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TWENTY-SECOND REGULAR SESSION: 18-22 SEPTEMBER 1978

GENERAL COMMITTEE

RECORD OF THE TWENTY-NINTH MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna, on Monday, 18 September 1978, at 5.20 p.m.

CONTENTS

rovisional agenda**		Paragraphs
-	Adoption of the agenda for the meeting	1
3	Arrangements for the Conference	2 - 16
	(a) Adoption of the agenda and allocation of items for initial discussion	2 - 5
	(b) Closing date of the session	6 – 8
	(c) The twenty-third (1979) regular session	9 – 16

^{*/} A provisional version of this document was issued on 21 September 1978.

**/ GC(XXII)/595.

ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING*

Chai man

Mr. MALU wa KALENGA (Zaire), President of the General Conference

Members

- Mr. BENNINI (Algeria), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. GEORGE (Australia). Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. CARTER (Canada), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. OTALORA RAMOS (Colombia), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. AL-KITAL, representing Mr. AL-MASHAT (Iraq), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. NAKAMURA, representing Mr. KATORI (Japan), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. FELICKI (Poland), 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. GILLON (Belgium). Chairman of the Committee of the Whole
- Mr. HOFFMANN, representing Mr. HAUNSCHILD (Federal Republic of Germany),
 Additional Member
- Mr. RÖHNSCH, representing Mr. SITZLACK (German Democratic Republic),
 Additional Member
- Mr. RATHORE, representing Mr. SETHNA (India), Additional Member
- Mr. McGILCHRIST (Jamaica), Additional Member
- Mr. EROFEEV, representing Mr. MOROZOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics),
 Additional Member
- Mr. KIRK, representing Mr. MYERS (United States of America), Additional Member

Secretariat

- Mr. HALL, Deputy Director General, Department of Administration
- Mr. EDWARDS. Director. Legal Division
- Mr. LE GUELTE. Secretary of the Committee

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING (GC(XXII)/GEN/52)

- 1. The agenda proposed for the meeting (GC(XXII)/GEN/52) was adopted.

 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONFERENCE
- (a) ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS FOR INITIAL DISCUSSION (GC(XXII)/595)
- 2. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> suggested that the General Committee recommend to the General Conference that the Agenda for the session should comprise all the items listed in the Provisional Agenda (GC(XXII)/595).
- 3. It was so decided.
- 4. The Committee decided to recommend the General Conference to approve the allocation of agenda items for initial discussion suggested in document GC(XXII)/595.
- 5. With respect to the time-table and the order in which the items should be considered, the <u>CHAIRMAN</u> pointed out that in the past the General Committee had left it to the President of the General Conference to make the necessary arrangements in consultation with the Secretariat, so that the time at the delegates disposal could be used as effectively as possible.
- (b) CLOSING DATE OF THE SESSION
- 6. The <u>CHATRMAN</u> recalled that in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure, the Committee had to make a recommendation to the General Conference concerning the closing date of the session. The general debate would probably continue until Friday. Thus, the session might be closed during the afternoon of Friday if the Committee of the Whole had completed its work by the morning of that day.
- 7. He took it, therefore, that the Committee authorized him to recommend to the General Conference that it fix Friday afternoon as the closing date of the session.
- 8. It was so decided.
- (c) THE TWENTY-THIRD (1979) REGULAR SESSION (GC(XXII)/603)
- 9. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> recalled that it was customary for the Committee to present to the General Conference a recommendation concerning the opening date of the next regular session. At the previous session the Indian Government had offered to act as host to the twenty-third (1979) regular session of the

^{*/} The composition of the General Committee at the twenty-second regular session will be found in document GC(XXII)/INF/179/Rev.2.

General Conference in New Delhi. That invitation had been officially confirmed on 13 August 1978 by a letter from the Indian Minister of External Affairs addressed to the Director General, the text of which was reproduced in document GC(XXII)/603.

- 10. Mr. RATHORE (India) confirmed that the Indian Government would assume responsibility for the additional expenditure involved in holding the session outside Vienna. He also said that the Indian delegation would make a further announcement about the invitation in the plenary session.
- 11. In reply to a question by Mr. CARTER (Canada), Mr. HALL (Deputy Director General for Administration) stated that the General Conference in 1979 would meet not in September, as was the tradition, but in December. The reasons were as follows: the climatic conditions would be better; the work involved in preparing the conference centre where the session was to be held would take some time and when it had been completed the centre would be used for a United Nations conference arranged for November.
- 12. Mr. HERZIG (United Kingdom) thanked the Indian Government for its invitation and for its offer to assume responsibility for the additional expenditure.
- 13. Mr. KIRK (United States of America) said his Government would prefer that meetings be scheduled less frequently away from Headquarters since it always involved additional expenditure; however, since the Indian Government had given an assurance that it would defray that expenditure, the invitation should be gratefully accepted.
- 14. Mr. NAKAMURA (Japan) also expressed the gratitude of his delegation to the Indian Government.
- 15. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> said he took it that the Committee wished to recommend the General Conference to accept the Indian Government's invitation and he asked the Indian delegation to convey to its Government the gratitude of the General Conference. On behalf of the Committee, he would recommend verbally to the General Conference to fix 4 December 1979 as the opening date of the twenty-third regular session.
- 16. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.