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Nuclear Security

Resolution adopted on 21 September 2012 during the ninth plenary meeting

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling its previous resolutions on measures to improve the security of nuclear and other radioactive material and on measures against the illicit trafficking of these materials,
- (b) Taking note of the Nuclear Security Report 2012 submitted by the Director General in document GC(56)/15 and the Nuclear Security Plan for 2010-13 approved by the Board of Governors in September 2009,
- (c) Mindful of the responsibilities of every Member State, in accordance with its respective international obligations, to maintain effective nuclear security, asserting that the responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests entirely with that State, and noting the central role of the Agency in facilitating international cooperation in supporting the efforts of States to fulfill their nuclear security responsibilities,
- (d) Noting United Nations Security Council resolutions 1373, 1540, 1673, 1810 and 1977, United Nations General Assembly resolution 65/62, the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, and international efforts in conformity with these instruments to prevent access by non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction and related material,
- (e) Reaffirming the importance of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the value of the Amendment extending its scope,
- (f) Noting the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 NPT Review Conference relating to nuclear security,
- (g) Recognizing the need to strengthen and improve the cooperation and co-ordination of international efforts in the field of nuclear security in order to avoid duplication and overlap,
- (h) Recognizing the Agency's central role, as emphasized for instance by the 16th NAM Summit held in Teheran in August 2012, in developing comprehensive nuclear security guidance documents and, on request, providing assistance to Member States in order to facilitate their implementation,

- (i) Welcoming the conference to be hosted by the Agency in July 2013 entitled “International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts” and open to all States,
- (j) Emphasizing the need for the involvement of all Member States of the Agency in nuclear security-related activities and initiatives in an inclusive manner, and noting the role that international processes and initiatives, including the Nuclear Security Summits held in Washington D.C. and Seoul and the one to be held in the Netherlands in 2014, could play in facilitating synergy and cooperation in the area of nuclear security,
- (k) Recalling that UN General Assembly Resolution 65/62 states that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism, and acknowledging the need to make further progress towards achieving nuclear disarmament,
- (l) Acknowledging that security and safety measures have in common the aim of protecting human health and the environment, and reaffirming the importance of coordination between security and safety activities;
- (m) Noting the requirements for measures to protect against sabotage of nuclear facilities and nuclear material in use and storage included in IAEA Nuclear Security Series No. 13 and looking forward to the preparation of further guidance on their implementation including during the process of construction and maintenance of nuclear facilities,
- (n) Reaffirming the importance and the value of the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and underlining the important role of the supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources,
- (o) Noting the importance of security for the safe transport of radioactive material and the strong concern of some States in this regard, and stressing the need to take adequate measures to protect radioactive material during transport against unauthorized removal or sabotage,
- (p) Noting the central contribution of Member States’ systems of accounting for and control of nuclear material to preventing loss of control and illicit trafficking and to deterring and detecting the unauthorized removal of nuclear material, underlining the importance of IAEA programmes for education and training in nuclear security, as well as other international, regional and national efforts to this end, and welcoming in that regard the efforts to establish a collaborative network of national nuclear security support centers (NSSCs) and an international nuclear security education network (INSEN),
- (q) Recognizing the work done by the Agency in providing technical assistance and expert advice to countries hosting major public events, and welcoming in that regard the publication of the Nuclear Security Series document NSS 18 on Nuclear Security Systems and Measures for Major Public Events,
- (r) Recognizing the IAEA's central role in compiling and sharing information through the Illicit Trafficking Database (ITDB) on illicit trafficking and other unauthorized activities and on events involving nuclear and other radioactive material, and
- (s) Stressing the essential importance of ensuring the confidentiality of information relevant to nuclear security,

1. Welcomes the Nuclear Security Report 2012 submitted by the Director General in document GC(56)/15, in particular the goals and priorities for the coming year, and requests the Director General and the Secretariat to continue to implement the Agency's activities relevant to nuclear security;
2. Calls upon all Member States to maintain the highest possible standards of nuclear security and physical protection of nuclear material and facilities;
3. Calls upon all States to ensure that measures to strengthen nuclear security do not hamper international cooperation in the field of peaceful nuclear activities, production, transfer and use of nuclear and other radioactive material, the exchange of nuclear material for peaceful purposes and the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and do not undermine the established priorities of the technical cooperation programme;
4. Calls upon all Member States to consider providing the necessary support to international efforts to enhance nuclear security through various arrangements at the bilateral, regional and international levels, and recalls the decision of the Board of Governors on support for the Nuclear Security Fund;
5. Welcomes the Agency's activities promoting the entry into force of the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM), calls upon all States Parties to the Convention to ratify the Amendment to the Convention as soon as possible and encourages them to act in accordance with the objectives and purposes of the Amendment until such time as it enters into force, and also encourages all Member States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention and adopt its Amendment as soon as possible;
6. Encourages all Member States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism as soon as possible;
7. Welcomes the establishment of the Nuclear Security Guidance Committee to enhance Member States' interaction with the Secretariat in guiding the further development and accelerated publication of Nuclear Security Series documents, and welcomes the efforts of the Secretariat to enable the participation of representatives of all Member States in the work of the Committee;
8. Welcomes the endorsement by the Board of Governors of the Nuclear Security Fundamentals document "Objective and Essential Elements of a State's Nuclear Security Regime", and encourages all Member States to take into account, as appropriate, the Nuclear Security Series publications in their efforts to strengthen nuclear security;
9. Reaffirms the central role of the Agency, in ensuring coordination of international activities in the field of nuclear security while avoiding duplication and overlap;
10. Encourages the Secretariat to continue, in coordination with Member States, to play a constructive and coordinated role with other nuclear security-related initiatives, inter alia the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism and the Global Partnership, and to work jointly, as appropriate, with relevant international and regional organizations and institutions, and welcomes regular exchanges of information in that regard;
11. Encourages the Secretariat, in cooperation with Member States, to continue training programmes and the education of trainers and to adapt the courses as appropriate to meet the needs of Member States, and welcomes ongoing initiatives of Member States, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to foster nuclear security culture through nuclear security education and training;

12. Invites the Secretariat to provide assistance to Member States, upon their request, in fulfilling their obligations under United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 and to the 1540 Committee, provided that the requests are within the scope of the Agency's statutory responsibilities;
13. Encourages the Secretariat to provide assistance to Member States, upon request, to ensure the security of radioactive sources, particularly when the sources are provided by the Agency;
14. Calls upon all States to identify and provide secure storage and disposition pathways for disused radioactive sealed sources so that such sources within their territories remain under regulatory control, unless exempted from regulatory control, and further calls upon States to address obstacles to the return of disused sources to the supplier State;
15. Strongly encourages all States to improve their national capabilities to prevent, detect and deter illicit trafficking and other unauthorized activities and events involving nuclear and other radioactive material throughout their territories and to meet their relevant international obligations, and calls upon those States in a position to do so to work to enhance international partnerships and capacity building in this regard;
16. Notes the utility of the Agency's Illicit Trafficking Database (ITDB) Programme and the efforts of the Secretariat to improve the reporting mechanism of the ITDB Programme, and encourages all States to provide timely and relevant information to the ITDB;
17. Notes the Agency's efforts to raise awareness of the growing threat of cyber attacks and their potential impact on nuclear security, including through the publication of Nuclear Security Series document NSS 17 on computer security at nuclear facilities, and encourages the Agency to make further efforts to improve international cooperation and to assist Member States in this area by providing training courses and hosting further expert meetings specific to cyber security at nuclear facilities;
18. Welcomes the Agency's work in the field of nuclear forensics, including the expansion of training courses aimed at assisting Member States in connection with the detection of, response to and determination of the origin of illicitly trafficked, stored or handled nuclear and other radioactive material, and encourages Member States to provide continued support to the Agency's activities in this field, and encourages Member States which have not yet done so to establish national nuclear material databases, where practical, drawing on Agency assistance if required;
19. Encourages the Member States concerned, on a voluntary basis, to further minimize HEU in civilian stocks and use LEU, where technically and economically feasible;
20. Encourages Member States to use the Agency's nuclear security advisory services for exchanges of views and advice on nuclear security measures, welcomes the increased recognition of the value of IPPAS (International Physical Protection Advisory Service) missions by Member States and encourages the organization by the Agency of meetings to allow Member States to share experience and lessons learned from these missions;
21. Encourages the Secretariat, in cooperation with Member States, to establish and promote self-assessment methodologies and approaches that are based on Nuclear Security Series documents and can be used by Member States on a voluntary basis to ensure effective and sustainable national nuclear security infrastructure;
22. Encourages Member States to ensure that nuclear security is fully taken into account at all stages in the life cycle of nuclear facilities, from the initial planning stage through to site selection, design, construction, operation, and decommissioning, drawing on Agency assistance if required;

23. Supports the steps taken by the Secretariat to ensure confidentiality of information relevant to nuclear security and requests the Secretariat to continue its efforts to implement appropriate confidentiality measures in conformity with the Agency's confidentiality regime and to report as appropriate to the Board of Governors on the status of the implementation of the confidentiality measures;
24. Requests that the actions of the Secretariat called for in this resolution be undertaken subject to the availability of resources, with due consideration to assistance requested by States implementing Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plans; and
25. Requests the Director General to submit an annual Nuclear Security Report to the General Conference at its fifty-seventh (2013) regular session on activities undertaken by the Agency in the area of nuclear security, highlighting significant accomplishments of the prior year and indicating programmatic goals and priorities for the year to come.