



International Atomic Energy Agency

GENERAL CONFERENCE

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Item 16 of the provisional agenda^a
(GC(XXVIII)/711)

ASSESSMENT OF MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REGULAR BUDGET

Report by the Board of Governors

1. At its twenty-seventh regular session, in October 1983, the General Conference requested the Board of Governors "to investigate various ways of establishing the scale of assessment of Members' contributions and to submit a report on the results of its work to the General Conference at its next regular session".^{1/}
2. When the subject was discussed by the Board in February 1984, it was noted that the United Nations General Assembly's Committee on Contributions was studying alternative methods to be used in determining future scales of assessment of members of the United Nations and was expected to make proposals in time for consideration at the next (thirty-ninth) session of the General Assembly. The Board decided that the Director General should transmit the summary records of its discussions on Member's contributions to the Agency's Regular Budget to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with the request that he bring them to the attention of the Committee on Contributions.^{2/}
3. In June 1984, the Board, noting that the summary records of its discussions in February had been transmitted to the Secretary-General, agreed that, as there had been no developments in the Committee on Contributions since the Board's last session, it would revert to the subject in September 1984, after it had had an opportunity to study the outcome of the current discussions in the Committee on Contributions.

^{1/} GC(XXVII)/OR.256, paras 142 and 143.

^{2/} These summary records, together with the summary records of the Board's discussions under this item in June and September, are reproduced in the Annex hereto.

4. The Board understands that the Committee on Contributions has continued its detailed study of ways and means of taking into account conditions or circumstances which may not have been adequately reflected in estimates of national and per capita income used in the past in the preparation of scales of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations.

5. The latest report of the Committee on Contributions is now before the General Assembly, which will be considering it during its current (39th) session.

6. In the light of the foregoing information, the Board suggests that the General Conference adopt the following draft resolution.

ASSESSMENT OF MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REGULAR BUDGET

The General Conference,

Taking note of the report of the Board of Governors, together with the summary records of the Board's discussions under this item in February, June and September 1984,^{1/} and of the fact that the current deliberations of the United Nations General Assembly's Committee on Contributions will not affect the United Nations scale of assessment for the year 1983-1985,

Requests the Board of Governors to investigate various ways of establishing the scale of assessment of Members' contributions to the Agency's budget in the light of actions taken by the United Nations General Assembly on recommendations by the Committee on Contributions regarding methodologies for establishing the United Nations scale of assessment and to submit a report on the results of its work to the General Conference at the first regular session following the completion of the work of the Committee on Contributions.

^{1/} See document GC(XXVIII)/726

A N N E X

Summary records of the discussion on the item "Assessment of Members' contributions" at meetings of the Board in February, June and September 1984

RECORD OF THE 616TH MEETING (held on 22 February 1984)

(c) ASSESSMENT OF MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REGULAR BUDGET (GOV/INF/448)

68. The CHAIRMAN recalled that the General Conference's Committee of the Whole had, at the Conference's last session, requested the Board to investigate various ways of establishing the scale of assessment of Members' contributions to the Regular Budget and to report to the Conference in September 1984. As Governors could see from document GOV/INF/448, the United Nations General Assembly's Committee on Contributions was studying alternative methods to be used in determining future scales of assessment of members of the United Nations and was expected to make proposals in time for consideration at the next (thirty-ninth) session of the General Assembly.

69. Mr. DIDIER (Brazil) recalled that in the meetings of the Committee of the Whole at the last session of the General Conference Brazil had opposed the adoption of the new scale of assessment of Members' contributions to the Regular Budget. It was inappropriate that assessment should be based entirely on the United Nations scale, because there were differences in membership between the United Nations and the Agency and because part of the Agency's budget, that relating to safeguards, was financed under a special political arrangement. The adoption of the United Nations scale meant that a few countries were subsidizing the others. The last report of the United Nations General Assembly's Committee on Contributions, reproduced in document GOV/INF/448, showed that the United Nations was itself not satisfied with the existing situation. More time was needed to study document GOV/INF/448, and the subject should accordingly be reserved for a more thorough discussion in June.

70. Mr. HERNANDEZ MATA (Mexico) requested the Director General to keep the Board informed of any developments which emerged in connection with the study that the Committee on Contributions was to present at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly, and to submit the summary records of the Board's discussions on the subject to the Secretary-General.

71. Mr. TAYLHARDAT (Venezuela) and Mr. LOZADA (Philippines) supported the statements and proposals made by the Governors from Brazil and Mexico.

72. Mr. PLACER (Argentina) supported the proposal made by the Governor from Brazil.

73. The CHAIRMAN took it that the Board wished to wait and see what emerged from the study of the Committee on Contributions before discussing the matter further, and that it wished to be informed in June, by the Secretariat, of any developments in the Committee before finalizing its own report to the General Conference. He understood further that the Board wished to request the Director General to transmit the summary records of its discussions on Members' contributions to the Agency's Regular Budget to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with the request that he bring them to the attention of the Committee on Contributions.

74. It was so decided.

RECORD OF THE 624TH MEETING (held on 8 June 1984)

ASSESSMENT OF MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REGULAR BUDGET

119. The CHAIRMAN recalled that when the present subject had been discussed by the Board in February it had been decided that the Director General should transmit the summary records of the Board's discussions to the Committee on Contributions of the United Nations General Assembly for its information and report to the Board at its present session concerning any developments in that Committee's work. The Secretariat had accordingly transmitted the records of the Board's discussions to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a request that they be brought to the attention of the Committee on Contributions. However, as the Committee had not begun its 44th session until 4 June, there had been no developments since the Board's last session. He therefore suggested that the Board revert to the present item in September, when it could decide on its report to the General Conference after it had had an opportunity to study the outcome of the current discussions in the Committee on Contributions.

120. It was so agreed.

PROVISIONAL RECORD OF THE 627TH MEETING (held on 20 September 1984)

ASSESSMENT OF MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REGULAR BUDGET (GOV/2180)

The CHAIRMAN explained that there were two documents before the Board under the present item, the first being document GOV/2180 and the second a draft paper which he had circulated himself and which the Board might wish to adopt as its report to the General Conference pursuant to the request made by the Conference the previous year. The Board's report could be transmitted to the Conference together with the summary records of the Board's discussions under the present item in February and June and at the present meeting.

Mr. MARTINS FELÍCIO (Brazil) felt that neither document reflected the position held by his delegation and several others. The main problems facing the Board in connection with the present item were the financing of safeguards, of technical assistance and of the Regular Budget as a whole. Document GOV/2180, however, evaded those issues, simply stating that the matter was under discussion by the United Nations General Assembly's Committee on Contributions. He did not believe that the Board had genuinely responded to the request made by the General Conference as its twenty-seventh regular session that the Board should investigate various ways of establishing the scale of assessment of Members' contributions and submit a report on the results of its work to the General Conference at its next regular session. He therefore suggested that the draft resolution in the text circulated by the Chairman be amended in such a way that the operative paragraph would reiterate that request by the Conference for an investigation by the Board.

Mr. TAYLHARDAT (Venezuela), Mr. SINGH (India) and Mr. BELTRAMINO (Argentina) supported the proposal made by the representative of Brazil.

Mr. LOOSCH (Federal Republic of Germany) said it was important to recommend to the General Conference that any methodologies adopted for determining the scale of assessment of Agency Members' contributions should be compatible with those adopted by the United Nations.

Mr. SULLIVAN (Canada) warned against a duplication of effort by the Committee on Contributions and the Board of Governors.

Mr. KENNEDY (United States of America) felt that the Board should not undertake a task which lay outside its competence and was already being dealt with by the United Nations General Assembly.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Governor from Brazil should prepare a written version of his delegation's proposal so that the Board could study it at the following meeting.

Mr. MARTINS FELÍCIO (Brazil) pointed out that the Agency had special arrangements for the financing of safeguards and did not, therefore, necessarily follow criteria established by the United Nations to the exclusion of other criteria.

Mr. LOOSCH (Federal Republic of Germany) suggested that a possible compromise might consist in amending the operative paragraph of the draft resolution to the effect that the Board should complete its investigation in the light of actions taken by the General Assembly and report back to the General Conference on the matter.

Mr. WANGURU (Kenya) felt that the Board should not take any action until the United Nations General Assembly had completed its deliberations. Nonetheless, he felt it would be useful to study the proposed Brazilian amendment once a written version had been circulated.

The CHAIRMAN took it that the Board wished to defer deciding on the present item until it had considered a written version of the Brazilian amendment.

It was so agreed.

PROVISIONAL RECORD OF THE 628TH MEETING (held on 21 September 1984)

ASSESSMENT OF MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REGULAR BUDGET (GOV/2180) (resumed)

The CHAIRMAN asked whether the Board was prepared to accept the Brazilian delegation's proposal, a written version of which had been circulated.

Mr. KENNEDY (United States of America) pointed out that the United Nations General Assembly's Committee on Contributions would not have completed its work by the next regular session of the Agency's General Conference. He suggested that the Brazilian proposal should be amended so that the Board's report would be submitted to the General Conference at the first regular session following the completion of the work of the Committee on Contributions.

Mr. KHAN (Pakistan) supported the proposal by the Governor from the United States of America.

Mr. MARTINS FELÍCIO (Brazil) agreed to the proposal.

The CHAIRMAN took it that the Board wished to adopt the draft report as amended by representative of Brazil and the Governor from the United States of America and submit it to the General Conference together with the summary records of the Board's discussions on that item.

It was so decided.

