

Commission: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Session : NATIONAL MUN - 2024

Sponsors : Australia, Belgium, Cameroon, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, New Zealand, Portugal, Republic of Korea (South), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

QUESTION OF: **SECURING NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND PREVENTING NUCLEAR TERRORISM**

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the increasing number of countries considering, planning or initiating nuclear power programmes which require international cooperation to sustain nuclear safety,

Highlighting that over 350 incidents of lost nuclear and radioactive materials were recorded in the latest Convention of Nuclear Safety (CNS) global incidents and trafficking database, indicating persistent challenges being faced in securing nuclear materials, including the black market,

Keeping in mind that safe transportation of nuclear materials and the shortage of trained personnel in handling nuclear materials and the need for further international support is crucial through all stages of nuclear fuel cycle,

Taking into account that the varying levels of nuclear security across countries can stimulate the creation and use of nuclear and radiological weapons thus putting national security at stake,

Emphasizing the lack of capacity building, technical assistance and information sharing among countries to facilitate international security,

Affirming the need of financial and technical support from nations to achieve nuclear safety worldwide,

Appreciating the findings of the 2023 NTI (Nuclear Threat Initiative) Nuclear Security Index, which highlighted the regressing nuclear security conditions in numerous countries, thereby increasing the risk of nuclear terrorism,

Mindful that previous nuclear and radiological accidents, incidents and malfunctions have led to public concerns regarding the efficiency of nuclear materials to the safety of their country,

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1. Calls upon Member States to enhance their national legal frameworks to ensure total control and protection of nuclear materials and Member States that have not yet done so to establish or designate a competent authority;
2. Demands Member States that have not already done so to perform regular safety assessments including:
  - a. multi-unit sites or SMRs at remote sites, to evaluate the resilience of nuclear power plants and other installations against any unexpected events;
  - b. the use of advanced radiation detection technologies in identifying illicit nuclear materials;
3. Urges Member States to provide experts to share information and expertise on nuclear security through regular summits, to share best practices and safeguard sensitive data nationwide and worldwide;
4. Invites Member States to strengthen their cooperation and coordination with the IAEA, INTERPOL, and other relevant international organizations to effectively combat nuclear smuggling and trafficking through coordinated intelligence sharing and joint operations;
5. Encourages Member States to devise strategies and contingency solutions in handling unforeseen events and armed conflicts, in order to secure nuclear and radiological safety;
6. Supports initiatives aimed at minimizing the use of Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) in civilian applications, converting HEU-based facilities to safer Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) alternatives that can significantly reduce the availability of materials suitable for nuclear weapons;

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7. Notes with approval the effort made by countries to maintain and strengthen their safety culture at all levels in their nuclear and radiological operations and encourages all concerned bodies to promote their own safety culture as well;

8. Encourages Member States to engage in regular peer reviews and international inspections to ensure compliance with nuclear security standards and to foster a culture of continuous improvement and vigilance;

9. Recommends all Member States, within their responsibility, to achieve and maintain highly effective nuclear security, including physical protection of all nuclear and other radioactive material during use, storage and transport and of the associated facilities at all stages in their life cycle;

10. Stresses the importance of public information campaigns to inform the public about the risks of nuclear terrorism and the measures being taken to counter these threats for the public to endorse reporting of any suspicious activities;

11. Further invites the investigation of black-market activities from government and non-governmental organizations, dependent on the investigated region;

12. Trusts development agencies to provide financial and technical assistance to developing Member States for enhancing nuclear security infrastructure and capacity-building efforts.