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MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN NUCLEAR, RADIATION AND WASTE SAFETY

Draft resolution recommended by the Committee of the Whole

MEASURES TO RESOLVE INTERNATIONAL RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT ISSUES: ESTABLISHING PREDISPOSAL WASTE DEMONSTRATION CENTRES

The General Conference,

- (a) Appreciating the work undertaken by the Agency regarding measures to resolve international radioactive waste management issues in response to resolution GC(XXXVIII)/RES/6,
- (b) Welcoming the efforts made as part of this work by the Agency in establishing, as a "pilot programme", a regional training centre suitable for demonstrating techniques for the processing and storage of radioactive waste arising from the application of nuclear techniques in medicine, research and industry,
- (c) Reaffirming the importance to the international community of ensuring that sound practices are planned and implemented for the management and disposal of radioactive waste from nuclear application technologies and nuclear power generation,
- (d) Reaffirming that the ultimate responsibility for ensuring the safe management of radioactive waste rests with the respective State,
- (e) Affirming the importance of international co-operation in enhancing the safe management of radioactive waste through bilateral and multilateral mechanisms, and

(f) Convinced that radioactive waste should, as far as is compatible with the safe management of such material, be disposed of in the State in which it was generated whilst recognizing that, in certain circumstances, safe management of radioactive waste might be fostered through voluntary agreements among Member States to use facilities in one of them for the benefit of the other States,

1. Stresses the importance of continuing to facilitate the transfer of theoretical knowledge and practical skills for the management of radioactive waste from the application of nuclear techniques;

2. Invites the Director General to assist Member States upon request in expanding the utilization of suitable existing regional training centres for practical training and demonstration of techniques for the processing and storage of radioactive waste from the application of nuclear techniques in medicine, research and industry, so that a demonstration and training facility would be available in respective regions by strengthening co-operation and by seeking to co-ordinate resources, including those existing in developing countries; and

3. Requests the Board of Governors and the Director General to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Conference.