



International Atomic Energy Agency

GENERAL CONFERENCE

GC(XXXII)/INF/255

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GENERAL Distr.

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Thirty-second regular session

ADVANCE INFORMATION FOR DELEGATIONS

OPENING OF THE THIRTY-SECOND REGULAR SESSION

1. The thirty-second regular session of the General Conference will open on Monday, 19 September 1988, at 10.a.m.^{1/} It will be held at the Austria Center Vienna (ACV)^{2/}, Am Hubertusdamm 6, 1220 Vienna, next to the Vienna International Centre (VIC).

NOTIFICATION OF THE COMPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS

2. Governments are requested to communicate to the Secretariat the composition of their delegations well in advance. This should be done in writing - by letter or by completing the registration form which will be transmitted to Permanent Missions at the beginning of September 1988. Rule 23 of the Conference's Rules of Procedure^{3/} provides for each Member State of the Agency to be represented by one Delegate, who may be accompanied by as many assistants (alternates, advisers, etc.) as may be needed. The first list of members of delegations will be issued on Sunday, 18 September; it will contain information which has been communicated to the Secretariat before Friday, 16 September.

^{1/} The provisional agenda for the thirty-second regular session is contained in document GC(XXXII)/834.

^{2/} Plans of the ACV and a traffic plan will be attached to the "Handbook" (Information for Delegations) which will be issued before the Conference session opens.

^{3/} GC(XXXI)/INF/245.

CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATES

3. Each Delegate (but not other members of a delegation) will require credentials specifically for the session, even if he is already accredited to the Agency in some other capacity - for example, as Resident Representative. Credentials have to be delivered in due time; this helps to avoid difficulties, particularly for the General Committee. It is accordingly emphasized that, under Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure, credentials should be submitted to the Director General not later than Monday, 12 September, issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Member concerned. If credentials cannot be submitted by Friday, 16 September, Delegates should deliver them direct to the Credentials Officers at the ACV either on Sunday, 18 September, between 2.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. or on the following Monday morning.

REGISTRATION FOR BADGES

4. Each participant will require a badge with a photograph for entry into the ACV during the session. Badges will be issued by the staff at the Registration Desk to those designated participants who are not already in possession of a valid VIC ground pass. Badges issued for the General Conference will also be valid for entering the VIC.

5. Participants may register on Friday, 16 September, at the Agency's Registration Desk at the VIC between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and on Sunday, 18 September, between 2.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. at the ACV. Registration will continue throughout the week of the Conference's session at the Registration Desk at the ACV.

DOCUMENTS

6. Each delegation is urged to visit the Documents Distribution Centre in room FM152 at the VIC not later than Friday, 16 September, and specify its requirements for documents on a form which will be provided for this purpose. If this is not possible, delegations should apply to the Documents Station at the ACV either on Sunday, 18 September, between 2.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. or on the following Monday morning.

7. Before the opening of the session one complete set of the Conference documents already issued will be available to each delegation. All documents produced during the session, including the Conference Journal containing the daily programme, and other notices will also be issued through the Documents Station at the ACV.

SPEAKERS IN THE GENERAL DEBATE

8. Requests for inscription on the list of speakers in the general debate should be made directly, either personally or in writing, to the Secretariat of the Policy-making Organs (VIC, room A 2871). As announced in a Note dated 15 June, the list was opened on 12 July 1988 at 8 a.m. The names of Delegates are entered on this list in the order in which requests are received; however - following past practice - every effort will be made to give priority to Ministers participating in the general debate.

STATEMENTS IN THE GENERAL DEBATE

9. In order that the general debate may represent a more efficient use of the time available, Delegates are invited to keep the duration of their statements down to 15 minutes by focusing on the main points which they wish to make. The summary records of the general debate will nevertheless be based on the full texts of Delegates' statements handed to the Secretariat.

10. It would be greatly appreciated if the texts of statements to be delivered were handed to the Secretariat in advance. Copies of the full texts (in the original language) will, if Delegates so request, be made available to other Delegates during the session.

11. It is of considerable help if the texts of statements provided to the Secretariat are typed with double line spacing.

REVIEW OF THE CONFERENCE'S WORKING PRACTICES

12. In recent years, the representatives of various Member States have made suggestions for modifying the working practices of the General Conference, with a view to reducing costs and to using the time available during the Conference sessions more efficiently. At this year's session of the Conference, the Secretariat will be submitting - for initial consideration in the General Committee - information on the financial implications of a suggestion concerning the timing of Conference sessions made in the General Committee last year, and in this context the Secretariat will also put forward some ideas aimed at streamlining the working practices at future Conference sessions. It is the Secretariat's hope that the General Committee, one of whose functions is to "assist the President of the General Conference in conducting and co-ordinating the work of the General Conference", will find it possible to make recommendations to the General Conference on the basis of these ideas.

PLEDGES OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CO-OPERATION FUND FOR 1989

13. The Board of Governors has set a target of US\$ 42 million, subject to the Conference's approval, for Members' voluntary contributions to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund for 1989. Before the regular session opens, a document will be circulated for the purpose of notifying delegates of the

contributions that Members have pledged themselves to make^{4/}. It will be greatly appreciated if Governments facilitate the timely preparation of this document by communicating their pledges to the Director General as soon as they are in a position to do so.

SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING ON RADIATION PROTECTION

14. During the Conference's session, there will be a special scientific meeting on radiation protection consisting of four sessions. The meeting, which will replace the traditional scientific afternoon, will be held on Tuesday, 20 September, and during the morning and part of the afternoon of Wednesday, 21 September.^{5/} It should be of particular interest to senior officials and policy-makers in the fields of radiation protection and nuclear safety.

15. The sessions of the special scientific meeting will be held in parallel with the Conference's formal programme. It is expected that a senior participant will report on its results at a plenary meeting of the Conference.

JOINT MEETING OF NUCLEAR SAFETY AND RADIATION PROTECTION OFFICIALS

16. At 4 p.m. on Wednesday, 21 September, following the conclusion of the special scientific meeting on radiation protection and before the traditional meeting of senior nuclear safety officials (see next paragraph), there will be an informal gathering of nuclear safety and radiation protection officials. The subject to be discussed will be "What nuclear safety and radiation protection regulators expect from the IAEA".

^{4/} The corresponding document of last year was GC(XXXI)/817.

^{5/} A tentative programme of the special scientific meeting on radiation protection is contained in the Annex to this document.

MEETING OF SENIOR NUCLEAR SAFETY OFFICIALS

17. The traditional meeting of senior nuclear safety officials will be held on Thursday, 22 September. The main theme of the meeting will be the Agency's Basic Safety Principles for Nuclear Power Plants.

RCA AND ARCAL MEETINGS

18. There will also be meetings of representatives of Member States parties to RCA and ARCAL. Times and venues of these meetings will be announced in the Conference Journal.

CONFERENCE ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PARIS AND THE VIENNA CONVENTION

19. In conjunction with the General Conference's session, a one-day conference on the relationship between the Paris Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy and the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage, organized jointly by the Agency and the Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, will be held on Wednesday, 21 September, in the Agency's Headquarters (Vienna International Centre). At the conference, a Joint Protocol relating to the application of the Vienna Convention and the Paris Convention is expected to be adopted and opened for signature. An invitation to the conference was conveyed to Member States in a circular letter dated 27 June 1988.

General Information

ACCOMMODATION FOR DELEGATIONS

1. Hotels in Vienna are usually heavily booked during the month of September. It is therefore important to reserve accommodation as far in advance as possible. Delegates are advised to make their bookings either direct with the hotel or through their Permanent Mission or Embassy/Consulate in Vienna.

CURRENCY

2. Bank notes, travellers' cheques and letters of credit may be brought into Austria without restriction but, as not all currencies are in equal demand, a few may not be easily saleable. Departing visitors may take with them the foreign currency and securities they brought into the country and up to AS 50 000 in Austrian currency.

PARKING

3. For official cars with chauffeurs, red stickers entitling the cars to be driven to the main entrance of the ACV will be issued; for other cars blue stickers will be issued. Parking facilities will be available on parking decks 2 and 3.

VIC COMMISSARY

4. In accordance with the Agreement between the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Austrian Government, the heads of delegations of Member States participating in the General Conference are entitled to commissary cards for the duration of the Conference's session.

5. Any questions in connection with the issuing of commissary cards to the heads of delegations should be directed to the Protocol Office.

RECEPTIONS AND OTHER EVENTS TAKING PLACE DURING THE CONFERENCE

6. The organizers or sponsors of receptions and other events to be arranged during the Conference are invited to contact the Protocol Office if they wish an announcement regarding such events to be included in the Conference Journal.

ANNEX

SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING ON RADIATION PROTECTION

(Tentative programme)
(20 and 21 September 1988)

20 September; 10:00

OPENING

Address by the Director of the IAEA Division of Nuclear Safety
Remarks by the Chairman and Rapporteur to the General Conference

SESSION 1: CURRENT ISSUES

(a) Presentations by keynote speakers

1. Introduction: the current recommendations of the ICRP
2. Outstanding issues under consideration:
 - Recent reassessments of radiation risk estimates: implications for radiation protection
 - Criteria for establishing intervention levels in post-accident situations
 - Exemption of radiation sources and practices from radiation protection standards
3. Radiological assessment of the Chernobyl accident

(b) Panel discussion (with audience participation):

"Issues in radiation protection"

20 September; 14:30

SESSION 2: CONTROL OF RADIATION SOURCES

(a) Presentation by keynote speakers

1. Overview of the increasing use of radiation sources and the need for adequate control
2. Experience regarding the biological and medical consequences of accidental overexposure
3. IAEA support in enhancing control of radiation sources

(b) Post-Accident Review Reports

1. The accident at Ciudad Juárez, Mexico
2. The accident at Goiânia, Brazil

(c) Panel discussion (with audience participation):

"How to prevent the misuse of radiation sources and what can be done to reduce the risk of radiation accidents. Safety experience in the use, handling, storage and disposal of sealed sources: lessons to be learned and future actions."

21 September; 10:00

SESSION 3: IAEA ACTIVITIES IN RADIATION PROTECTION

(a) Presentation by the Secretariat

1. Introduction: IAEA resources and programme
2. Fostering the exchange of information: the IAEA Conference on Radiation Protection in Nuclear Energy; issues and conclusions
3. Encouraging research and development: co-ordinated research programmes
4. Establishing standards and recommendations:
 - the Basic Safety Standards for Radiation Protection and guidelines on environmental protection
5. Promoting training: radiation protection courses
6. Providing co-operation and assistance:
 - RAPATs and technical co-operation programme
 - Emergency Assistance Service
 - Assisting in the disposal of radiation sources
7. The proposed 1989/90 Radiation Protection Programme

(b) Open discussion by participants with a moderator

"Future new directions for the IAEA activities in radiation protection"

21 September; 14:30

SESSION 4: COMMUNICATING INFORMATION ON RADIATION PROTECTION

Keynote speaker: "Radiation in perspective"

Panel discussion (with audience participation):

"Radiophobia: What is it?"

