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NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION: 22-26 SEPTEMBER 1975

GENERAL COMMITTEE

RECORD OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna, on Thursday, 25 September 1975, at 10.5 a.m.

Agenda item**	Subject	Paragraphs
-	Adoption of the agenda for the meeting	1
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* A provisional version of this document was issued on 26 September 1975.

** GC(XIX)/559.

ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING*

Chairman

Mr. FELICKI (Poland), President of the General Conference

Members

- Mr. de CARVALHO (Brazil), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. UNGERER, representing Mr. HAUNSCHILD (Federal Republic of Germany), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. NOWIN, representing Mr. ETEMAD (Iran), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. KATORI (Japan), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. ARKADIEV, representing Mr. MOROKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. HERZIG, representing Sir John HILL (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. TAPE, representing Mr. SEAMANS (United States of America), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. NKUNIKA, representing Mr. CHIBWE (Zambia), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Miss LIM (Malaysia), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole
- Mr. BEESLEY (Canada), Additional Member
- Mrs. DAVIDOVA, representing Mr. NEUMANN (Czechoslovakia), Additional Member
- Mr. DEMENTHON, representing Mr. GOLDSCHMIDT (France), Additional Member
- Mr. MEHTA, representing Mr. SETHNA (India), Additional Member
- Mr. PITTOL, representing Mr. AROCHA CASTRESANA (Venezuela), Additional Member

Also present

Mr. IVANCHEV (Bulgaria), Chairman of the Board of Governors

Secretariat

Mr. HALL, Deputy Director General for Administration Mr. BOLTON, Secretary of the Committee

^{*} The structure of the General Committee is laid down in Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure. The composition of the Committee at the nineteenth regular session will be found in document GC(XIX)/INF/157/Rev. 2.

THE RECORD

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING (GC(XIX)/GEN/47)

• 1. The agenda proposed for the meeting (GC(XIX)/GEN/47) was adopted.

EXAMINATION OF DELEGATES' CREDENTIALS

2. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that the Director General had received credentials which, in his opinion, were in good and due form as required by Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure for the delegates of 72 Member States. Furthermore, various official communications - letters, telegrams and so forth - had been received by the Secretariat with respect to the status of the delegates of 12 Members; none of those communications, however, constituted credentials satisfying the requirements of Rule 27. Lastly, there were five delegates of Members in respect of whom no credentials or other communications of accreditation whatsoever had been received.

3. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) requested the Chairman to read out the names of those Member States for whose delegates the Director General had not received credentials satisfying the requirements of Rule 27.

4. The CHAIRMAN said that official communications not constituting credentials which satisfied the requirements of Rule 27 had been received with respect to the status of the delegates of Albania, Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Mauritius, Niger, the Philippines, Portugal, Sri Lanka, the United Republic of Cameroon, and Venezuela. No credentials or other communications of accreditation whatsoever had been received in respect of the delegates of Algeria, Costa Rica, Liberia, Peru and Tunisia.

5. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said his delegation was opposed to the acceptance of the credentials of the representatives of the Chilean junta, which had overthrown the legal Government of Chile and was conducting a policy of repression against the Chilean people.

6. Mrs. DAVIDOVA (Czechoslovakia) associated herself with the views expressed by the representative of the Soviet Union.

7. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee take over the general form and structure of the reports which the former Credentials Committee used to submit to the Conference[1]. If the Committee accepted his suggestion, he would prepare a report to the Conference with the help of the Secretariat. As President of the Conference, he foresaw that the report would be taken in plenary meeting immediately after the end of the general debate, probably in the course of the following morning.

• 8. The Committee accepted the Chairman's suggestion.

CLOSING DATE OF THE SESSION AND OPENING DATE OF THE NEXT SESSION (continued[2]) (GC(XIX)/558)

9. The CHAIRMAN, recalling that the Committee had agreed to revert at the current meeting to the matter of arrangements for the Conference's twentieth regular session in 1976 in the context of the Brazilian Government's invitation to the Conference to hold that session in Brazil[3], asked the delegate of Brazil whether he wished to add anything to what was stated in his letter of 20 September 1975, which was before the Committee in document GC(XIX)/558.

10. Mr. de CARVALHO (Brazil) informed the Committee that, if the Conference accepted his Government's invitation, his Government proposed that the twentieth regular session should take place in Rio de Janeiro, starting on a day to be decided upon by the Conference.

Mr. UNGERER (Federal Republic of 11. Germany) said his delegation was of the opinion that the Conference should normally hold its regular sessions in the city where the seat of the Agency was located. As the regular sessions held in Tokyo and Mexico City had shown, however, it was useful if the Conference met from time to time in countries which were engaged in rapid industrialization and embarking on ambitious nuclear programmes; delegates to the Conference could learn a great deal from visiting such countries and the general public in those countries became more aware of the importance of nuclear energy - and of the Agency's role in that field. His delegation therefore recommended acceptance of the invitation extended by the Brazilian Government, which it greatly appreciated.

12. Mr. KATORI (Japan), welcoming the Brazilian Government's invitation, said that the holding of the ninth regular session of the Conference in Tokyo had done much to promote public understanding of nuclear energy matters in Japan, and he was sure that the holding of the twentieth regular session in Brazil would be equally beneficial to that country.

13. Mr. HERZIG (United Kingdom) expressed his Government's appreciation of the invitation extended by the Brazilian Government and said his delegation would join in any consensus to accept it. His delegation felt that it could be useful for delegates to the Conference to meet and acquaint themselves with the nuclear

^[1] See, for example, document GC(XVIII)/538.

^[2] GC(XIX)/GEN/OR. 23, paras 8-13.

^[3] Ibid., paras 12 and 13.

activities in a country like Brazil. Another important consideration was the willingness of the Brazilian Government to defray additional expenditure incurred by the Agency as a result of the Conference's meeting away from the city where the Agency's headquarters were located. As regards administrative difficulties, however, despite what was stated in document GC(XIX)/558, paragraph 2, his delegation could not help but imagine that the holding of the twentieth regular session away from Vienna would cause at least some administrative inconvience for the Secretariat: moreover, it might deter some Member States from sending delegates. As a rule, therefore, the Conference should - in the opinion of his Government - meet in the headquarters city of the Agency.

Mr. TAPE (United States of America), 14 associating himself with the views expressed by the representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom, said that a decision to hold a regular session of the Conference away from the headquarters city of the Agency should always be based on sound reasons, and additional expenditure incurred by the Agency should be defrayed by the host Government. As the reasons for holding next year's session in Brazil were sound and in the light of the Brazilian Government's undertaking in the matter of costs, his delegation would also join in a consensus to accept the Brazilian Government's invitation.

15. Mr. MEHTA (India) welcomed the Brazilian Government's invitation and supported its acceptance.

16. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Committee appreciated the Brazilian Government's

invitation and was in favour of recommending the Conference to accept it.

17. It was so agreed.

The CHAIRMAN went on to point out that, 18 in connection with the matter of the opening date of next year's session, the current session had started on a Monday, in keeping with a widely held view that it was desirable as a general rule to aim at completing the work of a regular session within a week. If the Conference met in Brazil next year, however, it might be better for the session to start on a Tuesday, to facilitate the travel arrangements of delegates and the holding of a meeting of the Board immediately before the opening of the session. He accordingly proposed that the Committee recommend that the twentieth regular session of the Conference begin on Tuesday, 21 September 1976.

• 19. It was so agreed.

20. The CHAIRMAN said that, with the Committee's concurrence, he would present its recommendation concerning the opening date of next year's session and the recommendation that it be held in Rio de Janeiro orally to the Conference.

21. Mr. UNGERER (Federal Republic of Germany), referring to the discussion which had taken place during the Committee's previous meeting[4], asked the Chairman whether he thought that the work of the current session could be completed by the following day, Friday.

22. The CHAIRMAN replied that, in his opinion, unless unforeseen circumstances arose it could.

• The meeting rose at 10.40 a.m.

^[4] Ibid., paras 9-11.