



International Atomic Energy Agency

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THE FINANCING OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Report by the Board of Governors

1. In its resolution GC(XXXVI)/RES/591, the General Conference in 1992 requested the Board of Governors to re-establish, with no financial implications, the Informal Working Group on the Financing of Technical Assistance, open to all Member States, "with a view to its continuing with the next stage of its activities, this stage to be devoted to exploring ways of obtaining predictable and assured resources for technical assistance and to negotiating feasible options for consideration by the Board of Governors and the General Conference". It also requested the Board to report to the General Conference at its thirty-seventh session on the actions taken by it to implement this resolution.
2. At its post-General Conference session last September the Board re-established the Informal Working Group and requested the Chairman of the Board to nominate a chairman for the Group on the basis of the usual consultations.
3. Unfortunately, in a year which has witnessed several major events in Vienna, including the holding of the United Nations World Conference on Human Rights, it has not been possible for the Working Group to hold any meetings because of the unavailability of anyone to preside over its deliberations.

4. Some limited consultations were, however, held on this matter on behalf of the Chairman of the Board and it would seem that there is no change in the position as reflected in the report of the Board and of the Working Group to the last regular session of the General Conference and contained in document GC(XXXVI)/1022 and 1022/Add.1.

5. At the same time, several Member States, whilst noting the reversal so far this year of the earlier decline in convertible currency contributions to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund, nevertheless pointed out that contributions to the TACF were still well below the agreed target resulting in limiting the ability of the Agency to finance many technically sound projects submitted by developing Member States. Other Member States felt that the present system has so far resulted in a sufficient degree of predictability and assuredness to allow for proper resource programming.

6. It was generally agreed that for the continued and effective functioning of the present system of financing technical assistance, it is desirable that all Member States honour the agreed target for the TACF by contributing to the Fund and making payments of their pledges promptly.

7. The Board recommends the establishment of a successor Working Group and expresses the hope that the extensive work carried out by Ambassador Anguiano of Mexico who chaired the Working Group in 1991/92 could be carried forward.

8. The summary records of the Board's discussion on 22 September 1993 relating to this item will be issued as an Addendum to the present document.