

radioactive waste and the environment

At its meeting in March the Board of Governors of the Agency decided that in view of the recent increase in concern regarding the environment and in the light of the Agency's statutory responsibilities and the substantial contribution already made by it in the field, one of its most important tasks, in which it should take the leading rôle, in close collaboration with competent organs of the United Nations, specialized agencies and other international organizations concerned, is the elaboration of recommended standards of safety concerning the dispersion into the environment of radioactive waste resulting from the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

In its resolution the Board invited the Director General to promote useful research in this field in Member States and by other international organizations, and to include in the Agency's programme proposals aimed at obtaining the data necessary for the support of this research and for the elaboration of recommended standards of safety in this field; and to inform the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment of the foregoing decisions and of the Agency's pre-eminent interest in the matter, and to report back to the Board on the relevant deliberations of the conference.

