariat to review the Action Plan for the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources in the light of those findings;
57. Continues to endorse the principles and objectives of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources while recognizing that the Code is not a legally binding instrument, welcomes the high level of global support for the Code, noting that, as at 8 September 2005, 76 States had made a political commitment to it in line with resolutions GC(47)/RES/7.B and GC(48)/RES/10.D, and urges other States to make such a commitment;
58. Underlines the important role of the Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources for the establishment of continuous, global control of radioactive sources, notes that, as at 15 September 2005, only nine States had notified the Director General, pursuant to resolution GC(48)/RES/10, of their intention to act in accordance with the Guidance on a harmonized basis,

reiterates the need for States to implement the Guidance in a cooperative, harmonized and consistent fashion, noting that the Guidance is supplementary to the Code, and encourages those States which have not already notified the Director General to do so, recalling operative paragraph 6 of resolution GC(47)/RES/7.B;

59. Recognizes the value of information exchange on national approaches to controlling radioactive sources, and requests the Secretariat to undertake consultations with Member States with a view to establishing a formalized process for a periodic exchange of information and lessons learned and for the evaluation of progress made by States towards implementing the provisions of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources;

60. Encourages the Secretariat to take account of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, and of feedback from States on how they are implementing the Code, in the planned review of the International Basic Safety Standards (BSS);

61. Recognizes the growing need to strengthen the inherent safety and security of radioactive sources, encourages the Secretariat to explore with designers and manufacturers the use of less dispersible radioactive materials in sealed radioactive sources and the development of more inherently safe devices, and urges Member States to promote the application of such materials and devices as they become available;

62. Recognizes the critical role of emergency response and management in national strategies for the safety and security of radioactive sources, underlines the need for first responders to have appropriate training for dealing with ionizing radiation during nuclear and radiological emergencies, encourages the Secretariat to facilitate information exchange among first responder organizations in different countries, and requests the Secretariat to develop a plan to assist Member States in ensuring, to the maximum extent feasible, that first responders in Member States are prepared to respond to incidents involving radioactive sources;

63. Welcomes the establishment of the International Source Suppliers and Producers Association (ISSPA) and its intention to contribute to the safety and security of radioactive sources; and

64. Welcomes the progress in developing the International Catalogue of Sealed Radioactive Sources and Devices, and encourages Member States to nominate national coordinators for the dissemination of the information contained in it.

## **B. Transport Safety**

### The General Conference,

- (a) Noting the report on transport safety contained in document GC(49)/INF/5,
- (b) Noting concerns about a potential accident or incident during the transport of radioactive materials by sea and about the importance of the protection of people, human health and the environment as well as protection from actual economic loss, as defined in relevant international instruments, due to an accident or incident,
- (c) Recognizing that, historically, the safety record of maritime transport of nuclear materials has been excellent,
- (d) Recalling that States have under international law the obligation to protect and preserve the maritime environment,

- (e) Reaffirming the competence of the Agency in relation to the safety of transport of radioactive materials,
  - (f) Reaffirming maritime and air navigation rights and freedoms, as provided for in international law and as reflected in relevant international instruments,
  - (g) Stressing the importance of international cooperation to enhance the safety of international navigation,
  - (h) Emphasizing that the General Conference has encouraged Member states to make use of the Transport Safety Appraisal Service (TransSAS),
  - (i) Recalling resolutions GC(48)/RES/10, GC(47)/RES/7 and GC(46)/RES/9, and the previous resolutions which invited Member States shipping radioactive materials to provide, as appropriate, assurances to potentially affected States, upon their request, that their national regulations take into account the Agency's recently amended Transport Regulations and to provide them with relevant information relating to shipments of such materials. The information provided should in no case be contradictory to the measures of physical protection and safety,
  - (j) Recognizing concerns about the potential for damage to arise in the event of an accident or incident during the maritime transport of radioactive materials, including pollution of the marine environment, recognizing also the importance of having in place effective liability mechanisms, and believing that the principle of strict liability should apply in the event of nuclear damage arising from an accident or incident during the transport of radioactive materials, and
  - (k) Noting the importance of security for the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials and the strong concern of some States in this regard, and stressing the need to take adequate measures to deter or defeat terrorist and other hostile or criminal actions directed against carriers of radioactive materials, in accordance with international law,
1. Notes the progress on implementation of the Action Plan on the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Materials, approved by the Board in March 2004 and based on the results of the International Conference on the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material held in July 2003 and the request at the 2003 General Conference for the Agency to develop this Action Plan, and encourages the Secretariat to pursue implementation of all areas of the Action Plan and Member States to cooperate fully with the Secretariat to that end;
  2. Stresses the importance of having effective liability mechanisms in place to insure against harm to human health and the environment as well as actual economic loss due to an accident or incident during the maritime transport of radioactive materials, welcomes the continuing valuable work of the International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability (INLEX), including the development of an explanatory text on the various nuclear liability instruments and the examination of the application and scope of the Agency's nuclear liability regime, including the examination of any serious gaps, looks forward to the continuation of INLEX's work, in particular its outreach activities, including workshops in Australia in November 2005 and in Peru in early 2006 and requests the Secretariat to report at appropriate times on the planning and work of INLEX;
  3. 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, and invites others to do so in order to improve mutual understanding and confidence regarding shipments of

radioactive materials. The information and responses provided should in no case be contradictory to measures of physical protection and safety;

4. 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 materials, and in this context welcomes the informal discussions on communication which took place in July 2005 between shipping States and relevant coastal States, with Agency involvement, as recommended by the President of the 2003 International Conference and included in the Action Plan, notes the intention of those States to hold further discussions, and expresses the hope that further enhancements to mutual confidence, particularly through voluntary communication practices, with due regard to particular circumstances, will result;

5. Looks forward to the seminar to be arranged by the Agency in January 2006 on communication of the complex technical issues related to the safety of transport, and encourages all concerned States to participate in this event;

6. Welcomes the implementation so far of the Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies, approved by the Board in June 2004, and looks forward to its further implementation and to further measures to improve the overall international emergency response capability especially with respect to potential maritime incidents;

7. Welcomes the publication of the report on the TranSAS mission to France in 2004, looks forward to the report on the TranSAS mission to Japan in December 2005, commends those Member States that have already made use of TranSAS and encourages them to put into effect the resulting recommendations and suggestions, as well as to share their good practices with other Member States, and encourages other Member States to avail themselves of TranSAS and to improve transport practices based on recommendations and suggestions of TranSAS missions;

8. Urges Member States that do not have national regulatory documents governing the transport of radioactive materials to adopt such documents expeditiously, and urges all Member States to ensure that such regulatory documents are in conformity with the current, recently amended, edition of the Agency's Transport Regulations;

9. Notes the Secretariat's work on the security of transport of radioactive materials, and that a meeting will be convened on this issue in January 2006, and encourages a wider participation by concerned Member States in this process;

10. Requests Member States to cooperate with the Agency in using the new procedures for rating radiological incidents during transport and providing information required both for the effective operation of EVTRAM and INES and for an up-to-date safety webpage;

11. Notes that the Board approved in June 2005 a policy for reviewing and revising the Agency's Transport Regulations whereby the Regulations will be reviewed every two years (the current review cycle of the relevant international bodies), with the decision on revision and publication based on the assessments of the Transport Safety Standards Committee (TRANSSC) and the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS) as to whether a proposal for change is sufficiently important for safety, and encourages a wider participation by concerned Member States in this process;

12. Welcomes the progress made in conjunction with the International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations (IFALPA) on the problems related to refusals of air shipments of radioactive materials (in particular for medical applications) and looks forward to a satisfactory resolution of this issue, and encourages the Secretariat to continue addressing the denial of shipping issue, including by

establishing a steering committee to oversee the resolution of the problem, as recommended by TRANSSC;

13. Acknowledges the progress made in relation to education and training for the safe transport of radioactive materials, including the preparation and translation of training materials into official languages, the course held in Peru this year, and plans to hold other regional training courses every two or three years, and requests the Director General to continue to strengthen and widen the Agency's efforts in this area, involving to the extent possible experts from the concerned regions, subject to the availability of resources; and

14. Requests the Director General to report at the fiftieth (2006) regular session of the General Conference on the implementation of this resolution.