



GC(XXVI)/OR.242 May 1983* GENERAL Distr. ENGLISH

TWENTY-SIXTH REGULAR SESSION: 20-24 SEPTEMBER 1982

RECORD OF THE TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY-SECOND PLENARY MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna, on Wednesday, 22 September 1982, at 3.10 p.m.

> President: Mr. SIAZON (Philippines) later: Mr. NIMPUNO (Indonesia)

CONTENTS

Item of the agenda**		Paragraphs
7 (General debate and annual report for 1981	1 - 101
5	Statements by the delegates of:	
	Cuba Bulgaria Philippines Austria Ecuador Norway Chile Syrian Arab Republic Hungary Viet Nam Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic Sweden Romania Mongolia Islamic Republic of Iran Commission of the European Communities	$\begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$
<u>*</u> / A provisional	. version of this document was issued on 12 Octob	er 1982.

The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document GC(XXVI)/INF/208/Rev.4.

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GC(XXVI)/674.

GENERAL DEBATE AND ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1981 (GC(XXVI)/664 and Corr.1) (continued)

Mr. CABALLERO (Cuba), welcoming Namibia as a Member of the Agency, 1. said that in the 25 years of the Agency's existence its activities had developed in parallel with the peaceful uses of atomic energy. Unfortunately, because of the current economic crisis the poor countries were becoming still poorer and more dependent. Furthermore, tensions and conflicts were continuing, as was shown particularly by the aggressions against Angola, Mozambique, the peoples of south-east Asia and especially by the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. At its twenty-fifth session the General Conference had had to adopt a resolution calling upon Israel to comply with the provisions of United Nations Security Council resolution 487. Unfortunately, not only had Israel done nothing of the sort but no effective measures had been taken against that country; accordingly, the General Conference should, at its current session, adopt the necessary sanctions. Although the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes was the essential and permanent objective of the Agency, the threat posed by nuclear weapons was regrettably becoming more acute in the world, notably because of continued insistence on manufacturing the neutron bomb, the installation of tactical nuclear weapons in Western Europe and the steps taken by countries like Israel and South Africa to obtain nuclear weapons. Under those conditions, it was difficult to expect any strengthening of the non-proliferation regime.

2. The United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, to be held in 1983, and the deliberations of the Agency's Committee on Assurances of Supply would undoubtedly pave the way for the desired international consensus on the transfer of nuclear technology to developing countries. It was necessary to create a climate of confidence between supplier and consumer countries, and for that purpose the two categories of countries must reconcile their different priorities, namely the need for guarantees relating to the supply of technology, on the one hand, and the need for safeguards on the use of that technology on the other.

3. Cuba lacked its own energy resources and had to increase its electricity generating capacity. Nuclear power should become a reality under the 1986-1990 five-year plan. Preliminary work on construction of the country's first nuclear power plant was continuing and the necessary steps connected with legislation,

regulation, radiological protection and training in various peaceful nuclear applications had been or would soon be taken. With regard to training, an evaluation had been made of the Agency's technical assistance projects within the framework of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Cuba was participating with States Members of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) in studies on 440-MW WWER power reactors. At the same time, it was continuing its collaboration with the Agency, which had taken the form, notably, of discussions and negotiations in 1982 on the subsidiary arrangements for the two safeguards agreements concluded between Cuba and the Agency in 1980.

4. His delegation wished to congratulate the Agency, on the occasion of its 25th anniversary, on the work it had carried out in the realm of technical co-operation with developing countries. It welcomed the measures taken by the new Director General, in particular the organization of courses to train candidates from developing countries as safeguards inspectors.

5. <u>Mr. PANDEV</u> (Bulgaria) recalled, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Agency, its achievements in promoting international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the very important role it was playing to strengthen the nuclear weapons non-proliferation regime and to exercise effective international control over the use of nuclear energy and technology.

6. The international situation had deteriorated because of the actions of some Western militarist groups. The Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the barbarous extermination of the Palestinian people had made it all the more difficult to find a peaceful solution of the conflict in the Middle East and, in that context, the struggle for disarmament took on ever greater importance. His Government supported specific measures designed to reduce the threat of nuclear war, and in particular the undertaking given by the Soviet Union at the United Nations General Assembly's second Special Session on Disarmament that it would not be the first to use nuclear weapons.

7. The decision by the USSR to place under Agency safeguards a part of its peaceful nuclear facilities contributed to the strengthening of the Agency's safeguards system and was accordingly conducive to the maintenance and consolidation of peace in the world.

8. Bulgaria was participating in the Agency's safeguards system by helping the safeguards inspectors to carry out their tasks, by taking part in the improvement of methods and equipment used for that purpose, by making available its nuclear facilities to the Agency for the conduct of experiments, by providing training for future inspectors and so on. It firmly believed that international co-operation was essential in that field.

9. Bulgaria noted with satisfaction the results obtained by the Agency in safeguards and technical assistance and also the work on the development of the nuclear power industry, on nuclear safety and on environmental protection. The Bulgarian delegation approved the priority accorded in the Agency's draft programme for 1983-88 to safeguards, nuclear safety and technical assistance, which were of great importance for the maintenance of peace and for the economic growth of nations. It endorsed the Agency's draft budget for 1983 and hoped that efforts would be made to reduce non-productive expenditure and administrative costs. His country, which regularly made a contribution to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund, considered that such contributions should in future retain their voluntary character and be made in national currency. With regard to the question of amending Article VI.A.2 of the Statute, he was of the opinion that the Board of Governors, as constituted at present, was conducting its work with efficiency and that any change in its composition required more thorough consideration.

10. Under the Bulgarian nuclear power programme, the Kozloduj nuclear power station was operating with four WWER-440 units with an aggregate capacity of 1760 MW(e) and providing 26% of the electricity generated in the country. It had operated satisfactorily for eight years with a high availability factor. A fifth unit, of 1000 MW(e), was to be commissioned in 1985 and a sixth unit of the same capacity in 1990, in which year the power station would be completed.

With the nuclear power station under construction on the banks of the Danube, which would have a capacity of 1000 MW(e), Bulgaria would by 1990 have a nuclear capacity of 4760 MW(e), accounting for about 40% of the country's electricity production.

11. The work carried out by CMEA and the Agency in nuclear and radiological safety was of great help in the construction and operation of nuclear power plants. Moreover, thanks to its co-operation within the framework of CMEA with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, Bulgaria was applying nuclear techniques in industry, agriculture and medicine. Co-operation with CMEA Member States had made it possible to develop 1000-MW(e) WWER units and large fast reactors. Bulgaria was actively participating in the Agency's activities, notably in the International Nuclear Information System, in the network of secondary standards dosimetry laboratories and in the Agency's research programme. Bulgarian experts were taking part in the meetings of working groups as well as in seminars and symposia organized by the Agency.

12. <u>Mr. BARTOLOME</u> (Philippines) said that without the Agency's assistance the Philippines would possibly not have launched a nuclear power programme at all and would not have become one of the nine developing countries having a nuclear power plant under construction or in operation. Unfortunately, the high costs and the technical difficulties associated with the introduction of nuclear power had dissuaded Philippine policy-makers from considering the construction of a second power plant. However, the Agency could help to bring about a radical change in that attitude. Measures such as the establishment of binding international standards, providing the public with more information on radioactive wastes and developing more effective Agency safeguards would shorten licensing and construction periods and thus improve the competitiveness of nuclear power plants.

13. Since it expected its first nuclear power station to go into operation in 1985, the Philippines attached great importance to nuclear safety. In that connection it would certainly benefit from the services of the Agency, especially from the Nuclear Safety Standards (NUSS) programme, and considered that the Agency should intensify its work aimed at disseminating information about abnormal occurrences in nuclear power plants all over the world. It should also implement the expert group recommendations concerning an emergency assistance programme, with emphasis on a regional approach.

14. The dumping of radioactive wastes in the Atlantic had recently given rise to reactions in Western countries which indicated that more stringent standards should be adopted. Under the London Dumping Convention the Agency should be entrusted with responsibility for verifying the environmental assessment reports prepared by national and regional authorities before dumping operations were authorized. As an archipelago with a population greatly dependent on marine resources, the Philippines considered that dumping in the ocean should be permitted only as a last resort, preference being given to permanent land storage with appropriate monitoring. A regional approach to radioactive waste management was desirable, and a regional centre would be very attractive to the Philippines and to other countries with small nuclear power programmes. In that connection, the Philippines favoured an international consensus on a policy of regional reprocessing rather than indefinite storage of spent fuel.

15. As a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), his country wished to remind the other parties of the basic trade-off in the Treaty, namely that in exchange for accepting full-scope safeguards all parties to the Treaty must have full access to nuclear material, equipment and technology. There was need today for a clearer definition, perhaps under an international agreement, of the full extent of the rights to fuel cycle services which had been guaranteed under NPT. At the same time, the measures related to the special needs of developing countries should be implemented more actively.

16. The Agency's technical assistance and co-operation programme was a success; however, the Philippines strongly believed that the Agency should concentrate on projects with higher multiplier effects. It was therefore in favour of a multi-year approach and of international projects, and welcomed the continuation of the multi-year financing scheme. The Regional Co-operative Agreement for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology among Member States in Asia and the Pacific was an example of the multiplier effects which the Agency's technical co-operation could have. From the point of view of international co-operation, the 25 years of the Agency's existence gave cause for satisfaction and, in spite of the present problems, his delegation was optimistic that the future would be as successful as the past had been. In conclusion, he welcomed the admission of Namibia to the Agency.

17. <u>Mr. MUSSI</u> (Austria) congratulated the delegation of Namibia on taking its place in the Agency and expressed his best wishes for Namibia's participation in the work of the organization.

18. The global energy situation continued to be worrying and it was obvious that the world would have to develop all available energy sources. The difficulties confronting the nuclear power programmes of Member States were both political and technical in nature. The political difficulties were associated with public acceptance, which itself depended on answers to certain technical questions, the most important of which were safeguards, safety and waste management.

19. As to safeguards, the military attack carried out the preceding year on a reactor of a Member State had created new problems. Moreover, casting doubt on the efficiency of Agency safeguards did not contribute to international security. Although Austria was opposed to any increase in the budgets of international organizations, it supported the restructuring of the Department of Safeguards even if that involved additional expenditure. Furthermore, it expressed the hope that a solution would soon be found to the problem of safeguarding reactors with on-load refuelling. The principle of non-proliferation had always been of primary importance in Austrian foreign policy. For that reason, his country appreciated the efforts made in the Agency's Committee on Assurances of Supply (CAS) and in the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. His delegation hoped that the work

of CAS would provide the basis for an early improvement in the supply situation; however, any such improvement must not be at the expense of international security.

20. As regards nuclear safety, Austria had always taken a great interest in technical review of the Agency's safety standards, especially as that offered an opportunity to Austrian experts, in the absence of nuclear power in Austria, to keep abreast of developments in international safety standards.

21. Waste management was at present probably the most important problem of nuclear power. Considering that the absence of final storage facilities was delaying nuclear power programmes, he wondered whether the creation of an international demonstration facility, as had been suggested by the Director General, would not be a meaningful step. With a view to reassuring public opinion in the country where such a facility was built, it might be necessary to provide an assurance that it would be used only to store waste from that country. The necessary international co-operation would include participation in the financing and in the technical study of that facility in return for data resulting from its operation.

22. As for the other important task of the Agency, namely technical co-operation, his Government was pledging for 1983, subject to parliamentary approval, a voluntary contribution of US \$136 800, corresponding to its base rate of assessment, and representing an increase of US \$21 600 over the 1982 figure.

23. Referring to item 8 of the agenda, he recalled the stand taken by his Government the preceding year, namely that the Israel1 attack on the Iraqi research reactor was in itself, from the moral and political points of view, a sufficient reason for suspension; however, the provisions of the Agency's Statute and Austria's constant support for the principle of universality in international organizations made it hesitate.

24. On the subject of the trans-frontier aspects of nuclear power stations, he recalled that at the Conference session held in New Delhi in 1979, Austria had made a proposal with a view to facilitating co-operation between neighbouring countries in that field. He had pleasure in announcing that negotiations for an agreement between the Republic of Austria and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on questions of mutual interest in connection with nuclear facilities were nearing completion and that similar negotiations had been initiated with Yugoslavia.

25. As representative of the host State, he was sure that the very fruitful co-operation between the Agency and his country would continue. He was pleased to note that the basic agreement concerning the work of the Agency's laboratories at Seibersdorf had been signed by the Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Director General. He congratulated the Secretariat on the Agency's achievements over the past 25 years.

Mr. $\mathtt{PI\widetilde{N}EIROS}$ RIVERA (Ecuador) said that in its development policy his 26. Government attached high priority to the programme for scientific and technical development: it was particularly interested in all applications of nuclear techniques, in prospecting for radioactive minerals and in the establishment of a nuclear research centre. The Agency had made an important contribution to that programme. However, it was essential to increase technical assistance to the third-world countries in order to provide them with the necessary base for the development of nuclear energy. At the same time, he was convinced that technical assistance and co-operation should be not only quantitative but also qualitative and should bring the maximum benefit to the recipient countries. The Agency could and should act as a catalyst and adviser in technical assistance matters and not merely as a go-between. Otherwise, the aid provided might not yield the benefits expected from it. The Agency should, therefore, strengthen its programming and evaluation systems and make critical analyses of the impact of technical assistance on the recipient countries so that it could be periodically adapted to their changing national and regional requirements.

27. The developing countries were more and more convinced that the peaceful application of nuclear energy was essential to a more rapid development of their economies. The Agency thus had the historic opportunity to narrow the gap between the industrialized and the developing countries, and its role was becoming even more important as a result of the world energy crisis. It was necessary to strengthen research programmes dealing with the applications of nuclear energy, not only as a source of electricity but also in health, agriculture and industry.

28. His country had the sovereign right to determine entirely independently its programme for the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, though it was aware that it had to count on international support. In that respect,

Latin America, like the rest of the third world, had demonstrated sufficient international responsibility not to divert its installations and fissile materials to military purposes. Through the Tlatelolco Treaty, Latin America had set up the first, and so far the only, denuclearized zone in the world. It was to be regretted that, despite the continuing recommendations of the United Nations General Assembly, other regions had not established areas free of nuclear weapons. Such a move would effectively contribute to world peace and security since the use of atomic energy in those areas would be permitted only for strictly peaceful purposes. The Government of the only nuclear Power on the American continent had ratified Additional Protocol I of the Tlatelolco Treaty in November 1981. France was expected shortly to submit its territories in Latin America to the denuclearized regime by also ratifying that protocol. Those nuclear-weapon States would thus have undertaken to support the decision of the Latin American peoples to live in peace by removing the dangers inherent in the use of nuclear weapons.

29. Through the Agency's efforts, his country had made great progress in dosimetry and in the applications of nuclear energy. His authorities had launched a thermoluminescence dosimetry project and a multi-year project for the establishment of secondary standards dosimetry laboratories. Radioimmunoassay techniques were being applied in the medical field, and in agriculture use was being made of results from research into water and nutritional deficiency in crops and low fertility in cattle. The Agency had also assisted with applications of nondestructive testing in industry. At the beginning of the year, Ecuador had launched a uranium prospecting project with support from UNDP. It was hoped that his country would have a nuclear research centre in the near future. However, Ecuador was not confining its activities to the national plane but was seeking to implement regional projects for the application of nuclear techniques jointly with the other countries in the Andean region. 30. <u>Mr. OFSTAD</u> (Norway) said that his delegation endorsed the draft programme for 1983-88 and draft budget for 1983. Also, subject to parliamentary approval, it could accept the proposed target for voluntary contributions to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund for 1983. In general, his country was more interested in the Agency's regulatory activities than in its promotional programmes. However, the Regular Budget and the Technical Assistance and Cooperation Fund provided a satisfactory balance between those two types of activity. In view of the financial problems faced by Member States, the Agency should pursue its efforts towards rationalization and carefully evaluate the necessary expenditures.

31. The work of the Committee on Assurances of Supply was progressing as quickly as possible. It was essential that the exporting and importing countries cooperate in defining rules to govern the export of nuclear equipment and materials. All nuclear exports must satisfy certain conditions. The first was obvious: exported items should not be used to produce nuclear explosive devices. If more States were able to manufacture such devices, regional and international destabilization and tension would ensue. The second condition was that all importing countries should accept full-scope Agency safeguards on all their present and future nuclear activities. World-wide acceptance of effective non-proliferation measures would increase the security of all States, promote the predictability of nuclear supplies and strengthen international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Once those conditions had been fulfilled, all States party to NPT would be obliged to participate to the fullest extent in the international exchange of nuclear materials and equipment.

32. Among the industrialized countries, Norway was favourably situated in terms of energy resources: it was an exporter of petroleum products and could still increase its electricity production for many years through hydro power. However, the energy needs of mankind as a whole could be satisfied only by making greater use of nuclear energy. It should be up to each country to decide how it would satisfy its own energy demands. An importing country could hardly embark

on an intensive nuclear programme without a guarantee of future supplies. There should be one set of irrevocable rules for safeguarded exports for all countries which had fulfilled the necessary conditions, and the Agency should play a key role in administering such a system.

33. He had been pleased to learn that in 1981, as in previous years, the Agency had not detected any anomalies that would indicate diversion of a significant amount of nuclear materials. He had also noted with satisfaction that the safeguards effort had increased considerably. The safeguards system was one of the most important instruments of international peace and security. Viewed in that context, the costs of safeguards were modest. Shortcomings in safeguards were, to a large extent, due to neglect by the countries in which safeguards were being applied. If States continued to close material balances and submit their reports late, confidence in the safeguards system would be eroded. Efforts should be made to increase the efficiency of safeguards, and he supported the greater use of staff from the General Service category for inspection purposes.

34. He had studied the arguments for and against an amendment to Article VI.A.2 of the Statute. It was important that Member States should be satisfied that they could be represented on the Board. It would be desirable for the Board to continue considering the matter in order to reach a consensus on representation without the need for an amendment to Article VI. He would hesitate to support an increase in the Board's membership, which was already large, lest its efficiency be impaired.

35. <u>Mr. BRADY ROCHE</u> (Chile) declared that the Agency should remain true to its principles and disregard political contingencies. The principle of universality was the only way of ensuring that the benefits of the Agency's work reached all the regions of the world, and that principle should be respected. The Agency should remain essentially a technical body, in whose activities all Member States participated without discrimination.

36. It was essential that the Agency continue to ensure the strict, impartial and rational application of safeguards while at the same time receiving the closest possible co-operation from Member States, which had to provide the facilities needed for installing the means of verification. Chile had always demonstrated its confidence in the safeguards system by submitting to it voluntarily. 37. the Chilean Government believed that it was important to give some impetus to the work of the Committee on Assurances of Supply (CAS). The Committee should elaborate a mechanism which would make it possible to obtain, independently of the interplay of political factors and in cases of force majeure, the necessary fuel in the quantity and at the place desired. Chile hoped that CAS, by the elaboration of unambiguous methods and standards, would contribute to maintaining and even increasing the confidence of States in the Agency.

38. The Agency should also examine very carefully the methods used for treatment and storage of radioactive wastes produced by the countries using nuclear power. In particular, Chile believed that a body should be entrusted with the administration of such wastes, not only from the verification point of view but also from that of the elaboration of standards for final disposal. So far, that problem had been left to the discretion of the countries concerned, but if the nuclear power industry was expected to develop apace, it would be necessary to begin to concentrate on the problem before it became serious and difficult to solve as a result of the number of interests at stake.

39. In its work the Chilean Nuclear Energy Commission had tried to determine what would be the most interesting areas of nuclear science and had focused on problems associated with the production, transfer and transport of fertile, fissile and radioactive materials and, in general, on the peaceful uses of atomic energy. In particular, Chile had set up projects related to agriculture, mining, health and industry and, with the co-operation of the Agency, had put into operation a secondary standards dosimetry laboratory. In gratitude for the assistance provided by the Agency and donor countries, Chile had put all its installations and its scientists and technicians at the disposal of Member States wishing to avail themselves of their services.

40. Finally, the Chilean delegation wished to comment on two further aspects of the functioning of the Agency. It had noted with satisfaction that the principle of geographical distribution had been given due weight in the recruitment of Agency staff during the past year. Although the desires of developing countries had not been totally satisfied, it should be recognized that progress had been made, and his delegation hoped that would continue. With regard to the Agency's installations, the Chilean delegation believed that it should be possible for representatives of all Member countries, whether they were Members of the Board of Governors or not, to visit them.

41. <u>Mr. HADDAD</u> (Syrian Arab Republic) recalled that during its twenty-fifth regular session the General Conference had adopted resolution GC(XXV)/RES/381 by which it had decided to consider at the present session the suspension of Israel's rights and privileges as a Member of the Agency if by then it had not respected the provisions of resolution 487 of the Security Council, which strongly condemned Israel's attack on the Iraqi nuclear research centre and considered it a flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter and of international norms of conduct. The same resolution required that Israel submit its nuclear installations to Agency safeguards. That resolution had remained a dead letter.

42. Since then Israel had shown remorseless contempt for international norms of conduct and did not hesitate to threaten those who opposed its policy of aggression. At a press conference held in 1981, its Prime Minister had stated that Israel would destroy any atomic centre situated on an Arab territory if it judged it to be dangerous, and he had addressed similar declarations to Libya and Pakistan. Israel, the only State with a nuclear potential in the Middle East, cast the opinion of other States to the winds. The whole world was now becoming aware of the danger represented by that new type of Nazism, as was demonstrated by the unanimous condemnation of the barbarous invasion of Lebanon by Israel. The whole world had criticized the savage crimes committed against civilians and the total destruction of inhabited houses. Although some of its members maintained friendly relations with Israel, the Security Council had taken the steps incumbent upon it by virtue of humanitarian considerations and the United Nations Charter in adopting resolutions 508 and 509, which ordered Israel to withdraw behind the recognized borders of Lebanon. As usual, Israel had not responded to international demands and had denounced them.

43. A massacre unprecedented in contemporary history was now being witnessed, committed solely for criminal purposes and motivated only by the desire to kill the innocent. That massacre was in no way justified after the departure of the Palestinian fighters from Beirut thanks to American mediation and under the safeguards of the international force which ensured that the Israeli army would not penetrate into West Beirut. Israel had violated that agreement without any GC(XXVI)/OR.242 page 15

respect for the countries which were contributing to its implementation, had occupied the west part of Beirut, had attacked Palestinian refugee camps and had killed thousands of innocent women, children and old people. The objectives of the Agency were "to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace". Consequently, the Syrian Arab Republic believed that a State based on aggression should no longer be one of its Members. It should penalize Israel in accordance with its Statute, for otherwise Article XIX would be rendered entirely meaningless. The General Conference should boldly assert its rights and, in the interests of humanity, adopt a moral resolution suspending the exercise by Israel of its privileges and rights as a Member of the Agency in order to give that State a well-deserved lesson.

44. With regard to technical assistance, the Syrian Arab Republic believed that the Agency should provide more assistance to countries which were still at the initial stages of using atomic energy than to relatively advanced countries. In that way it would help to shrink the differences between developing countries. Moreover, it was necessary to examine urgently means of financing technical assistance from the Regular Budget in amounts comparable with those allocated to operational activities or safeguards; voluntary contributions could then be devoted to financing research contracts.

45. In addition, the Syrian Arab Republic wished the composition of the Board of Governors to be re-examined. It considered that it would be equitable in respect of the under-represented groups for Governors to be elected under a system of proportional representation, and hoped that the General Conference would adopt a just resolution in that regard.

46. <u>Mr. OSZTROVSZKY</u> (Hungary) said that the Agency had, in the twenty-five years of its existence, successfully followed the difficult path which led to the realization of the objectives laid down in its Statute via the development of nuclear energy for the benefit of mankind and the strengthening of the nuclear weapons non-proliferation regime. By means of its technical assistance programme

and its system of scientific and technical documentation in particular, the Agency had helped many countries to set up - and others, including Hungary, to develop - peaceful applications of nuclear energy in different spheres, such as medicine, agriculture, industry and electricity production.

47. The activities of the Agency aimed at promoting exchanges of experience in the construction and operation of nuclear power stations, treatment and storage of radioactive wastes and nuclear safety also deserved emphasis. With regard to non-proliferation, the Agency's safeguards system was operating satisfactorily despite a number of problems. In view of its experience in safeguards, Hungary believed that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the safeguards agreements concluded under that Treaty strengthened confidence between countries, did not in any way hamper technical progress and contributed to the development of international nuclear trade.

48. The present session of the General Conference was taking place at a time when the international situation was deteriorating and proponents of the cold war were becoming active again. Policies of embargo, boycotting and discrimination hampered the implementation of plans for the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy. Reinforcement of the non-prolfieration regime depended on increasing the number of countries which had signed and ratified NPT. It was a cause for concern that certain countries such as Israel and South Africa, which were technically and economically in a position to construct nuclear weapons and which openly conducted a policy of aggression, remained outside the framework of NPT agreements.

49. With regard to Hungary's nuclear power programme, a first 440-MW(e) unit had been commissioned during the current year in Hungary's first nuclear power station. By 1985, 13% of the country's electricity was expected to be of nuclear origin, and that fraction would reach 22% in 1990. After the construction of four units of the WWER-440 type it was planned to construct power stations with WWER-1000 reactors. In 1979 a multilateral co-operation agreement had been concluded between the European member countries of the CMEA and Yugoslavia for the production and supply of equipment for nuclear power stations during the period 1981-1990. In the context of that agreement, Hungary was manufacturing items such as fuel element handling machines and special water purification devices. It was also participating in the work of CMEA member countries on internal diagnostics of WWER reactors and on the use of acoustic techniques for testing the containment and primary circuit.

50. A special section of the Hungarıan five-year plan concerned the safety of nuclear power station operation. As a result of work carried out in its research institutes, Hungary had fitted a monitoring and control system to a 10-MW research reactor provided by the Soviet Union for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. A programme involving the construction of a cyclotron designed for research in physics and the application of nuclear methods in medicine was currently in progress and was receiving technical assistance from the Agency. Satisfactory results had been obtained with the sterilization of foodstuffs on a semi-industrial scale, and during 1982 Hungary had set up a special plant concerned with the application of the method on the industrial scale.

51. Over the past twenty-five years Hungary had always played an active part in the Agency's work; its scientists had participated in the conferences, seminars, courses and study tours organized by the Agency and had made successful use of the INIS system and of the information distributed under the NUSS programme. Hungary paid its contribution each year to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund, provided the Agency with instruments and measuring equipment used in nuclear medicine, and made available every year four fellowships of twelve months' duration. It also benefited from the Agency's technical assistance in certain fields. Hungary realized the importance of the Agency's technical assistance and co-operation programme and would in 1983 make a contribution in national currency totalling 2 million forints.

52. <u>Mr. NGUYEN DINH TU</u> (Viet Nam) extended warm congratulations to Namibia on the occasion of its admission to the Agency.

53. Twenty-five years earlier, at the height of the cold war, the Agency had been set up with the objective of accelerating and increasing the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world. During those twenty-five years, it had obtained some remarkable results. Nevertheless, much remained to be done. The developing countries, which represented the majority of mankind and which possessed abundant but insufficiently exploited natural resources, urgently needed to increase their scientific and technical knowledge and to develop their economies in order to raise the standard of living of their peoples. They were all anxious to apply the results of nuclear research in industry and everyday life. That was a justifiable aspiration and the Agency should try and help put it into practice.

54. After thirty years of continuous struggle to regain its independence and freedom, Viet Nam was today more anxious than anyone to live in peace in order to eliminate the after-effects of war, reconstruct its economy and improve the living conditions of its people. It was in the process of gradually introducing the use of radioisotopes and ionizing radiation into various branches of industry. It had obtained valuable help from the Soviet Union, from other Socialist countries, and from friendly countries throughout the world for training and for purchasing equipment for laboratories and research centres. Viet Nam greatly appreciated the aid which the Agency had provided for the development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy, and in particular for training and for providing expert services and equipment.

55. It was the constant policy of Viet Nam to defend international peace and security, to counter the dangers of a nuclear war provoked by imperialistic and reactionary forces and to use the atom in the cause of peace. The Vietnamese Government had therefore decided on 44 June 1982 to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. In that connection, there were two particularly important points that needed to be made. Viet Nam welcomed and respected every effective international measure aimed at gradually eliminating the dangers of a nuclear war, and particularly those which guaranteed the security of

non-nuclear-weapon countries. It believed that, in accordance with the aims and principles enunciated in the preamble to NPT and in the Charter of the United Nations, every State should have the benefit of favourable and non-discriminatory conditions for the furtherance of its nuclear research activities and for the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

56. Viet Nam was in favour of reducing rather than creating international tensions, in favour of negotiation rather than confrontation. It looked forward to the start of serious negotiations on disarmament and welcomed with enthusiasm the recent statement by the Soviet Union that it undertook not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

57. The Vietnamese delegation once again asked the General Conference to take sanctions against Israel which, in defiance of international law, had attacked the Iraqi nuclear research centre and had recently again violated the Charter of the United Nations by waging against the Lebanon a war of aggression followed by massacres of the civilian Palestinian population.

58. Viet Nam, a partisan of peace, friendship and co-operation amongst peoples, was trying to help establish a zone of peace, stability and co-operation in South-East Asia.

59. <u>Mr. NYEMETS</u> (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the principal aims of the Agency were to combat the proliferation of nuclear weapons, to raise barriers against those who were tempted to make use of weapons of mass destruction and to do all it could to ensure that nuclear energy served peaceful purposes alone. The current international situation was marked by a tendency on the part of the United States to return to the arms race and it was essential that concrete measures should be taken to improve the world political climate and to reduce the threat of nuclear war which was hanging over all States. The undertaking by the Soviet Union not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and to place part of its peaceful nuclear installations under Agency safeguards represented an important historical step. The statement by the Soviet Union at the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe was also of great significance. If the threat of nuclear war was to be removed, it was essential to halt the arms race and to prevent countries such as South Africa, Israel and Pakistan, which made no attempt to hide their ambitions, from acquiring nuclear weapons.

60. The recent attack carried out by Israel against Lebanon had once again demonstrated the aggressive policy followed by Tel Aviv. At the last session of the General Conference, the bombardment of the Iraqi nuclear research centre by Israeli forces had been condemned. Such acts of State terrorism threatened international peace and security and represented an attack on the Agency's safeguards system. The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic firmly condemned Israel's refusal to place its nuclear installations under Agency safeguards and its aggressive policy in general. The Ukrainian delegation fully supported the Iraqi position on the Israeli attack and asked for sanctions to be taken against Israel in accordance with Article VII of the United Nations Charter.

61. The Ukraine was one of the 26 founder Member States of the Agency and had always taken part in its work aimed at placing nuclear energy at the service of the whole of mankind. The Agency's role in the nuclear power field was becoming more and more important. The work which it was carrying out to assess present and future levels of nuclear power production and to establish an extensive system of information exchange and training should be continued and the amount of technical assistance given should be increased.

62. Important research was currently being carried out in the Ukraine, especially in the fields of nuclear physics (particularly the structure of the nucleus), nuclear energy production and plasma physics. Sources of ionizing radiation were being used for research in physics, chemistry, biology, geology and agriculture. The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic was actively pursuing its programme for the construction and operation of nuclear power stations and parallel research was being carried out at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences on nuclear safety and protection of the environment. Radioactive sources of various types were being used to automate and monitor a number of industrial processes. Nuclear techniques had been developed for selecting varieties of wheat which were extremely resistant and had a high protein content. Radioisotopes and ionizing radiation were being widely used in medicine for diagnostics and therapy. As a result of recent experiments it had been possible to obtain by means of an isochronous cyclotron short-lived isotopes (iodine-123 and thallium-201) which would shortly be used in medicine. The work on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy was being carried out in close co-operation with other CMEA countries. Ukrainian institutes were collaborating with other bodies in those countries in the development of new methods for reactor core diagnostics and in research on nuclear power station safety.

63. The scientific and technical ties between the Ukraine and the Agency were constantly being strengthened. Each year scientists from developing countries met in Kiev to study the use of ionizing radiation in medicine, and training courses on the application of safeguards were organized in Yalta.

64. The Ukrainian delegation had carefully studied the Agency's accounts for 1981 and draft budget for 1983. The Government would make a voluntary contribution in national currency to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund amounting to 200 000 roubles.

65. <u>Mr. MALM</u> (Sweden) said that, even though the rate of growth of nuclear power had decreased, installed power had nevertheless shown a considerable increase over the previous decade - a tendency which could be expected to continue during the 1980s. That meant that there would be a large nuclear industry for a long time to come and that international co-operation must be strengthened, both inside and outside the Agency. Safety and security, international trade in nuclear materials and services, and of course non-proliferation, would remain matters of the highest importance and the Agency would continue to play a leading role.

66. The rapid increase over the previous few years in contributions to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund was continuing as expected. The Board had unanimously approved the technical co-operation budget for 1983 and the indicative figures for the period 1984-86, and Member States had contributed to a greater extent than ever before to the extrabudgetary resources for the financing of particular projects. The Secretariat was trying to bring about a further increase in the efficiency of resource utilization and the establishment of an evaluation section was one of the useful measures taken to that end. 67. The seminar on technical co-operation to be held during the current session would undoubtedly give recipient States the opportunity to make known their views on the future of the Agency's technical assistance activities and would also provide donor countries with the opportunity to study the possibility of pledging contributions for longer periods, so that the Agency could improve the planning of its technical assistance programme and projects.

68. With regard to the staffing of the Secretariat, the policy pursued by the Director General would clearly lead to a more equitable representation for the developing countries. The special training programme for young graduates from developing countries was a useful innovation.

69. The question of the composition of the Board had been widely discussed during the past year. Although the outgoing Board had not been able to find a solution, the talks held by the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen had nonetheless clarified the position of the States concerned. Views differed in regard to both elected and designated seats. Sweden felt that the differences which existed in relation to designation criteria would have to be ironed out, possibly during future consultations on the size and composition of the Board. Designations should be made following annual evaluations based on objective criteria in accordance with Article VI.A.1 of the Statute; that was certainly not the way they were made at present.

70. The current stagnation in orders for new reactors should not be allowed to obscure the fact that the number of power reactors under construction was almost equal to the number of reactors which had been constructed since the inception of nuclear power. According to the Agency's latest estimates, nuclear generating capacity would treble by the end of the decade and a constantly increasing number of countries would have nuclear facilities. Nuclear safety had thus become a crucial issue and the Secretariat was to be congratulated on its efforts to strengthen the nuclear safety programme. The meetings and seminars which the Agency held and the information which it disseminated on safety-related incidents and research results were a valuable aid to the Member States. In the same context, he also welcomed the publication of the first annual report on nuclear safety. 71. In the past year, the Committee on Assurances of Supply had made some progress towards establishing recommendations for certain international rules of conduct in nuclear trade. The final report to be drawn up by the Committee would serve as a basis for any similar document to be adopted by the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy. However, no document could by itself bring about harmonious trade relations between States. To achieve that end, there must be mutual trust between the parties involved. As an importer, Sweden was convinced that the acceptance of full-scope safeguards and the full exposure of all facets of nuclear power programmes were essential if a high degree of assurance of supply were to be obtained.

72. The Agency's safeguards system was one of the most effective instruments for demonstrating that nuclear energy was being used for peaceful purposes, an assurance which was a prerequisite for free international nuclear trade. In that connection, his Government was deeply concerned that in four non-nuclearweapon States certain facilities capable of producing weapons-grade material which were either in service or under construction had not been placed under safeguards. Another cause for concern was that for the first time in its history the Agency had been forced to acknowledge that in certain cases its safeguards had been insufficient to guarantee detection of any diversion of nuclear fuel. Sweden was convinced that the safeguards system could be improved and therefore welcomed the decision of the Board to undertake a wide-ranging review of the system. The Director General's proposal to put more emphasis on the application of safeguards at certain bulk-handling facilities and on the interrelationship between all facilities under safeguards in a single State was especially useful. In the final analysis, the value of the safeguards system depended on the way in which Member States used it. A large number of States had unequivocally stated their support for a non-proliferation system based on full-scope safeguards and, as suppliers, had adopted a careful policy regarding transfers of sensitive technology. Unfortunately, recent transfers to States which did not clearly subscribe to non-proliferation raised doubts as to whether

the professed policies were strictly applied by some of the major suppliers. In that connection, the Swedish Government considered that the inability of the major nuclear Powers to reach agreement on reducing their nuclear weapons was highly detrimental to non-proliferation. The refusal to accept, without delay, a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty could have serious consequences.

73. In its 25 years, the Agency had become the most important forum for international co-operation in the field of nuclear energy. It had acquired a solid reputation for high technical competence and his Government could only hope that it would continue to maintain its reputation in the future. The Agency must consolidate its technical competence while seeking new methods of satisfying the numerous, and sometimes conflicting, needs of its Members. For their part, Member States should stand by the Agency, provide it with adequate resources and maintain its central role in international co-operation.

74. <u>Mr. GROZA</u> (Romania) said that it was of the utmost importance to ensure the unity of all nations and constantly to improve co-operation among them in order to put an end to the dangerous trend of events towards confrontation and war, to end the use of force or the threat of force in international relations and to promote a policy of détente, respect for national sovereignty and independence, co-operation and good-neighbourliness among States.

75. His Government highly appreciated the Agency's activities and efforts to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and international co-operation in that important field. However, there was a tendency for the Agency's activities to turn more towards its regulatory function at the expense of its basic responsibility to support the efforts of Member States in utilizing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and promote international co-operation in that area - a tendency which could not be overlooked.

76. The Agency should become more involved in efforts to build a new international economic order and to do away with underdevelopment. Member States should make greater efforts to strengthen the Agency's role. It was also important to ensure an unhampered transfer of nuclear technology, to guarantee access for all countries to developments in the nuclear field, to narrow and eliminate the gap separating the developing and developed countries and to safeguard the right of all States to benefit fully from the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. GC(XXVI)/OR.242 page 25

77. In view of the requirements of the national economy and the repercussions of the world energy crisis, Romania had drawn up new measures aimed at achieving self-sufficiency in energy and fuel by 1990. To that end, it had decided to step up construction work on nuclear power plants and to increase their installed capacity. His country wished to thank the Agency for the effective-ness of the technical assistance it had provided.

78. In accordance with its principles, Romania strongly condemned the attack by the Israeli air force on the territory of Iraq. That unacceptable act of aggression on the Iraqi nuclear research centre constituted a grave violation of international law; it had seriously prejudiced the situation in the Middle East and the interests of all peoples in that area.

79. The draft programme for 1983-88 reflected the principal trends in nuclear development. His delegation approved the amount proposed by the Director General for the 1983 draft budget but felt that more effort should be made to reduce administrative expenses further. His delegation could accept the target recommended for voluntary contributions to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund for 1983 and the targets forecast for the three years thereafter. As in the past, Romania's contribution to that Fund for 1983 would be in accordance with its base rate of assessment.

80. <u>Mr. SODNOM</u> (Mongolia), recalling that under the Statute the Agency's objectives were to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world, said that his country highly appreciated the Agency's efforts to promote the peaceful uses of the atom, to strengthen peace and to develop international co-operation in accordance with the principles of the United Nations.

81. The Agency, itself a product of co-operation in the interests of peace among countries with different social and economic systems and at different stages of development, had during the 25 years of its existence greatly contributed to preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Its role took on particular importance at the present time when the aggressive policies of the present Administration of the United States and its allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization were exposing mankind to the real danger of a nuclear catastrophe, giving rise to mounting indignation and protests from

nations which did not want the achievements of so many generations to be destroyed.

82. The Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community had taken a number of initiatives to preserve and strengthen peace and international security, to halt the arms race and to accelerate disarmament. The Mongolian People's Republic was encouraged, for example, by the unilateral undertaking given by the USSR, which had been warmly welcomed by many peaceful nations, that it would not be the first to use nuclear weapons. That country was once again demonstrating its desire to ward off the atomic threat and to give practical shape to negotiations on nuclear disarmament. Mongolia considered it particularly important that other Powers should make the same pledge; that would be tantamount to the banning of nuclear weapons, and would promote confidence among States, thereby helping to solve the complex problems of disarmament.

83. The Agency's role was more important then ever, first and foremost because of the increasing danger of a further proliferation of nuclear weapons. That danger came essentially from the "near-nuclear" States which, apart from two nuclear Powers (China and France), were among the 50 States that had not become party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). The Republic of South Africa and Israel, for example, did not conceal their nuclear ambitions; as the United Nations General Assembly had pointed out on many occasions, they were in fact preparing to make nuclear weapons. It was therefore necessary to take further steps to increase the number of parties to NPT and to enhance the Treaty's efficiency.

84. The murderous attack by Israel on the Iraqi nuclear research centre could be regarded as a serious attempt to destroy confidence in the non-proliferation regime and especially in the Agency's safeguards. His Government considered that the Agency's regulatory activities had been extremely fruitful and that, given the development of nuclear power in particular, it was necessary further to improve their effectiveness, full account being taken of the greater number and diversity of the facilities and material to be safeguarded. 85. Deferring to the wishes of a number of non-nuclear-weapon States that the nuclear Powers, too, should place some of their peaceful facilities under the safeguards established in connection with the non-proliferation regime, the USSR had expressed its willingness to place under Agency control some of its nuclear power plants and research reactors. His delegation welcomed that step, which would help to enhance the Agency's authority and bolster confidence in its safeguards system.

86. It was becoming increasingly urgent to ensure security in Asia, to halt the arms race in that region and to prevent new armed conflicts. For that reason, Mongolia had proposed in 1981 that the countries of Asia and the Pacific should sign a mutual non-aggression pact, renouncing all recourse to the use of force in their relations. Firmly believing that efforts should be made at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels to reach agreements which would outlaw the use of force as a means of settling international disputes, Mongolia hoped that the countries of the region would understand and support that proposal.

87. It was clear from the Agency's annual report for 1981 and from the Director General's statement that the organization's activities had been further refined and had contributed to the development of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, while strengthening the non-proliferation regime and enhancing security in the world. His delegation considered that the annual report gave a faithful picture of those activities and agreed in principle that it should be adopted by the General Conference.

88. The programme for 1983-88 covered the principal trends foreseen in the Agency's activities, giving a realistic assessment of its mission and its capabilities. Aware of the needs of the organization, his country endorsed the target of US \$19 million for the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund in 1983 and would make a voluntary contribution to that Fund. In its opinion, such contributions should remain voluntary in character, for that was an essential principle of international co-operation in the field of technical and economic development. The technical assistance provided by the Agency was valuable for the implementation of national programmes on nuclear science and technology in developing countries, where it played a

vital role in creating and expanding the research infrastructures and helped in the solution of important national economic problems.

89. Mongolia wished to express its gratitude to the Agency for its help in setting up a nuclear analytical laboratory and hoped that it would continue to provide assistance for the implementation of Mongolia's national programmes: several Agency projects were being carried out satisfactorily in Mongolia, and work on the applications of radioisotopes in medical diagnosis and on the establishment of a radiobiological laboratory at Darhan had begun. In view of the recent increase in the number of persons and organizations handling radioisotopes and radiation and the urgent need to prevent pollution, his country had undertaken to set up a radiation protection and dosimetry service with an appropriately equipped laboratory.

90. His delegation hoped, in view of its past successes, that the Agency would continue to make a worthy contribution to the cause of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy and to the cause of peace and security on earth.

91. Mr. AMROLLAHI (Islamic Republic of Iran) welcomed the admission of Namibia to the Agency. The oppressed people of Iran had long lived under the despotic Pahlevi régime, and had been subjected to exploitation and domination by world imperialism. Without any consideration for the living conditions and essential needs of the people, without even seeking the advice of Iranian scientists and experts on site selection, plant capacity, methods of construction, or the conclusion of necessary contracts, the former Shah had decided to purchase nuclear power plants, thus contributing to making Iran an increasingly dependent country. Now that the Iranian people had become master of their own destiny, the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization intended to participate in the activities of the Agency in order to develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and to achieve a harmonious development of the country as a whole. The Islamic principles on which the Islamic Republic of Iran was founded forbade the use of nuclear technology to the detriment of mankind. Iran's adherence to that humanistic policy was demonstrated by the attitude of its soldiers in the war forced on it by Iraq.

92. As everyone knew, Israel had disturbed the peace in the Middle East on behalf of the United States. Whatever the activities carried out at the

Iraqi nuclear research centre might have been, the bombing of that centre by Israel had certainly caused great anxiety among the innocent people of Iraq and among all peace-loving Member States of the Agency. At the present time there was no guarantee that the Israeli Government would not bomb other nuclear facilities. His delegation therefore suggested that the General Conference should decide to expel Israel from the Agency in view of the fact that that country had clearly violated the principles of international law.

93. One of the main objectives of the Iranian Government was self-sufficiency. It hoped one day to become self-sufficient in the nuclear field so that it could transfer to the oppressed nations the knowledge which would enable them to escape from the domination of the super-Powers of East and West. While every country had its own culture, the transfer of science, technology and civilization should not be restricted by nationalistic principles but, rather, should be governed by a spirit of internationalism.

94. Every year \$6000 million were spent on armaments. That amount should be compared with the \$100 million which the World Health Organization had spent over the last ten years in its campaign against smallpox. The world was struggling at present with problems and difficulties which could only be resolved by those who had created them. Realization of that truth would create the basis for a world-wide uprising against injustice, which would eliminate those Powers which dominated the world for the sole purpose of their own survival. One of those problems was the present race for the production of neutron bombs and chemical nuclear weapons. Considerable efforts had so far been deployed at the international level by the United Nations and by the Disarmament Conference, and several measures had been suggested, such as non-proliferation, creation of nuclear-free zones, reduction of armed forces and non-nuclear weapons; but most of those efforts had remained fruitless.

95. All the countries represented at the General Conference were directly responsible for all the disasters and afflictions suffered by the oppressed countries as a result of the nuclear industry. When the United States equipped its submarines with nuclear weapons, when the Soviet Union carried out nuclear explosions, when Israel destroyed the Iraqi nuclear research centre, who but the international nuclear community could be held responsible?

It was high time for the nuclear community to decide that its knowledge and experience should be used exclusively for the well-being and happiness of mankind and peace in the world.

96. <u>Mr. AUDLAND</u> (Commission of the European Communities) said that the Agency had a vital role to play in promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, a role of which the member countries of the European Community were particularly aware. They themselves were becoming increasingly dependent on that source of energy, since 6% of all their energy needs were now met by nuclear power and the figure was expected to reach 12% by 1990.

97. Like the Agency, the European Community had recently passed a historical milestone. The treaties establishing EURATOM and the European Economic Community had been signed in Rome 25 years ago. The States parties to those treaties had transferred to the Community certain of their responsibilities, including important responsibilities in the nuclear field - important because they concerned matters such as the supply of nuclear materials and the application of safeguards to them.

98. From the first years of the Community's existence, the Commission had thus had to exercise safeguards responsibilities. At present it had 120 inspectors who would have carried out some 6000 man-days of inspection work in 460 nuclear installations in 1982. By the end of the previous year the Agency had had 135 inspectors. At the beginning, the EURATOM safeguards inspectors had been the only ones operating in the Member States of the Community. During the past six years Agency inspectors had participated in inspection activities. Close co-operation had developed between the two inspectorates thanks to the good willand efforts of both parties. The Community was now the only region in the world in which inspections were performed by two organizations working together. The three agreements concluded between the Agency, the Community and its various Member States between 1976 and 1981 had established the rules for co-operation between the Agency and EURATOM. At present, the work performed by Agency inspectors in the nuclear installations of Community Member States represented nearly 50%, in terms of days of work, of all the Agency's inspection activities throughout the world. It was to be hoped that that close co-operation would be strengthened yet further. The Commission was prepared to take steps in

that direction and was convinced that the Agency would do likewise. The experience acquired by Agency inspectors in the nuclear establishments of Community Members was very probably of special value since in many cases the installations of those countries were prototypes or the first commercial versions of new plants and were at the forefront of technical progress.

99. Apart from applying safeguards, the Community and the Agency were co-operating closely in studies aimed at developing new safeguards techniques. The research establishments of the Community were at present carrying out an extensive programme in that sphere which had been drawn up after consultation with the Agency. The results of the programme were being communicated to the Agency in accordance with the Co-operation Agreement between the two organizations signed in 1981. A point to be stressed was that those activities were in addition to the substantial support programmes for Agency safeguards set up by certain Community Member States.

100. Technical co-operation between the Commission and the Agency was developing steadily in other spheres such as pure nuclear research (in particular, research on fusion), the dissemination of the results of research, nuclear safety, waste management, radiation protection, the use of radioisotopes and the training of scientists.

101. The Commission of the European Communities believed that it was thereby making a contribution to the success of the Agency's work, and it attached the greatest importance to that success. For that reason it was prepared in the future to expand its co-operation with the Agency in all possible ways.

The meeting rose at 6.55 p.m.