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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications

Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy

Draft resolution submitted by Sudan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling its resolution GC(50)/RES/I3.A.2 on the Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT),
- (b) Concerned about the suffering of cancer patients and their families, the extent to which cancer threatens development, particularly in developing countries, and that the number of new cases could reach 16 million by 2020 unless the international community acts, and concerned also that 12.5% of all deaths worldwide are caused by cancer as reported by the World Health Organization,
- (c) Aware that PACT embodies in a clear way the peaceful use of nuclear technology for civilian and humanitarian purposes, and that the timely implementation of PACT, enabling Member States to develop capacities to fight cancer in a comprehensive way, will impact the health and development of all regions, and promote the other statutory activities of the Agency,
- (d) Noting the Agency's policy of seeking to develop an Agency-wide strategy for the implementation of PACT, and taking note of the Director General's report on PACT in Annex 2 to document GC(51)/4,.
- (e) Noting the establishment in December 2005 of the PACT Programme Office (PPO) as part of the Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications, to coordinate a single unified programme for fundraising and the delivery of projects to Member States for cancer-related activities, making use - inter alia - of available Agency information, of identified resources, and of synergies and interactions across all relevant departments, as well as raising funds from extrabudgetary sources, and

- (f) Recognizing the value of imPACT missions as a tool of comprehensive assessment and their usefulness for the planning of integrated cancer control programmes, and noting the increasing number of requests for imPACT missions made by Member States,
1. Welcomes the inclusion of PACT in the Human Health programme, under Major Programme 2, and the provision included in the Regular Budget to cover a portion of PACT's funding requirement for management and essential support;
 2. Commends the Secretariat for the progress made in the establishment of public-private partnerships with Member States, other international organizations and private entities, taking into consideration UNGA resolutions 58/129 (2003), 59/250 (2004) and 60/215 of 29 March 2006, and urges the PPO to foster the development and deployment of cost-effective, reliable systems for the radiation treatment of cancer patients through such partnerships;
 3. Requests the Director General to continue to advocate and build support and allocate and mobilize resources for the implementation of PACT as one of the priorities of the Agency;
 4. Welcomes the events supported by the IAEA Nobel Cancer and Nutrition Fund, further welcomes the work done by the PPO, through the Technical Cooperation Programme, in collaboration with international partners and donors, to strengthen Member State capabilities to fight cancer, and encourages them to continue working in this regard;
 5. Welcomes the development of Model Practical Arrangements with partners, the establishment of partnerships with three new organizations and the activities organized with the support and participation provided by PACT's partner organizations.
 6. Welcomes the number of post-imPACT and pre-imPACT missions conducted in Member States, further welcomes the ongoing process of establishing PACT Model Demonstration Sites in six Member States in different regions and, in this regard, welcomes the proposal by the Secretariat to develop Regional Cancer Training Networks in each region and encourages it and interested partners to continue establishing such networks;
 7. Welcomes the realization of the "Forum on Cancer Control in Africa" and its London Declaration and calls on interested national governments, institutions, partners, international organizations and civil society to work together to enable the delivery of comprehensive cancer care in Africa.
 8. Urges the Director General to continue seeking, strengthening and facilitating the Agency's involvement in international partnerships with non-traditional donors to further pursue, develop and implement PACT and, in this regard, requests the Director General to continue formalizing, where feasible and appropriate, PACT's collaboration with partners already identified for the benefit of more effective development and implementation of country-level PACT projects;
 9. Welcomes the continuation of the joint work of the PPO, WHO Geneva, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and the WHO Regional Offices to strengthen collaboration, as well as the participation of the WHO Regional Offices in IAEA Nobel Cancer and Nutrition Fund "Special Events" and in PACT Model Demonstration Site (PMDS) missions, and encourages the continuation of this collaboration and the taking of additional steps toward the formalization of PACT partnership with WHO and other key agencies;
 10. Notes the acknowledgement of the IAEA's role in fighting cancer by the World Health Assembly held on May 2007 and the fact that the WHO's collaboration with PACT within the PMDS framework was highlighted;

11. Encourages the Director General to continue the consultations with the Director General of WHO on the feasibility of a joint programme of the Agency and WHO for cancer prevention, control, treatment and research as well as the best means to partner in the implementation of PACT, taking into consideration General Conference resolution GC(50)/RES/13.A.2 and World Health Assembly resolution WHA/58.22, and to report on progress in this area in due course;
12. Commends the ongoing work of the PPO in using non-traditional sources to support its activities, encourages the administrative facilitation of the support, and welcomes the development and initiation of the implementation of a medium-term global fund raising strategy that focuses on the three-pronged approach;
13. Welcomes the new fund-raising mechanism launched on the PACT web site for direct contributions and the on going work to establish an “endowment fund”;
14. Expresses appreciation for the financial and other contributions, offers and pledges made by Member States and others in support of PACT, and encourages Member States to show more flexibility in the use of the contributions;
15. Notes the need for sufficient human resources in the PPO for the implementation of projects using extrabudgetary funds, and in this regard encourages the Secretariat to make staff adjustments, and Member States to continue providing sufficient support and funding;
16. Notes the delivery of activities under the auspices of PACT, including those carried out under the technical cooperation programme, and in this regard requests the Secretariat to continue, in an integrated manner, planning and implementing PACT’s cancer-related activities and projects in Member States.
17. Recommends the continuous development, in consultation with Member States, of imPACT as an Agency service available for Member States that may be included as part of a country’s technical cooperation programme and/or, upon request, as a footnote-a/ project.
18. Recommends that the PPO continue to raise awareness about the global cancer burden in low- and middle-income countries and that, in this regard, the PPO use all tools at its disposal, including partnerships with local, national and international media, to meet this objective;
19. Recommends that the PPO, in consultation with relevant Agency departments and WHO, as appropriate, continue working to assist developing Member States in establishing integrated and comprehensive cancer control national plans, involving full participation of other international organizations and agencies, and strengthening their capabilities to enhance the benefits to be achieved from the implementation of PACT;
20. Invites Member States, interested organizations, private donors and foundations, and other non-traditional donors to contribute to the implementation of PACT and requests the Secretariat to keep Member States informed about its efforts in this regard; and
21. Requests the Director General to report on the implementation of this resolution at its fifty-third (2009) regular session.