1. In accordance with Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference[1], the Director General hereby notifies all Members of the Agency that the sixteenth regular session of the General Conference will begin on Tuesday, 26 September 1972. As indicated in document GC(XVI)/INF/136, paragraph 5, the Conference will meet in the conference centre of the Secretariat of External Relations in Tlatelolco, Mexico City.

2. At the opening meeting, which is called for 4.30 p.m., it is expected that the President of Mexico will address the Conference. At this meeting the Conference will take up most of the matters with which it normally deals at the first meeting of the session.

3. Pursuant to Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure the Director General has drawn up the attached provisional agenda for the session in consultation with the Board of Governors. In the annotation to each item thereof a suggestion is made, for consideration by the General Committee, as to where the item should first be discussed - in plenary meeting or in one of the committees.

4. The order in which items are listed is not to be construed as a formal proposal that they should be discussed in that order; the numbers allocated to them do, however, largely reflect the sequence in which the Conference has taken up corresponding items at recent sessions. The Conference may accordingly find it convenient to take items 1-10 during the initial plenary meetings; items 11-16 are grouped according to the committee in which it is suggested they should first be discussed; and the remainder are those which it seems likely the Conference will wish to take up towards the end of the session.

5. Should the Director General receive by 27 August any request under Rule 13 for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda, such an item will, subject to the limitation in Rule 21, be placed on a supplementary list of items which will be circulated not later than 6 September.

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

1. Opening of the session
2. Election of the President
3. Credentials of delegates to the sixteenth (1972) regular session
   (a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee
   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee
4. Election of the Vice-Presidents
5. Appointment of the General Committee
6. Applications for membership of the Agency
7. Statement by the Director General
8. Adoption of the agenda and allocation of items for initial discussion
9. General debate and report for 1971-72
10. Closing date of the session
11. Opening date of the seventeenth (1973) regular session
12. Election of Members to the Board of Governors
14. Scale of Members' contributions for 1973
15. The Agency's accounts for 1971
16. The Agency's relations with intergovernmental organizations
17. Elections to the Agency Staff Pension Committee
18. Voluntary contributions to the General Fund for 1973
19. Closing of the session
1. Opening of the session

In the light of Rule 33 of the Rules of Procedure, it is expected that the session will be opened by the delegate of Spain. Immediately thereafter the presiding officer will invite the delegates to observe a minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation.

2. Election of the President

Under Rule 34 the General Conference is required to elect a President to hold office until the end of the session.

3. Credentials of delegates to the sixteenth (1972) regular session

(a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee

Under Rule 28 the President will propose the appointment of a Credentials Committee of nine members.

(b) Report of the Credentials Committee

Under Rule 28 the Credentials Committee is required to examine the credentials of all delegates and report thereon to the General Conference.

4. Election of the Vice-Presidents

Under Rule 34 the Conference is required to elect eight Vice-Presidents to hold office until the end of the session. [2]

5. Appointment of the General Committee

Under Rule 40 the Conference is required to appoint a General Committee consisting of the President, the eight Vice-Presidents, the Chairmen of the Main Committees and four additional members.

6. Applications for membership of the Agency

Document GC(XVI)/479 will contain a recommendation by the Board of Governors for the admission of Bangladesh to membership of the Agency.

7. Statement by the Director General

The Director General proposes to make an oral statement to the Conference.

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[2] Rule 34 stipulates that these elections shall be held after those of the Chairmen of the two Main Committees provided for in Rule 45. Before this item is taken it will accordingly be necessary to hold brief meetings of the two Committees (the Programme Technical and Budget Committee and the Administrative and Legal Committee) at which these two bodies can elect their respective Chairmen.
8. Adoption of the agenda and allocation of items for initial discussion

The General Committee will report to the Conference under Rule 42(a) on the provisional agenda set forth in the present document and on any supplementary list of items (Rule 13); it will also report on any proposals for the inclusion of additional items of an important or urgent character in the agenda (Rule 15) that may have been made at the outset of the session. After considering this report, the Conference will approve the agenda (Rule 14) and allocate the items for initial discussion.

9. General debate and report for 1971-72

Under Article V, E. 4 of the Statute the Conference is required to consider the report for the year 1971-72 which the Board has prepared (GC(XVI)/480).

10. Closing date of the session

Under Rule 8 the Conference is required to fix a closing date for the session, after considering a recommendation on the subject which the General Committee will make.

11. Opening date of the seventeenth (1973) regular session

Under Rule 1 the Conference is required to set the opening date of the seventeenth regular session in 1973.

12. Election of Members to the Board of Governors

The terms of office of Brazil, Chile, the Netherlands, the Syrian Arab Republic and Thailand as elected Members of the Board will expire at the end of this year's regular session of the Conference. Under Rule 86 the General Committee is required to determine the number of elective places on the Board to be filled by the Conference so that, after the end of the session, the Board will be constituted in accordance with the provisions of Article VI. A. 3 of the Statute. Rules 79-81 and 83-88 relate to the conduct of the elections; the Members elected will hold office until the end of the eighteenth regular session in 1974 (Article VI. D of the Statute and Rule 84).


Under Article V, E. 5 of the Statute the Conference is required to approve the Agency's budget for 1973 on the basis of estimates for expenses which the Board, under Article XIV. A, is submitting in document GC(XVI)/485 (in which the Agency's programme for 1973-78 is also set out), or to return the budget with recommendations as to its entirety or to parts to the Board, for re-submission to the Conference.

14. Scale of Members' contributions for 1973

The Director General will submit to the Conference a proposed scale of assessment for Members' contributions to the Agency's Regular Budget for 1973.

15. The Agency's accounts for 1971

The Agency's accounts for 1971, together with the External Auditor's report thereon and a report by the Board, will be communicated to the Conference in document GC(XVI)/484.
16. The Agency's relations with intergovernmental organizations

Administrative and Legal Committee

In document GC(XVI)/481 the Board is recommending the Conference to approve a co-operation agreement with the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America. In document GC(XVI)/482 the Board is seeking authorization to invite certain categories of intergovernmental organizations to be represented at future sessions of the Conference.

17. Elections to the Agency's Staff Pension Committee

Plenary meeting

Elections will be needed in order to replace one or more of those members of the Agency's Staff Pension Committee who are chosen by the Conference.

18. Voluntary contributions to the General Fund for 1973

Plenary meeting

It is expected that the usual measures will be taken to obtain pledges of voluntary contributions to the General Fund for 1973 [3], for which the Board is proposing a target of $3 million (see document GC(XVI)/485).

19. Closing of the session

Plenary meeting

The President will invite the delegates to observe a minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation and immediately thereafter declare the session closed.

[3] See, for example, documents GC(XV)/465 and GC(XV)/OR.150, para. 41.