



International Atomic Energy Agency

# GENERAL CONFERENCE

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## SIXTEENTH REGULAR SESSION: 26 SEPTEMBER—3 OCTOBER 1972

### RECORD OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-EIGHTH PLENARY MEETING

Held in the conference centre of the Secretariat of External Relations,  
Mexico City, on Tuesday, 3 October 1972, at 10.55 a.m.

President: Mr. FLORES DE LA PEÑA (Mexico)

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\* A provisional version of this document was  
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\*\* GC(XVI)/490.

THE RECORD

CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATES TO THE  
SIXTEENTH (1972) REGULAR SESSION

(b) REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS  
COMMITTEE (GC(XVI)/496)

1. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the draft resolution contained in the last paragraph of the report of the Credentials Committee (GC(XVI)/496), the adoption of which was recommended by the Committee.

2. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that during the general debate his delegation had stressed the need to respect the principle of universality in the Agency's membership and had stated that it was essential that the German Democratic Republic should participate in the Agency's work. [1] That country, which had assumed a place in the front rank in industry, trade and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, had seen its admission to the Agency refused because of the prejudices of certain States. The situation was all the more abnormal as the German Democratic Republic had already concluded a safeguards agreement with the Agency and the Agency's inspectors had already commenced control activities there. Several days previously the Conference had approved the admission to the Agency of Bangladesh [2], a State that had been created very recently. The Soviet delegation had welcomed that decision and now considered it all the more inadmissible that the same right should be refused to the German Democratic Republic, which had been in existence for more than 20 years and from whose participation the Agency would derive every advantage.

3. Mr. URSU (Romania) wished to raise two objections to the draft resolution before the Conference. First, his Government recognized the Provisional Revolutionary Government as the only legitimate Government of South Viet-Nam and therefore considered that the credentials issued by the Saigon administration were unacceptable. Secondly, it did not recognize the right of South Korea to represent the whole of Korea.

4. In addition, Romania wished to reaffirm that it was essential that the German Democratic Republic should participate in the Agency's work.

5. Mr. LUČIĆ-LAVČEVIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that he was unable to accept the credentials issued by the Saigon régime in view of the fact that only the Provisional Revolutionary Government was entitled to represent the people of South Viet-Nam.

[1] GC(XVI)/OR.153, para. 42.

[2] By Resolution GC(XVI)/RES/287, para. 1.

6. Mr. DO-LAI-KY (Viet-Nam) recalled that his delegation had participated regularly for 14 years in the work of the sessions of the General Conference as it had a great desire to exchange information on the results of the work being carried out all over the world in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The comments that had just been made were all the more inopportune in view of their political nature; they were out of place at a meeting of a technical character. It was for that reason that his delegation habitually refrained at the Conference's sessions from raising the objections which it could make to the credentials of delegations that disputed its own representativeness.

7. Nevertheless it wished to take the opportunity to recall the sufferings imposed on the people of South Viet-Nam. For five months the National Liberation Front, inspired by Hanoi, had been carrying out operations in South Viet-Nam that were costing the lives of thousands of innocent victims. Those that contested the validity of the credentials of his delegation would do well to meditate on the saying of Juárez: "The essence of peace is respect for the rights of others".

8. He supported the draft resolution before the General Conference and rejected the allegations of countries that denied the validity of his delegation's credentials.

9. Mr. ELMEHRIK (Libyan Arab Republic) said that his delegation had presented its credentials in the course of the morning.

● 10. The draft resolution in document GC(XVI)/496 was adopted.

THE AGENCY'S ACCOUNTS FOR 1971  
(GC(XVI)/492)

11. Mr. CASTELLON CRUZ (Chile), Rapporteur of the Administrative and Legal Committee, introduced the Committee's report on the Agency's accounts for 1971 (GC(XVI)/492).

● 12. The draft resolution in document GC(XVI)/492 was adopted.

THE AGENCY'S RELATIONS WITH INTER-  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (GC(XVI)/493)

13. Mr. CASTELLON CRUZ (Chile), Rapporteur of the Administrative and Legal Committee, introduced the Committee's report on the Agency's relations with intergovernmental organizations (GC(XVI)/493).

14. The PRESIDENT requested delegates to consider draft resolution A in document GC(XVI)/493 concerning a co-operation agreement between the Agency and the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (OPANAL).

15. Mr. JACKSON (United Kingdom) heartily recommended the adoption of the resolution; it

was particularly appropriate that it should be put forward for adoption at Tlatelolco,

16. Baron van BOETZELAER (Netherlands) was also in favour of adopting the resolution and endorsed the comment made by the United Kingdom delegate. An agreement of that type assumed particular importance now that the Agency had concluded a similar one with the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM),

17. Mr. GLENNAN (United States of America) recalled that the United States had ratified Protocol II to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (the Tlatelolco Treaty) [3]. He too considered that the agreement was of the greatest importance, and was convinced that it would usher in a long period of co-operation between the Agency and OPANAL,

18. Mr. ROLDAN MORALES (Guatemala) said that his Government had followed very closely the negotiations leading up to the agreement and welcomed the co-operation that would result from it.

● 19. Draft resolution A in document GC(XVI)/493 was adopted.

20. Mr. ALBA ANDRADE (Mexico) expressed his deep satisfaction at the adoption of the resolution. The agreement, which was designed to facilitate the efficient functioning of the control system set up by OPANAL, would secure one of the most important objectives of the Tlatelolco Treaty.

21. The PRESIDENT then invited delegates to turn to draft resolution B in document GC(XVI)/493 concerning the representation of intergovernmental organizations at regular sessions of the Conference.

● 22. Draft resolution B in document GC(XVI)/493 was adopted.

#### OPENING DATE OF THE SEVENTEENTH (1973) REGULAR SESSION

23. The PRESIDENT informed the Conference that the General Committee had asked him to put forward its recommendation that the opening date of the seventeenth regular session should be Tuesday, 18 September 1973.

● 24. The recommendation of the General Committee was accepted.

#### ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS (GC(XVI)/491)

25. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the report of the General Committee on the election

of Members to the Board of Governors (GC(XVI)/491), in paragraph 1 of which the Committee notified the Conference that five Members had to be elected to the Board. In paragraph 2 the Committee specified the geographical areas in respect of which elections were required, and in the last paragraph drew attention to the fact that elections had to be conducted with due regard to equitable representation on the Board as a whole of the Members in the geographical areas specified in Rule 83 of the Rules of Procedure. At the end of that paragraph the Committee had appended, for the Conference's guidance, a list of Members that had already been elected by the Conference or designated by the Board to serve on the Board after the end of the current session. He reminded the Conference that Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure provided that the elections to the Board should be by secret ballot and that there should be no nominations.

● 26. At the invitation of the President, a member of the Philippine delegation and a member of the Uruguayan delegation acted as tellers.

27. The PRESIDENT invited the Conference to elect two Members from the area of Latin America.

● 28. The result of the vote was as follows:

Members to be elected:	2
Ballot papers returned:	128
Invalid votes:	2
Abstentions:	5
Valid votes:	121
Required majority:	31
Votes obtained:	
Mexico	61
Argentina	58
Ecuador	1
Peru	1

● 29. Having obtained the required majority, Mexico and Argentina were elected Members of the Board.

30. The PRESIDENT invited the Conference to elect a Member from the area of Africa and the Middle East.

● 31. The result of the vote was as follows:

Ballot papers returned:	63
Invalid votes:	1
Abstentions:	4
Valid votes:	58
Required majority:	30
Votes obtained:	
Saudi Arabia	55
Gabon	3

● 32. Having obtained the required majority, Saudi Arabia was elected a Member of the Board.

[3] Reproduced in the United Nations Treaty Series, Vol. 634, No. 9068.

33. The PRESIDENT invited the Conference to elect a Member from the area of South East Asia and the Pacific.

● 34. The result of the vote was as follows:

Ballot papers returned:	61
Valid votes:	61
Required majority:	31
Votes obtained:	
Indonesia	61

● 35. Having obtained the required majority, Indonesia was elected a Member of the Board.

36. The PRESIDENT invited the Conference to fill the remaining vacant seat on the Board.

● 37. The result of the vote was as follows:

Ballot papers returned:	62
Abstentions:	2
Valid votes:	60
Required majority:	31
Votes obtained:	
Federal Republic of	59
Germany	
Italy	1

● 38. Having obtained the required majority, the Federal Republic of Germany was elected a Member of the Board.

39. The PRESIDENT pointed out that, under Article VI.D of the Statute, the Members just elected to the Board would hold office from the end of the sixteenth regular session of the General Conference until the end of the eighteenth regular session. He congratulated Argentina, the Federal Republic of Germany, Indonesia, Mexico and Saudi Arabia on their election and thanked the tellers for their work.

#### THE AGENCY'S PROGRAMME FOR 1973-78 AND BUDGET FOR 1973 (GC(XVI)/494)

40. Mr. CROOKS (Australia), Rapporteur of the Programme, Technical and Budget Committee, introduced the Committee's report on the Agency's programme for 1973-78 and budget for 1973 (GC(XVI)/494).

● 41. Draft resolution A (Regular Budget appropriations for 1973), draft resolution B (Operational Budget allocations for 1973) and draft resolution C (The Working Capital Fund in 1973), attached to document GC(XVI)/494, were adopted in turn.

#### SCALE OF MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1973 (GC(XVI)/495)

42. Mr. CROOKS (Australia), Rapporteur of the Programme, Technical and Budget Committee,

introduced the Committee's report on the scale of Members' contributions for 1973 (GC(XVI)/495).

● 43. The draft resolution in that document was adopted.

44. Mr. de LA ROCHEFORDIERE (France) recalled that during the fifteenth regular session the French delegation had explained why the new method of assessing the contributions of Member States did not appear to it to conform to the Agency's Statute. [4]

45. The French delegation had found further reasons for not approving the draft resolution relating to the scale of Members' contributions for 1973; it had in fact found that, as had been noted by other delegations during the Committee's deliberations, a new concept had been introduced, that of adopting participation in the Agency's activities as a criterion for determining the scale of contributions. [5]

46. That new provision, which was not in conformity with the Statute, appeared to be dangerous for the Agency, and had the draft resolution in document GC(XVI)/495 been put to the vote, the French delegation would have cast its vote against its adoption.

#### ELECTIONS TO THE AGENCY'S STAFF PENSION COMMITTEE

47. The PRESIDENT recalled that the Agency's Staff Pension Committee included two members and two alternates elected by the Conference. The members were at present Mr. Bittencourt (Brazil) and Mr. Fodor (Hungary), the alternates being Mr. Lamb (Australia) and Mr. Pahr (Austria). Only Mr. Bittencourt was able to continue to serve on the Committee, so that the election of a new member and two new alternate members by the Conference was required. He suggested that Mr. Beláček (Czechoslovakia) be elected as a member of the Committee, and Mr. Clancy (Australia) and Mr. Taliani (Italy) as alternate members.

● 48. Mr. Beláček (Czechoslovakia) was elected a member of the Agency's Staff Pension Committee; Mr. Clancy (Australia) and Mr. Taliani (Italy) were elected alternate members.

#### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND FOR 1973 (GC(XVI)/487/Rev.4)

49. The PRESIDENT referred the Conference to document GC(XVI)/487/Rev.4 in which the Director General had stated that by 6 p.m. on Friday, 29 September, pledges of voluntary

[4] GC(XV)/COM.1/OR.95, paras 2-4.

[5] See document GC(XVI)/COM.1/OR.98, paras 76-81.

contributions to the General Fund for 1973 had amounted to \$1 619 693. Since then no new pledges had been received. Forty-six Member States were therefore pledged to contribute more than half the target of \$ 3 million.

50. Nevertheless, according to the table contained in the document several Members that had made generous contributions in previous years were not yet in a position to make known their contributions for next year so that there was good reason to believe that by the end of the year the situation would have improved considerably.

#### CLOSING OF THE SESSION

51. Mr. CORKERY (Australia) expressed the gratitude of his delegation to the President of the United Mexican States and to the Mexican Government for extending to the General Conference a warm welcome in keeping with their traditional hospitality.

52. Mr. MANZ (Austria), speaking on behalf of the delegations from Western Europe, congratulated the President of the Conference on the authority and courtesy that he had shown in presiding over the debates, and expressed his hearty appreciation to the Mexican Government and people for the truly generous hospitality they had offered to the participants at the sixteenth regular session.

53. Mr. de CARVALHO (Brazil), speaking on behalf of the delegations of Latin America, said how much they had appreciated the remarkable way the President had directed the business of the session in the illustrious setting of the conference centre placed at the disposal of the General Conference by the Mexican Government. He wished the President of the United Mexican States and the Mexican people every success in the advances they were bringing about with such courage and intelligence.

54. Mr. BERLIS (Canada) speaking in the name of the Members in North America, associated himself with the thanks and good wishes that had been offered to the President of the Conference, the President of the United Mexican States and the Mexican people.

55. He had also noted in particular the skill and competence with which the delicate problems posed by the organization of a session of the General Conference away from Headquarters had been resolved, thanks to the co-operation between the Secretariat and the authorities of the host country.

56. Mr. GABRAH (Ghana) said how much the delegations of Africa and the Middle East had admired the calmness and authority of the President of the Conference in the exercise of a difficult task; it was true that for its work the General Conference had had the benefit of a particularly cordial atmosphere created with exceptional tact by the Mexican authorities.

57. Mr. TRIVEDI (India) declared it an honour to have been asked by the delegations of the Members in Asia to convey their congratulations to the President of the Conference and to express to the Mexican Government their regret at having to leave its admirable country.

58. Mr. ANDRZEJEWSKI (Poland), in the name of the countries of Eastern Europe and of the socialist countries, also expressed thanks to the President and stressed how much the delegations of those countries had been impressed by the rapid progress being made by Mexico in the cultural, scientific and industrial spheres.

59. The PRESIDENT replied that his country appreciated the honour it had received in being able to act as host to the Conference and in seeing one of its own citizens elected as President for the session. As far as he was concerned, the spirit of co-operation shown by the delegates, the assistance of the Director General and the efficiency of the Secretariat had rendered much lighter for him a task that would otherwise have been extremely arduous.

60. It had been particularly pleasant for him to welcome Bangladesh, which had been admitted to Agency membership by acclamation, and it was his hope that that decision would serve to accentuate the Agency's universality.

61. He stressed the importance that had been attributed during the debates to environmental protection and the need for further dissemination of knowledge of the benefits obtainable through the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Also of great importance had been the safeguards agreement negotiated between the five non-nuclear-weapon States Members of EURATOM, EURATOM itself and the Agency, as well as the co-operation agreement between OPANAL and the Agency.

62. Mexico had become a champion of the application of effective safeguards to the uses of nuclear material. There were no safeguards, however, that could be of any avail against the growing despair of less fortunate peoples unless all Governments and all international organizations vigorously attacked the heart of the most elementary problems, which were also the most explosive ones, namely poverty, ignorance and disease.

63. Political independence was empty without economic independence, and the rich countries were not devoting their resources very willingly to the construction of a more just world in which the gap between rich and poor would progressively narrow.

64. In lands geared to production, it was necessary at the same time to take measures against the brutality of the consumer society, which tended to destroy the essential in order to generate the superfluous in the midst of a much larger world where even the barest necessities were out of reach. Thanks to progress in means of communication and education, everyone knew how the privileged lived, and the feelings of

frustration of those less favoured could not but increase.

65. It was that situation which rendered economic development urgent: the rich countries would have to show a better understanding, and give the less advanced countries an opportunity to enjoy a fair share of international trade and share with them the benefits of economic growth.

66. Humanistic culture was gradually losing its dominance. The world of today belonged to the scientists and technocrats, to whom the creative urge was, alas, often foreign, and who cared little for men as human beings.

67. The abyss separating the experimental sciences and the social sciences was a matter of great concern, for man was not finding ways of living in peace with the progress being achieved by his technology.

68. Moreover, to achieve coexistence between nations it was not enough to base relations on a set of standards designed to maintain the type of balance that belonged to the last century, or to establish an illusory balance of nuclear terror.

69. The international law of today must be founded on prosperity; its development should correspond to that of a world gradually becoming unified, thanks to improved means of communication, and witnessing the progressive emergence of a planetary community.

70. Not only nuclear war and nuclear armaments were to be condemned, but also the destruction brought about by conventional arms. The contemporary armaments industry was finding a new clientele; violence gave rise to violence and terrorism to counter-terrorism. The aggressive actions involved were like the links of a single chain, and it was not really possible to discern their causes.

71. He was certain that when delegates returned to their countries and resumed their regular work, they would continue to strive unceasingly for the realization of the aims that constituted the *raison d'être* of the Agency.

72. He concluded by extending the best wishes of the Mexican people and Government to all delegations, which by their presence had added a new page to the history of Mexico and had contributed by their work to the construction of a better world.

73. The DIRECTOR GENERAL assured the President and delegations that the views expressed during the session, both with respect to the progress of nuclear energy in Member States and the content of the Agency's programmes, would be subjected to careful study by the Secretariat. The Secretariat deeply appreciated the valuable contribution made by the President to the work of the session and he (the Director General) wished to ask him to convey to the President of the United Mexican States and the Mexican authorities and people his sincere thanks for the role they had played in making the meetings a success.

74. The PRESIDENT, in accordance with Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure, invited delegates to observe a minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation.

● All present rose and stood in silence for one minute.

75. The PRESIDENT declared the sixteenth regular session of the General Conference closed.

● The meeting rose at 1 p.m.