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### INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO STUDY, MITIGATE AND MINIMIZE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE DISASTER AT CHERNOBYL

#### Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin RAKOTONAIVO (Madagascar)

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1991, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "International cooperation to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the disaster at Chernobyl" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.
2. The Committee considered the item at its 17th, 48th and 57th meetings, on 17 October, 20 November and 10 December 1991. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (see A/C.2/46/SR.17). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 1 to 4 October (A/C.2/46/SR.2-9).
3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:
  - (a) Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the disaster at Chernobyl (A/46/215/Rev.1-E/1991/76/Rev.1);

(b) Letter dated 6 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting a statement issued by the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic on 5 February 1991 (A/46/82-E/1991/14);

(c) Letter dated 19 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations transmitting a Declaration issued by the Supreme Soviet of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/46/91-E/1991/17);

(d) Letter dated 1 May 1991 from the Permanent Representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the statement by the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic in connection with the fifth anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster (A/46/163);

(e) Letter dated 26 June 1991 from the Permanent Representatives of Bulgaria and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the Joint Communiqué dated 13 April 1991 issued by the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Chairman of the Grand National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria (A/46/273);

(f) Letter dated 2 July 1991 from the representatives of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the Declaration by participants in the third Meeting of the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the USSR and Union Republics concerning United Nations efforts to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, adopted in Minsk, on 28 June 1991 (A/46/283-E/1991/114);

(g) Letter dated 1 August 1991 from the Permanent Representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the appeal by the Supreme Soviet of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to the European Parliament (A/46/345);

(h) Letter dated 16 September 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting a letter from the Chairman of the Supreme Rada of Ukraine regarding the United Nations pledging conference to mobilize support for cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl accident (A/46/477).

4. At the 17th meeting, on 17 October, the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna and Coordinator of the activities related to the Chernobyl accident in the United Nations system made an introductory statement (A/C.2/46/SR.17).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

### A. Draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.30/Rev.1

5. At the 48th meeting, on 20 November, the representative of Ukraine introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/46/L.30/Rev.1), entitled "Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster", on behalf of Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Viet Nam and Yugoslavia.

6. The Committee had before it a statement on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/45/L.30/Rev.1, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/46/L.60).

7. At the 57th meeting, on 10 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ioan Barac (Romania), made a statement in which he informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.30/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 10).

9. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Ukraine made a statement on behalf of the sponsors (see A/C.2/46/SR.57).

## III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination  
of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences  
of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 45/190 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1990/50 of 13 July 1990 and 1991/51 of 26 July 1991,

Taking note with appreciation of the decisions adopted by the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/190 and the decisions of other international organs and organizations,

Recalling International Atomic Energy Agency resolution GC(XXXV)/RES.553 of 20 September 1991,

Expressing continuing concern about the ongoing effects on the lives and health of people, especially children, first and foremost in the affected regions of Belarus, Ukraine and the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic and also in other countries affected by the Chernobyl disaster,

Aware of the need to strengthen further the coordination of active efforts to carefully study, mitigate and minimize the radiological, health, socio-economic, psychological and environmental consequences of that disaster, as well as its possible long-term effects, including those resulting from transboundary contamination,

Stressing the importance of providing extensive information on all aspects of the unprecedented disaster for the purpose of avoiding similar calamities in the future,

Welcoming the growing international solidarity with the victims of Chernobyl, the large-scale efforts made by the United Nations and the organizations of its system, as well as the contribution made by Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, charity foundations, the business community, scientific bodies and individuals in the development of cooperation to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Noting the various assessments of the radiological consequences of the Chernobyl accident, in particular the report of the International Advisory Committee presented and discussed at the conference that took place at Vienna from 21 to 24 May 1991, and recognizing the need for further study,

Stressing that it is essential to achieve and maintain the highest available standards of safety of nuclear power generation, including radiological protection, and to encourage cooperation to this end throughout the world and, in particular, in Central and Eastern Europe,

Taking note with appreciation of the activities recently initiated with the purpose of bringing forward the shutting down of the nuclear power plant at Chernobyl and stressing the need for technical assistance from the international community to this end,

Taking note with interest of the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the International Conference on the Safety of Nuclear Power, held at Vienna from 2 to 6 September 1991, 1/

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/190; 2/

2. Welcomes the practical measures that have been taken by the Secretary-General and the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation for Chernobyl to strengthen the coordination of the international efforts in that area, inter alia, in the setting up of the corresponding Inter-Agency Task Force and the preparation of the Joint Plan of international cooperation to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

3. Notes with appreciation the results of the United Nations Pledging Conference to mobilize support for extending international cooperation to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

4. Appeals to all Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, charity foundations, the business community, scientific bodies and individuals to provide cooperation in various forms and special and other assistance, taking into account the nature of the radiation and environmental disaster and the emergency situation that has developed in the areas most affected, particularly in Belarus, Ukraine and the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic, as described in the conclusions and recommendations of the International Chernobyl Project in its assessment of radiological consequences and evaluation of protective measures and other relevant studies;

5. Requests the organs, specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system to continue the consideration of possible technical and other specialized assistance and specific actions in the areas most affected by the accident, particularly in Belarus, Ukraine and the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic, in close cooperation with the United Nations Coordinator, taking into account the Joint Plan, as introduced by the Secretary-General at the Chernobyl Pledging Conference;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue the activities related to the coordination of efforts to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster in accordance with its resolution 45/190;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

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1/ IAEA-CN-57.

2/ A/46/215/Rev.1-E/1991/76/Rev.1.

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session an item entitled "Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster".

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