

Section 2 : Conservation and Management of Resources for Development

Chapter 22 : Safe and environmentally sound management of radioactive wastes

Radioactive wastes are generated in the nuclear fuel cycle and in nuclear applications (such as medicine and research). The risk of the wastes varies depending on the type of isotope and concentration of the waste. The level of wastes produced annually is increasing largely due to increased nuclear power production.

Objective

Radioactive wastes should be safely managed, transported, stored and disposed of to protect human health and the environment.

Activities

- Nations should promote policies and measures to minimize and limit the creation of nuclear wastes.
- International standards of waste handling and disposal need to be developed and strengthened.
- An international agreement is needed to ban the dumping of radioactive waste at sea.