

Commission: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Session : NATIONAL MUN - 2024

Sponsors : Algeria, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North), Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mozambique, Qatar, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Ukraine

QUESTION OF: **ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs) THROUGH THE USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY**

The General Assembly,

Recalling previous resolutions on sustainable development, particularly A/RES/70/1, which adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

Reaffirming the principle of state sovereignty and the need for national governments to achieve the SDGs through the use of nuclear energy in accordance with their legal and ethical standards,

Highlighting the role of nuclear energy in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly its role in SDG 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 16 and 17,

Acknowledging the potential of nuclear energy as a low-carbon energy source that can contribute to climate change mitigation (SDG 13), as well as its applications in healthcare, agriculture, and water management,

Expressing deep concern about the unlawful disposal of nuclear waste by numerous Member States, in opposition to Chapter 22, Agenda 21 of the United Nations and the significant threat it poses to the realization of SDGs 14 and 15,

Grieved by the Chernobyl disaster of 1986, therefore acknowledging the potential risks associated with nuclear energy, including safety, security, and environmental concern,

Seeking support from the IAEA, international organizations and other Member States, in promoting the peaceful use of nuclear technology and the globalization of nuclear energy,

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1. Supports the inclusion of nuclear energy in international climate agreements and frameworks, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Conference of the Parties (COPs), to recognize its role in mitigating climate change (SDG 13);
2. Calls upon Member States to explore the potential of using nuclear-derived electricity for powering agricultural advancements that contribute to achieving large-scale water desalination for irrigation in arid regions or research and development in sustainable farming practices;
3. Urges Member States to integrate and/or make use of nuclear energy in their national energy policies and strategies as a means to realize SDGs 3, 7, 8, 9, 13;
4. Supports the creation of partnerships between governments, private sector entities, and international organizations to finance and implement nuclear energy projects, drawing from successful models of public and private partnerships in the energy sector;
5. Renews its appeal for Member States to establish a national regulatory framework that:
  - a) ensures the safe and secure use of nuclear energy, in line with the 2001 IAEA-TECDOC-1209 risk management guidebook to bore a safer path with minimal risk to SDGs 3, 14 and 15;
  - b) provides comprehensive training to personnel in the operations of nuclear energy to ensure proper operation and training on safety practices and emergency protocols;
6. Requests the IAEA and other relevant international bodies to assist developing Member States in:

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- a) conducting feasibility studies, environmental impact assessments, and safety evaluations for potential nuclear energy projects, while considering the economic viability;
  - b) establishing regional nuclear training centers to provide training, disaster response simulation and capacity-building programs for nuclear safety and practices;
7. Calls for increased international collaboration and information sharing among Member States to manage nuclear security threats for 'Good Health and Well-being' (SDG 3), including:
- a) enhancing the safe and secure management of radioactive waste, by developing guidelines and practices for long-term storage and disposal;
  - b) strengthening information sharing and joint emergency response mechanisms to effectively address and mitigate the consequences of radiation-related incidents and accidents;
  - c) promoting the exchange of knowledge and practices on radiation protection measures to safeguard the health and safety of workers and the public;
8. Condemns the divergence of nuclear energy for the use or threat of nuclear weapons as a direct violation of human rights and threat to SDG 16, as emphasized by the United Nations' International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR);
9. Further recommends the implementation of advanced nuclear technologies, such as small modular reactors (SMRs) and thorium reactors, which offer enhanced safety features and reduced waste production;
10. Invites member states to share best practices and lessons learned from their nuclear energy programs through IAEA platforms and other international forums to promote collaborative efforts in achieving SDGs.