Twelfth regular session
Agenda item 13
(GC(XII)/390)

THE AGENCY'S BUDGET FOR 1969 AND PROGRAMME FOR 1969-74

Second report of the Programme, Technical and Budget Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. E. HAAS (Netherlands)

1. At its eighty-first and eighty-second meetings on 26 and 27 September, the Committee continued its consideration of item 13, with particular reference to the longer-term aspects of the Agency's programme for 1969-74.

2. While some delegations were unreservedly in favour of the establishment by the Agency of an International Nuclear Information System (INIS), several delegates raised specific questions about the immediate and future status of this project, its utilization of already existing regional facilities, and its long-term financial implications. The Secretariat, having answered these questions, also informed the Committee that the staffing and future development of INIS would be referred to appropriate panels and further discussed by the Board of Governors early in 1959.

3. There was general support for the Agency's safeguards programme, but a number of delegates indicated that its expansion should not cause any reduction in the technical assistance programme; a suggestion was made to the effect that highly qualified personnel be selected for safeguards tasks with due regard to judicious geographical distribution.

2/ See also document GC(XII)/395, para.2.

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4. Several speakers referred to the Agency's co-operation with other United Nations Agencies, stressing the need for clearer division of respective responsibilities and the equal sharing of costs involved in joint undertakings. With regard to research and laboratory work, some delegates were of the opinion that more stress should be laid on the Agency's co-ordinating and consultative role than on direct involvement.

5. A number of delegates commended the Agency's programme of technical assistance and expressed satisfaction at the implementation of a more liberal policy in regard to the provision of experts and equipment respectively. The continuing and growing gap between the needs of developing countries and available financial resources was generally deplored.

6. The importance of the Agency's nuclear power and reactor programme was stressed, and the view was expressed that for practical reasons developing countries would welcome greater emphasis on small- and medium-sized power reactors.

7. The Committee expressed satisfaction at the preparation and presentation of the budget and programme and noted that, to the extent possible, the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the specialized agencies had been taken into account.

8. The Committee then dealt with a draft resolution submitted by Pakistan on the Financing of Nuclear Projects.\(^3\) While there was much sympathy for the objectives of the resolution several delegations, for various reasons, found themselves unable to support it in its present form. After a long discussion the Committee agreed that it would be desirable to submit the matter to the Board of Governors for further consideration.

9. The Committee accordingly recommends the General Conference to submit the text of the draft resolution together with the record of the Committee's discussions thereof, to the Board of Governors, for early examination.

\(^3\)/ GC(XII)/COM.1/108.