

# General Conference

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Item 13 of the agenda  
(GC(56)/19)

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

**Resolution adopted on 20 September 2012 during the seventh plenary meeting**

### The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling resolution GC(55)/RES/9 and previous General Conference resolutions on matters relating to measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety,
- (b) Acknowledging the Agency's statutory functions with respect to safety and recognizing the central role of the Agency in promoting international cooperation and in coordinating international efforts to strengthen global nuclear safety, in providing expertise and advice in this field and in promoting nuclear safety culture worldwide,
- (c) Recognizing the need for immediate and longer-term actions to be taken nationally and internationally to ensure that all lessons from the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station of Tokyo Electric Power Company are applied so as to achieve the highest level of nuclear safety,
- (d) Noting with appreciation the progress reports on actions taken so far by the Secretariat to implement the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety (GC(55)/14), which was endorsed at the 55<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference, in September 2011, in the light of the Fukushima Daiichi accident,
- (e) Further noting the tangible progress in the restoration from the Fukushima Daiichi accident, including the completion, in December 2011, of the 'roadmap towards settlement of the accident',
- (f) Recognizing that a global nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety culture is a key element of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, ionizing radiation and radioactive substances, and that continuous efforts are required to ensure its maintenance at the optimal level,
- (g) Recognizing that nuclear accidents may have transboundary effects and raise the concerns of the public about nuclear energy and the radiological effects on people and the environment,

and emphasizing the importance of timely and effective responses based on scientific knowledge and full transparency, should a nuclear accident occur,

(h) Recognizing ongoing efforts of the international community to enhance capacity building and share knowledge in nuclear safety and radiation protection and strengthen international standards in nuclear safety, emergency preparedness and response, and the radiation protection of people and the environment,

(i) Recognizing the importance of Member States establishing and maintaining effective and sustainable regulatory infrastructures for nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety,

(j) Recalling the objectives of the Convention on Nuclear Safety, the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management (Joint Convention), the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident (Early Notification Convention) and the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency (Assistance Convention) and the respective obligations of States Parties, and recognizing the need to ensure effective and sustainable implementation of these conventions,

(k) Recalling the objectives of the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors and the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, and the supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources,

(l) Welcoming the activities of the Agency in developing safety standards, including through the Commission on Safety Standards and the Safety Standards Committees,

(m) Welcoming efforts to enhance cooperation and coordination between the Agency and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on nuclear safety-related matters,

(n) Underscoring that medical uses of ionizing radiation constitute by far the largest source of man-made exposure, and emphasizing the need for enhanced efforts to optimize radiation protection for patients,

(o) Noting with interest United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/65/96 of 10 December 2010 related to the effects of atomic radiation, and recalling the Board decision in March 1960 on health and safety measures (INFCIRC/18),

(p) Recalling that States have under international law the obligation to protect and preserve the environment, including the marine and terrestrial environment, and emphasizing the importance of the Secretariat's continued collaboration with the contracting parties of international and regional instruments aimed at protecting the environment from radioactive wastes, such as the London Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and other Matter and the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR),

(q) Recognizing that, historically, the safety record of civilian transport, including maritime transport, of radioactive materials has been excellent, and stressing the importance of international cooperation to enhance the safety and security of international transport,

(r) Recalling maritime and air navigation rights and freedoms, as provided for in international law and as reflected in relevant international instruments,

(s) Noting that the timely shipment of radioactive materials, particularly those having important uses in the medical, academic and industrial sectors, is being affected by incidents of denial and delay of shipment in circumstances where the shipment complies with the Agency's Transport Regulations,

(t) Recalling resolution GC(55)/RES/9 and the previous resolutions which invited Member States shipping radioactive material to provide, as appropriate, assurances to potentially affected

States, upon their request, that their national regulations take into account the Agency's Transport Regulations and to provide them with relevant information relating to shipments of such material, and noting that the information provided should in no case be contradictory to the measures of safety and security,

(u) Recognizing the need to strengthen national capacities to ensure safety in uranium mining and ore processing, particularly in Member States entering or re-entering the uranium mining industry, and to address the remediation of contaminated sites,

(v) Emphasizing the importance of education, training and knowledge management in establishing and maintaining an adequate nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety infrastructure,

(w) Emphasizing the importance of the establishment and implementation of national emergency preparedness and response measures, based on the Agency's Safety Standards and relevant action plans, for improving preparedness and response, including communication in an emergency, and contributing to the harmonization of national criteria for protective and other actions,

(x) Acknowledging the Secretariat's role in response to nuclear or radiological incidents or emergencies and recognizing the need to continuously improve the timeliness of the collection, validation, analysis and dissemination by the Secretariat of incident or emergency information to Member States and the public, as well as the Secretariat's role in facilitating and rendering assistance upon request,

(y) Recognizing the importance of having in place effective and coherent nuclear liability mechanisms at the national and global levels to ensure prompt compensation for damage inter alia to people, property and the environment, including actual economic loss due to a nuclear accident or incident, and believing that the principle of strict liability should apply in the event of a nuclear accident or incident, including during the transport of radioactive material, and

(z) Recalling the Paris Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy, the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage, the Brussels Convention supplementary to the Paris Convention, the Joint Protocol Related to the Application of the Vienna Convention and the Paris Convention and the protocols amending these conventions and the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage, and the objectives thereof, and noting also the intention of the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage to establish a worldwide nuclear liability regime based on the principles of nuclear liability law, without prejudice to other liability regimes,

## 1.

### General

1. Urges the Secretariat to continue to strengthen its efforts to maintain and improve nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, focusing particularly on mandatory activities and on technical areas and regions where the need is greatest;

2. Requests the Director General to continue to assist Member States in developing and improving their national infrastructure, including legislative and regulatory frameworks, for nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety;

3. Takes account of the outcomes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS), held in August 2012, including the Action-Oriented Objectives for Strengthening Nuclear Safety, encourages the Contracting Parties to the CNS to actively participate in the "Effectiveness and Transparency" working group established to report to the next Review Meeting on a list of actions to strengthen the CNS and on proposals to amend, where necessary, the Convention, taking into account the overall output of this Extraordinary Meeting, including the initial proposals to amend the Convention submitted by Switzerland and the Russian Federation, and requests the Secretariat to provide the necessary support;

4. Encourages the Secretariat and Member States to continue to make effective use of the Agency's technical cooperation resources for the further enhancement of safety;
5. Urges Member States to take timely and proactive steps to establish and sustain a competent regulatory body with effective independence and the necessary human and financial resources to fulfil its responsibilities, taking into account Agency Safety Standards;
6. Acknowledges that safety measures and security measures have in common the aim of protecting human life and health and the environment, calls upon the Secretariat to continue its efforts to ensure coordination of its safety activities and security activities, and encourages Member States to work actively to ensure that neither safety nor security is compromised;
7. Urges Member States to strengthen regulatory effectiveness in the field of nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, and to continue sharing findings and lessons learned in their regulatory area, including promoting cooperation and coordination among regulatory bodies;
8. Recognizes the primary responsibility of operators for ensuring safety;
9. Recognizes the value of safety review services, notably those offered by the Agency, in enhancing nuclear safety and urges Member States to make use of them, and requests the Secretariat to revise the safety review service guidance as new information becomes available;
10. Encourages Member States and the Secretariat to promote recognition of the importance of technical and scientific support organizations (TSOs) in enhancing nuclear safety;
11. Encourages the sharing of findings and lessons learned between regulators, technical and scientific support organizations, operators, industry and the public;
12. Recognizes that the Agency has developed guidance on Establishing a Nuclear Safety Infrastructure for a National Nuclear Power Programme (SSG-16), and encourages the Secretariat to ensure ongoing consistency among related nuclear power infrastructure publications, including INPRO (International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles) publications;
13. Welcomes the maturing regional safety fora and related networks and the establishment of new networks and regional bodies, encourages the Secretariat to assist in the establishment of similar fora and networks in regions where they do not exist, encourages Member States to join relevant fora and networks, urges the Secretariat to continue to support the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN) and the international Regulatory Network (RegNet), the Regulatory Cooperation Forum (RCF), and further encourages Member States to join and actively support these networks;
14. Requests the Secretariat and Member States, in consultation with the OECD/Nuclear Energy Agency and the INES (International Nuclear and Radiological Events Scale) Advisory Committee, to continue the review of the application of INES as a communication tool;
15. Urges Member States to designate INES national officers and encourages Member States to implement the full scope of INES;
16. Recognizes that there are ongoing projects to construct transportable nuclear power plants, and requests the Secretariat to facilitate information exchange on this issue and the Secretariat and Member States to continue considering the safety and security aspects related to such facilities throughout their life cycle, including through the International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles (INPRO);
17. Encourages Member States, as appropriate, to give due consideration to the possibility of joining international nuclear liability instruments;
18. Welcomes the valuable work of the International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability (INLEX), encourages its continuation, including the consideration and identification of specific actions to

address gaps or to make enhancements in the scope and coverage of the international nuclear liability regime and outreach activities, to work towards establishing a global nuclear liability regime, and requests the Secretariat to report at appropriate times on the continuing work of INLEX;

19. Further requests that the implementation of actions by the Secretariat called for in this resolution be implemented subject to the availability of financial resources;

## 2.

### **Action Plan on Nuclear Safety**

20. Calls upon the Secretariat and Member States to implement the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety as an overarching priority in a comprehensive and coordinated manner; recognizing that its success is dependent on the full cooperation and commitment of Member States, and requests the Secretariat to continue to report on its implementation, including information shared by Member States on actions taken at the national level;

21. Calls upon Member States to participate actively in the Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety, to be hosted by Japan in co-sponsorship with the IAEA in December 2012, and in the IAEA Conference on Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems, to be hosted by Canada in April 2013, which will provide further opportunities to discuss lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident;

22. Welcomes the intention of the Secretariat to prepare, by the time of the Fukushima Ministerial Conference, a report integrating the conclusions of the International Experts' Meetings held so far, and looks forward to the Secretariat concluding work for a comprehensive report on the Fukushima Daiichi accident to be published in 2014, taking into account lessons learned, identified by other relevant organizations or fora;

23. Requests the Secretariat, in close collaboration with Member States and others as appropriate, to plan the integration of the activities and outcomes resulting from the Action Plan into the Agency's regular programme;

## 3.

### **The Agency's Safety Standards Programme**

24. Emphasizes the importance of implementing enhanced national and international measures to ensure that the highest and most robust levels of nuclear safety are in place, based on IAEA Safety Standards, which should be continuously reviewed, strengthened and implemented as broadly and effectively as possible, and commits to increase bilateral, regional and international cooperation to that effect;

25. Supports the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS) in its review of the relevant safety standards in the light of the Fukushima Daiichi accident, in particular those pertaining to multiple severe hazards such as tsunamis and earthquakes, and to the particular requirements in siting, design and severe accident management, taking into account the outcomes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, and requests the Secretariat to revise them accordingly in a timely manner;

26. Encourages Member States to use the safety standards issued by the IAEA in their national regulatory programmes, and notes the need to consider the periodic alignment of national regulations and guidance to internationally established standards and guidance, for the inclusion particularly of new lessons learned from global experiences of the impact of external hazards;

27. Requests the Secretariat, given the importance of the Safety Standards Committees, to facilitate the effective participation of all interested Member States in those committees;

#### 4.

#### **Nuclear Installation Safety**

28. Urges all Member States operating, commissioning, constructing or planning nuclear power plants, or considering a nuclear power programme, to become parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety;
29. Emphasizes the responsibility of the nuclear industry, nuclear operator associations and nuclear operators for taking timely measures on nuclear safety;
30. Calls upon all Member States with nuclear installations that have not yet done so to establish effective operational experience feedback programmes, and to share freely their experience, assessments and lessons learned, including through the submission of incident reports to the Agency's web-based incident reporting systems and within the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN);
31. Requests the Secretariat to continue efforts in the area of plant life management for the long-term operation of nuclear power plants and the management of ageing research reactors, and invites all Member States with nuclear power plants and research reactors to consider the Agency's guidance and services in this area;
32. Calls upon Member States which have not already done so to perform safety assessments to evaluate the impact of multiple extreme events on the safety of nuclear power plants (NPPs), and calls upon all Member States to contribute to the Agency's development of guidance in this area;
33. Encourages Member States to consider further the impact of Beyond Design Basis Accident and Design Extension Conditions on the resilience of NPPs, and requests the Secretariat to plan for appropriate assistance programmes;
34. Continues to endorse the principles and objectives of the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors, and encourages Member States constructing, operating or decommissioning research reactors or with research reactors in extended shutdown to apply the guidance in the Code;
35. Acknowledges the continued assistance provided by the Secretariat for monitoring and enhancing the safety of research reactors and encourages Member States with such reactors to participate in relevant IAEA programmes (or projects), taking into consideration lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident;
36. Calls upon Member States, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to strengthen nuclear safety while carrying out projects related to the development of nuclear power technologies and the implementation of innovative technologies;
37. Further encourages Member States to exchange regulatory information and share experiences with regard to new nuclear power plant designs and design certification;

#### 5.

#### **Radiation Safety**

38. Encourages Member States to align their national radiation protection regulatory programmes to the revised international Basic Safety Standards (BSS), and requests the Secretariat to support the effective implementation of the revised BSS in relation to occupational, public and medical exposure, including the development of new guidance in this respect;
39. Notes the advances and increasing use of radiodiagnostics and radiotherapy, welcomes the Secretariat's continued progress in implementing the International Action Plan for the Radiation Protection of Patients, and encourages the Secretariat to develop further guidance on justification of medical exposures and optimisation of protection;

40. Encourages Member States to take advantage of regional technical cooperation projects on medical exposure and to use safety reporting systems for radiological procedures and radiotherapy developed by the IAEA;
41. Requests the Secretariat to assist Member States, upon request, to strengthen their capabilities for realistic assessment of radiological impacts from material containing enhanced levels of naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORM) and to develop situation-specific measures for the management of such materials, taking into account the Basic Safety Standard;
42. Urges the Secretariat:
- i. to continue to use the estimates of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) for the development of the Agency's safety standards, to continue to base such standards, as much as possible, on the recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) and to maintain close cooperation with UNSCEAR and ICRP to that end;
  - ii. to cooperate closely with UNSCEAR in the development and use of databases that support UNSCEAR assessments;
  - iii. to liaise closely with UNSCEAR in UNSCEAR's follow-up of the assessments of exposures, and health and environmental effects from the Fukushima Daiichi accident; and
  - iv. to cooperate further with the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency in promoting greater participation of Member States in the Information System on Occupational Exposures (ISOE);

## 6.

### Transport Safety

43. Calls upon Member States and the Secretariat to take note of the outcomes of the International Conference on the Safe and Secure Transport of Radioactive Material, held in 2011, and its follow-up Technical Meeting, held in 2012, and to initiate immediate action on them in an inclusive manner as appropriate;
44. Urges Member States that do not have national regulatory documents governing the transport of radioactive material to adopt and implement such documents expeditiously, and further urges all Member States to ensure that such regulatory documents are in conformity with the current edition of the Agency's Transport Regulations;
45. Stresses the importance of having effective liability mechanisms in place to ensure prompt compensation for damage to people, property and the environment as well as actual economic loss due to a radiological accident or incident during the transport of radioactive material, including maritime transport, and notes the application of the principles of nuclear liability, including strict liability, in the event of a nuclear accident or incident during the transport of radioactive material;
46. 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, invites others to do so in order to improve mutual understanding and confidence regarding shipments of radioactive material, and notes that the information and responses provided should in no case be contradictory to measures of physical protection and safety;
47. 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 material, welcomes the ongoing informal discussions on

communication between relevant shipping and coastal States, including with Agency involvement, and expresses the hope that further enhancements to mutual confidence, such as through the development of best practice guidelines and voluntary communication practices, with due regard to particular circumstances, will result;

48. Requests the Secretariat, Member States and relevant international organizations in their follow-up of the Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies also to emphasize the specific challenges and requirements for efficient international cooperation in relation to nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies in relation to the transport of radioactive materials, and encourages the Secretariat to discuss with interested Member States how appropriate information can be made available to authorities preparing for or responding to an incident or emergency during the transport of radioactive materials, taking fully into account the requirements of physical protection and safety;

49. Requests the Secretariat to ensure that its efforts provide effective support to its initiative to develop, in close cooperation with Member States, guidance for States on how to respond to a maritime emergency involving radioactive material;

50. Notes the Agency's ongoing work on the security of radioactive material during transport, welcomes the development and provision of relevant training courses, and encourages Member States to make relevant training available;

51. Welcomes networks of competent authorities whose goal is to support the harmonized implementation of the Agency's transport safety standards, and calls upon Member States to use these networks to build capacity in the effective regulation of the safe transport of radioactive material;

52. Welcomes and encourages efforts to address problems related to denials of and delays in the shipment of radioactive material, including through the implementation of the action plan developed by the International Steering Committee on Denial of Shipment of Radioactive Material and the creation of regional action plans and networks to address key issues, calls upon Member States to facilitate the transport of radioactive material when it is carried out in compliance with the Agency's Transport Regulations, calls upon Member States to each nominate a national focal point on denials of shipment of radioactive material to assist the Steering Committee in its work, welcomes the efforts to address problems related to denials of air shipments of radioactive material (in particular for medical applications), and looks forward to a satisfactory and timely resolution of this issue;

53. Acknowledges the progress made in relation to education and training for the safe transport of radioactive material, including the preparation and translation of training materials into IAEA official languages, and requests the Secretariat to continue to strengthen and widen efforts in this area, including through the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP), in particular to ensure synergy between regional training courses and the Agency's work related to denials of shipment, involving to the extent possible experts from the regions concerned;

54. Calls for the timely publication of the recently approved 2012 edition of the IAEA's Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material and welcomes the start of a new review cycle to ensure that they remain relevant and up-to-date;

## 7.

### **The Safety of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Management**

55. Welcomes the increase in the number of Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention to 64, and urges all Member States, in particular those exploring nuclear energy, to become parties to the Joint Convention;

56. Calls upon Member States to continue work on maintaining a high level of safety in the management of spent fuel and radioactive waste;

57. Encourages the Secretariat to undertake the further development of guidance on safety during the operation of geological disposal facilities;

## 8.

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

58. Emphasizes the importance of IAEA decommissioning activities, and encourages Member States to ensure that plans for the decommissioning of facilities are developed and mechanisms are put in place for establishment and maintenance of the resources necessary to implement these plans;

59. Encourages the Secretariat to continue its efforts to gain a better understanding of the factors that constrain the implementation of decommissioning and environmental remediation programmes by the review of Member State practices followed in decommissioning and remediating nuclear facilities and sites, and encourages Member States to participate in activities aimed at ensuring greater progress in the decommissioning and remediation of radioactively contaminated sites worldwide;

60. Acknowledges the successful work of the International Decommissioning Network (IDN) in training and the exchange of knowledge and information, encourages its further development, and calls upon Member States to participate in associated projects;

## 9.

### **Safety in Uranium Mining and Processing and Remediation of Contaminated Sites**

61. Encourages Member States, where necessary, to strengthen the development and implementation of appropriate safety standards in uranium mining and ore processing, and requests the Secretariat to assist Member States, particularly those entering or re-entering the uranium mining industry, in implementing such safety standards;

62. Encourages Member States to ensure that plans for the remediation of contaminated sites are developed and mechanisms are put in place for the establishment and maintenance of the resources necessary for implementation;

63. Encourages Member States to participate in the International Working Forum for the Regulatory Supervision of Legacy Sites, and requests the Secretariat to support its work;

64. Requests the Secretariat to provide technical coordination for multilateral initiatives to remediate legacy uranium production sites, notably in Central Asia;

## 10.

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

65. Underlines the fundamental importance of sustainable programmes for education, training and knowledge management in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, remaining convinced that such education and training is a key component of safety infrastructure, and encourages Member States to develop national strategies for training and education;

66. Welcomes the ongoing commitment of the Secretariat and Member States to the implementation of the Strategy for Education and Training in Nuclear, Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety, and calls upon the Secretariat to strengthen and expand its programme of training and education activities, while focusing on building institutional, technical and managerial capabilities in Member States, and to continue its efforts to preserve its knowledge and institutional memory in nuclear safety;

## 11.

### Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources

67. Commends the many national and multinational efforts to recover and maintain control of disused, vulnerable and orphan sources, encourages the Secretariat and Member States to strengthen and continue these efforts, and invites Member States to establish radiation detection systems, as appropriate;
68. Calls upon all States to establish national registers of high-activity sealed radioactive sources as they pose the highest safety and security risks;
69. Continues to endorse the principles and objectives of the non-legally-binding Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, underlines the important role of the Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources, welcomes the progress made by many Member States in implementing and working towards the sustainable control of radioactive sources through these instruments, and requests the Secretariat to continue to provide support to facilitate States' implementation of these instruments;
70. Notes that, as at 30 June 2012, 113 States had made a political commitment to implement the Code, 75 of those States having notified the Director General of their intention to act in accordance with the Code's supplementary Guidance, and urges other States to act similarly;
71. Encourages Member States to support the review meetings on the Code of Conduct and its supplementary Guidance so as to ensure their maintenance, and requests the Secretariat to continue to foster information exchange on implementation of the Code of Conduct and its supplementary Guidance;
72. Calls upon the Secretariat to continue with the development of a code of conduct on the transboundary movement of scrap metal that may inadvertently contain radioactive material, and requests the Secretariat to continue to involve Member States in its further development;

## 12.

### Nuclear and Radiological Incident and Emergency Preparedness and Response

73. Urges all Member States to become 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), thereby contributing to a broader and stronger international emergency response capability, to the benefit of all Member States;
74. Recognizes that implementation of the Assistance Convention and the Early Notification Convention may be further enhanced, and requests the Secretariat, in close cooperation with relevant Member States and other international organizations, to strengthen technical and administrative procedures so as to enhance effective implementation of both conventions, and invites Contracting Parties to the Early Notification Convention to consider proposals to strengthen it and its implementation;
75. Welcomes the actions taken by the Secretariat, Member States and relevant international organizations in implementing the strategy outlined in the final report on the International Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies, and requests that the Secretariat, in close cooperation with Member States and relevant international organizations, take necessary actions to follow up on the recommendations made in the report and to fully implement the strategy when developing and implementing activities, including under the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety;
76. Emphasizes the importance for all Member States of implementing emergency preparedness and response programmes, including strengthening mechanisms to facilitate timely international

information exchange during a nuclear emergency, and requests the Secretariat, Member States and relevant international organizations to address compatibility issues in the development of national and international emergency response mechanisms and procedures consistent with the Agency's safety standards;

77. Welcomes the continued registration of Member States' capabilities in the Agency's Response and Assistance Network (RANET), and requests the Secretariat, in close cooperation with Member States and relevant international organizations, to further develop and strengthen assistance mechanisms so as to ensure that, if and when requested, necessary assistance can be provided promptly;

78. Requests the Secretariat to continue its efforts to improve the capabilities of the Agency's Incident and Emergency Centre as coordinator and facilitator of cooperation among Member States and international organizations in the area of emergency preparedness and response, in line with the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety;

79. Requests the Secretariat, in collaboration with other relevant international organizations and institutions, to provide Member States and the general public with timely, clear, factually correct, objective and easily understandable information on nuclear emergencies and their potential radiological impact, including analysis of the emergency and prognosis of possible scenarios based on scientific knowledge and evidence, and further requests the Secretariat, in close cooperation with Member States, to establish mechanisms and procedures to achieve that;

80. Requests the Secretariat, as coordinator of the Joint Radiation Emergency Management Plan of the International Organizations, to cooperate with Member States in the development and conduct of international nuclear emergency exercises;

81. Requests the Secretariat, in collaboration with Member States, to address the conclusions of the Sixth Meeting of the Representatives of Competent Authorities, held in Vienna in April 2012, and to enhance further development of the international nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness and response system, including through the early establishment of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Expert Group; and

### **13. Reporting**

82. Requests the Director General to report in detail at its fifty-seventh (2013) regular session on implementation of this resolution, including implementation of the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety and other relevant developments in the intervening period.