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Agenda item 71 (d)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): draft resolution

Persistent legacy of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution [71/125](#) of 8 December 2016,

Reaffirming also its resolution [68/99](#) of 13 December 2013 on the strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, as well as its other relevant resolutions on the closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and taking note of the decisions adopted by the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of those resolutions,

Acknowledging the importance of the efforts made by the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, the United Nations system, other international organizations and civil society to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Acknowledging also the organization of the international conference entitled “Chernobyl 30 years later: from an emergency to a revival and sustainable social and economic development of affected territories”, held in Minsk on 25 April 2016, and taking note of the adoption of the Minsk Declaration,¹

Recognizing, three decades after the Chernobyl disaster, the still-persistent serious long-term consequences thereof, as well as the continuing related needs of the affected communities and territories,

¹ [A/70/916](#), annex.



Noting the completion of the Decade of Recovery and Sustainable Development of the Affected Regions, 2006–2016,²

Stressing the need for continued coordination by the United Nations Development Programme of the United Nations activities aimed at the short-term and long-term recovery of territories affected by the Chernobyl disaster and for the United Nations agencies to strengthen strategic partnerships, build alliances and mobilize resources for the development of the Chernobyl-affected territories,

Noting with satisfaction that the new safe confinement, provided by over 45 donor nations through funds managed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, is now in place in Chernobyl,

Welcoming events organized by Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, to mark International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day, observed on 26 April,

Welcoming also global efforts to enhance awareness of the needs of people and territories affected by the Chernobyl disaster, including through web-based resources,

Stressing the significance of the upcoming thirty-fifth anniversary of the accident for the further strengthening of international cooperation to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;³
2. *Greatly appreciates* the coordinating role of the United Nations Development Programme in the international cooperation on Chernobyl, including the work undertaken by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl;
3. *Acknowledges* the need for continuing international cooperation on Chernobyl under the auspices of the United Nations that can contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁴ and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;⁵
4. *Stresses* the need, in this regard, to continue the environmental and health monitoring of the Chernobyl-affected regions and communities for the purpose of assessing the efficiency of international assistance;
5. *Encourages* Member States and all interested partners to support international cooperation on Chernobyl aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the Chernobyl-affected regions, including through partnerships, innovation and investment;
6. *Acknowledges* the need to enhance networking around specialized national scientific institutions to study long-term medical, radioecological, radiobiological and other consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;
7. *Recognizes* the role of regional centres, as referred to in the Minsk Declaration,¹ in raising awareness among the population of the Chernobyl-affected regions on the issues of personal and social safety to ensure better adaptation with respect to the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;
8. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme and the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl to continue to coordinate international cooperation on Chernobyl as a means to further the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to continue to develop, in collaboration with the affected countries

² See resolution [62/9](#).

³ [A/74/461](#).

⁴ Resolution [70/1](#).

⁵ Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

and in consultation with Member States, a concise outline of general principles of engagement of the United Nations system in Chernobyl recovery efforts, along with agency-specific priorities;

9. *Recognizes* the need to continue the sustainable development of the recovering regions, focusing on the development of local entrepreneurship and tourism, the creation of new jobs, the transition of local economies to environmentally sound technologies, the promotion of sustainable forest management and agricultural innovations, the inclusion of people in vulnerable situations in local development processes and the promotion of healthy lifestyles;

10. *Invites* all Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, to observe International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day, and notes that the costs of all activities that may arise should be met from voluntary contributions;

11. *Welcomes* the initiatives of the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to host international events to mark the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Chernobyl accident, and invites organizations of the United Nations system, donor countries and other development agencies to contribute to the effective realization of the events;

12. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to actively engage in and fund, within existing resources, the preparations for the events;

13. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups, the private sector and other donors to contribute to the relevant preparatory processes for the events;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, as appropriate, the full involvement of resident coordinators and country teams in Belarus and Ukraine in preparations for the events;

15. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, within existing resources, on 26 April 2021, a special commemorative meeting of the Assembly in observance of the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session, under the sub-item entitled “Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster” of the item entitled “Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance”, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.