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Eighteenth 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 eighteenth regular session will open on Monday, 16 September 1974, at 3 p.m. 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 Friday, 6 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 during the month 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 difficulties have been regularly caused by the late delivery of credentials, and Governments are therefore particularly requested to ensure that credentials reach the Director General not later than 9 September, as envisaged by Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure; they must be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

REGISTRATION OF DELEGATIONS

6. It is necessary for each delegation to be registered with the Secretariat. In their own interest delegations are urged to register by Friday, 13 September at the Protocol Office in room 485 or 484 at the Agency's Headquarters at 9 Kaerntnerring. If that proves to be impracticable, a delegation will be able to register on the following Monday morning at the Protocol Office in the Kongresszentrum.

PLEDGES OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND FOR 1975

7. The Board of Governors is recommending the Conference to set a target of \$4.5 million for Members' voluntary contributions to the General Fund for 1975. 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.

ADVANCES IN THE APPLICATION OF NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES

8. Those Governments which foresee that they will wish to inform the Conference of advances made in their countries in the year 1973/74 in applying nuclear energy for peaceful purposes are invited to transmit that information in writing to the Secretariat for circulation to delegations, instead of including it in their own delegates' oral statements in the general debate. Governments which desire to submit such material are requested to do so as soon as possible and in any case before I September; if received after that date it may prove impossible to publish it in time for the session.

DOCUMENTS

- 9. The provisional agenda for the session is in document GC(XVIII)/523. Working documents relating to the various items, as well as information papers for the Conference, will be distributed to Governments in the usual way as they come off the press.
- 10. In order to ensure that the distribution of documents during the session meets individual needs, each delegation should fill out a form specifying its own requirements. Delegations are accordingly urged to visit Documents Distribution in room B. 27 at 9 Kaerntnerring not later than Friday, 13 September to attend to this matter. If that is impracticable, the form may be filled out at the Documents Station at the Kongresszentrum the following Monday morning.
- 11. At the Documents Station each delegation will be provided with a distribution box into which its documents will be put as they come off the press. This box 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; and
 - (c) The first issues of the Conference Journal.

FACILITIES FOR TRANSLATING, TYPING AND REPRODUCING PAPERS

12. The Secretariat will translate and reproduce papers (memoranda, draft resolutions, etc.) that are formally introduced as Conference documents. For the translation, typing and

^[2] Compare the corresponding document of last year - GC(XVII)/511.

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.

13. 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

14. 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

15. The weather in Vienna during the month of September can be fairly mild, with average day temperatures of $14^{\circ}C$ (57°F) and average night temperatures around $9^{\circ}C$ (48°F).

^[3] Secretaries can be engaged for about S 65 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.