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International Atomic Energy Agency G E N E R A CONFERENCE

FORTIETH (1996) REGULAR SESSION

GENERAL COMMITTEE

RECORD OF THE THIRD MEETING

Held at the Austria Center Vienna on Thursday, 19 September 1996, at 9.35 a.m.

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[*] GC(40)/22.

96-04062 (XXI)

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ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING

Chairman

Mr. PADOLINA (Philippines), President of the General Conference

Members

- Mr. WALKER (Canada), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. DASQUE, representing Mr. D'ESCATHA (France), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. SURYOKUSUMO (Indonesia), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. IDE, representing Mr. IKEDA (Japan), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. HOBEICA (Lebanon), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. ARGÜELLO HURTADO (Nicaragua), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. KONACHKOV, representing Mr. MIKHAILOV (Russian Federation), Vice-President of the General Conference
- Mr. AYATOLLAHI (Islamic Republic of Iran), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole
- Mr. MICHAELIDES (Cyprus), Additional Member
- Ms. OGNJANOVAC, representing Ms. BEŠKER (Croatia), Additional Member
- Ms. LAJOUS VARGAS (Mexico), Additional Member
- Mr. MAZILU, representing Mr. PALADE (Romania), Additional Member
- Mr. SNYDER, representing Ms. O'LEARY (United States of America), Additional Member

Secretariat

- Mr. SANMUGANATHAN, Secretary of the Committee
- Mr. ESPINO, Director, Division of Budget and Finance

RESTORATION OF VOTING RIGHTS (GC(40)/INF/16)

1. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> said that a request for the restoration of voting rights had been submitted by Kenya, which had explained its case in document GC(40)/INF/16. Under Article XIX.A of the Statute, the General Conference could permit a Member State which was in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to vote if it was satisfied that the failure to pay was due to conditions beyond the Member State's control.

2. <u>Mr. AYATOLLAHI</u> (Chairman of the Committee of the Whole) said that the difficult economic circumstances of the African Member States were well-known and that the majority of countries, including the developed countries, were also experiencing economic difficulties. He saw no reason not to accede to Kenya's request.

3. <u>Mr. WALKER</u> (Canada), referring to the second paragraph of the letter from the Permanent Mission of Kenya, asked whether the Secretariat had any information as to the time-frame within which the Kenyan Government intended to settle its arrears of assessed contributions.

4. <u>Mr. ESPINO</u> (Director, Division of Budget and Finance) replied that the Secretariat had no information in that connection.

5. <u>Mr. ARGÜELLO HURTADO</u> (Nicaragua) said that, as a representative of a country which was also experiencing economic difficulties, he understood Kenya's position and supported its request.

6. <u>Mr. SNYDER</u> (United States of America) had no objections to acceding to Kenya's request. However, it should be clear that that did not set a precedent, as it was important that Member States should pay their contributions on time.

7. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> said that he took it that the Committee wished to recommend that the General Conference restore Kenya's voting rights for the current session.

8. <u>It was so decided</u>.

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The meeting rose at 9.45 a.m.