

The Federal Republic of Germany

Positions for the International Atomic Energy Agency

I. Assessing the Impact of Long-Term Refugee Camps, Squatter Villages and Slums in Developing Member States

The Federal Republic of Germany supports the granting of temporary political asylum to refugees in need of safety and protection, the application processes used to structure, control and keep track of displaced persons and the providing of humanitarian assistance and rights to those who seek refuge. The Federal Republic of Germany recognizes the systems already put in place to aid asylum seekers and encourages the advancement of refugee laws and regulations. Germany calls upon all Member States in achieving Goal 7, target 11 “Ensuring Environmental Sustainability” of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which states, “By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.” **Internationally**, Germany is one of the first six Member States worldwide that signed the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees, the key legal document in defining refugees, their rights and the legal obligations of all States to these individuals. Germany is currently an active member of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) whose purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees, ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, with the option to return home voluntarily, integrate locally or to resettle in a third country and to help stateless people. Germany encourages consistent advocacy for greater international attention to resolving statelessness, such as the United Nations Human Rights Council and UNHCR’s Executive Committee. **Regionally**, Germany as a member of the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) expresses the need for European solidarity with people in need all around the world. In 2010, ECHO integrated the European Civil Protection Mechanism that provided for better coordination and cooperation among 32 European States to respond to and pool resources to disaster-stricken countries. **Nationally**, German asylum law acknowledges the United Nations Convention on the Status of Refugees of 1951 and its 1967 Protocol, which accord special protection to refugees. Under this law, asylum seekers possess a “tolerated” status that bars them from possessing regular employment, moving freely within Germany, and accessing most welfare programs. Germany proposes the following **Action Plan** entitled **E.N.D. Encourage** the involvement, assistance and participation of the international community concerning refugee rights, temporary housing provisions and funding for asylum programs; **Negotiate** a common refugee and asylum system with legal backing to create a more harmonized and uniform protection of refugees; **Demand** active protection of refugees who continue to suffer from serious human rights violations while creating a structure of laws and regulations to actively assist displaced peoples.

II. Resource Security: Combating the Depletion of Natural Resources and Addressing the Need for Renewable Energy

The Federal Republic of Germany recognizes the need to preserve deteriorating natural resources while developing technologies and alternative means to ensure the protection of the global population’s basic necessities and a sustainable future for all. **Internationally**, Germany and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) agreed to strengthen their cooperation in areas of the promotion of energy access, energy efficiency and renewable energy to developing countries, as well as the need to promote sustainable industrial development in these countries. Germany welcomes the United Nations Environmental Programmes resource efficiency initiative and its call for investments in renewables. Germany supports the work of the General Assembly particularly A/RES/66/206 that calls for promotion of new and renewable resources. In addition Germany recalls the Johannesburg Plan of Implementations call for diversification in the field of energy production and consumption. **Regionally**, The Directive 2009/28/EC on renewable energy, implemented by Member States, sets ambitious targets for all Member States, such that the European Union (EU) will reach a 20 percent share of energy from renewable sources by 2020 and a 10 percent share of renewable energy specifically in the transport sector. The European Commission (EC) emphasizes that the 2020 renewable energy policy goals are likely to be met and

exceeded if Member States fully implement their national renewable energy action plans and if financing instruments are improved. It also stresses the need for further cooperation between Member States and a better integration of renewable energy into the single European market. **Nationally**, Germany's foreign policy supports the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development that promotes energy projects in more than 50 partner countries. One of the cooperation's guiding principles includes protecting the natural environment and seeks to use development policy as a joint responsibility of the international community. In 2011, the German Council for Sustainable Development (RNE) was established as a multi-stakeholder body advising the German Federal Government. The Council shapes the national strategy for sustainable development in critical dialogue with the Federal Government and leading political, economic and social stakeholders. Germany looks forward to continued dialogue with member states on the best way to address this issue in a holistic fashion.

III. Developing Strategies for Disaster Risk Reduction and Economic Mobility in a Turbulent Economy

The Federal Republic of Germany is alarmed by the increase of natural hazards and their disastrous aftermaths. **Internationally**, Germany is a member of the United Nations' International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) and is the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. The UNISDR was established with the purpose of ensuring the implementation of the ISDR (A/RES/54/219). 18-22 January 2005, Germany attended the World Conference on Disaster Reduction through resolution A/RES/58/214. The conference objectives included were to conclude and report on the review of the Yokohama Strategy and its Plan of Action, identify specific activities aimed at ensuring the implementation of relevant provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development on vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management, share best practices and lessons learned to further disaster reduction, increase awareness of the importance of disaster reduction policies, and to increase the reliability and availability of appropriate disaster-related information to the public and disaster management agencies in all regions, as set out in relevant provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. **Regionally**, Germany as a Member State of the European Union (EU) supports the integration of disaster risk reduction (DRR) among the political objectives of developing countries through an EU strategy for supporting disaster risk reduction in these countries. This strategy is part of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 introduced via the United Nations' International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR). The strategy includes the management of underlying risk factors, action plans drawn up on the basis of effective risk monitoring and assessment systems and early warning systems and a high level of international cooperation. Funds for the strategy are allocated under the European Development Fund (EDF) and the financial instruments of the 2007-2013 programming period. The EU's Civil Protection Mechanism provides Training, exercises, exchange and collaboration of experts and projects are all practical measures, taken to improve the European disaster response capacity. In the area of civil protection, the European Commission is taking an integrated approach to disaster management including prevention, preparedness and response. **Nationally**, The Federal Foreign Office of Germany supports the work of the Committee for Disaster Reduction (DKKV). The DKKV is a forum for dialogue aimed at informing society about disaster reduction and bringing together relevant players to do so. It focuses in the areas of science, policy, business, society and rescue services integrating the various relevant ongoing activities. 17 December 2008, the Federal Cabinet adopted the German Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change that creates a framework for adapting to the impacts of climate change in Germany. It primarily assesses the risks of climate change, identifying the possible need for action, defining appropriate goals and developing and implementing options for adaptation measures. With these strategies already in place, Germany proposes the following **Action Plan S.E.T.:** to **Share** best practices; **Endowments** to be funded for those directly affected by natural disaster; **Technical assistance** conferences should be held on a topical and regional basis to bring together stake holders that face similar environmental problems.