



International Atomic Energy Agency

General Conference

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Fifteenth regular session

ADVANCE INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this paper is to bring information relating to the General Conference to the notice of government officials and others concerned with the planning of representation at this year's session.

THE SESSION

2. The Conference's fifteenth regular session will open on Tuesday, 21 September 1971, at 3 p. m. ; it is expected to last for about a week. It will be held in the Kongresszentrum, Neue Hofburg, Heldenplatz, in the centre of Vienna.

COMPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS

3. Rule 23 of the Conference's Rules of Procedure [1] provides for each Member of the Agency to be represented by one delegate, who may be accompanied by as many assistants (alternates, advisers, etc.) as may be needed. The first list of members of delegations will be issued one week before the session opens; it will contain information communicated to the Secretariat up to noon on the previous day, that is to say, Monday, 13 September. Governments are particularly asked to communicate at least the provisional composition of their delegations in good time so that this first edition of the list may be as complete as possible.

ACCOMMODATION FOR DELEGATIONS

4. Hotels in Vienna are usually fully booked at the end of September, and it is therefore important to reserve accommodation as far in advance as possible. Direct booking has proved to be more satisfactory in the past, but the Secretariat is ready to act as an intermediary should the need arise; it cannot, however, bear any financial responsibility in respect of the reservations it makes.

CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATES

5. Each delegate (but not other members of a delegation) will require credentials specifically for the session, even if he is already accredited to the Agency in some other capacity - for example, as a Resident Representative. In the past a large number of credentials were delivered late, in many cases even after the session had begun; this caused difficulties, particularly for the Credentials Committee. It is accordingly emphasized that, under Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure, credentials should reach the Director General not later than 14 September; they must be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

[1] GC(VII)/INF/60.

REGISTRATION OF DELEGATIONS

6. It is necessary for each delegation to be registered with the Secretariat as soon as possible. A guide will be on duty in the entrance hall of the Kongresszentrum to direct members of delegations to the Protocol Office, which will open in that building at 3 p.m. on Monday, 20 September, for the registration of delegations. Delegations are urged, in their own interest, to register by noon on Tuesday, 21 September at the latest; any delegation wishing to do so earlier, is invited to communicate with the Protocol Office in room 485 or 484 at the Agency's Headquarters at 9 Kaerntnerring (52 45 11, extension 307 or 450).

PLEDGES OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND FOR 1972

7. The Board of Governors has set a target of \$3 million, subject to the Conference's approval, for Members' voluntary contributions to the General Fund for 1972. Before the session opens a document will be circulated for the purpose of notifying delegates of the contributions that Members have pledged themselves to make [2]. It will be greatly appreciated if Governments will facilitate the timely preparation of this document by communicating their pledges to the Director General immediately they are in a position to do so.

DOCUMENTS

8. The provisional agenda for the session is being issued as document GC(XV)/454. Working documents relating to the various items, as well as information papers for the Conference, will be circulated as they come off the press.

9. During the session documents may be collected from the Documents Station at the Kongresszentrum, where each delegation will be provided with a distribution box. This will initially contain:

- (a) A handbook of information about the session and a copy of the Conference telephone directory;
- (b) A set of the documents already issued;
- (c) The first issue of the Conference Journal; and
- (d) A form on which the delegation should state what documents it will require during the session.

A member of each delegation is invited to visit the Documents Station during the morning of Tuesday, 21 September, to complete and hand in this form; any delegation wishing to attend to this matter earlier is invited to communicate with Documents Distribution in room B.27 at 9 Kaerntnerring (52 45 11, extension 483 or 484).

[2] Compare the corresponding document of last year - GC(XIV)/439.

FACILITIES FOR TRANSLATING, TYPING AND REPRODUCING PAPERS

10. The Secretariat will translate and reproduce papers (memoranda, draft resolutions, etc.) that are formally introduced as Conference documents. For the translation, typing and reproduction of papers other than official documents, delegations are advised to make advance arrangements; the Secretariat will be glad to help as far as it can.

11. Several Viennese firms are prepared to provide secretaries and to supply office equipment for short periods [3]; a few days' notice may be required. Secretaries who can work in English, French or German can be engaged without much difficulty; those having a knowledge of other languages are less easily obtainable.

CURRENCY

12. Bank notes, travellers' cheques and letters of credit may be brought into Austria without restriction, but since not all currencies are in equal demand, a few may not be easily saleable. Departing visitors may take with them the foreign currency and securities they brought into the country and up to S 15 000 in Austrian currency.

THE WEATHER

13. The weather in Vienna at the end of September can be fairly mild, with average day temperatures of 14^oC (57^oF) and average night temperatures around 9^oC (48^oF).

[3] Secretaries can be engaged for about S 60 an hour. If given due notice, the Secretariat could probably make arrangements through commercial channels for a reasonable number of typewriters and duplicating machines to be loaned to delegations free of charge.

