



GC

GC(44)/GEN/OR.1
December 2000

International Atomic Energy Agency

GENERAL CONFERENCE

GENERAL Distr.
Original: ENGLISH

FORTY-FOURTH (2000) REGULAR SESSION

GENERAL COMMITTEE

RECORD OF THE FIRST MEETING

Held at the Austria Center Vienna
on Monday, 18 September 2000, at 2.25 p.m.

CONTENTS

<u>Item of the provisional agenda*</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>
- Adoption of the Committee's agenda	1 - 4
5 Arrangements for the Conference	5 - 20
(a) Adoption of the agenda and allocation of items for initial discussion	5 - 9
(b) Closing date of the session and opening date of the next session	10 - 13
(c) Restoration of voting rights	14 - 20

[*] GC(44)/1.

00-04186 (XLVIII)

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their own copies of documents to meetings.

ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING

Chairman

Mr. OTHMAN (Syrian Arab Republic), President of the General Conference

Members

Mr. HUGHES (Australia), Vice-President of the General Conference

Ms. AL-MULLA (Kuwait), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. BUTTIGIEG SCICLUNA (Malta), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. BADDYOU (Morocco), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. PAULINICH (Peru), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. GARCIA (Philippines), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. MOSTOVETS, representing Mr. ADAMOV (Russian Federation), Vice-President of the General Conference

Ms. KENNEDY, representing Mr. RICHARDSON (United States of America), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. GREGORIČ (Slovenia), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. MORGAN, representing Mr. DUBOIS (Canada), Additional Member

Mr. RICHARD, representing Mr. COLOMBANI (France), Additional Member

Mr. SANTER (Luxembourg), Additional Member

Ms. PELLICER SILVA (Mexico), Additional Member

Ms. SHABANGU (South Africa), Additional Member

Chairman of the Board of Governors

Mr. de QUEIROZ DUARTE (Brazil)

Secretariat

Mr. ANING, Secretary of the Committee

ADOPTION OF THE COMMITTEE'S AGENDA
(GC(44)/GEN/1)

1. The CHAIRMAN said that in conducting the Committee's business, he intended to follow the established practice whereby its meetings were private, but representatives of Member States which had requested the inclusion of an item in the agenda were entitled, pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedures, to attend relevant meetings and to participate, without vote, in the discussion of their request. Representatives of other Member States could also attend the Committee's meetings and participate in discussions as decided by the Committee.

2. In addition to the two traditional sub-items under the item "Arrangements for the Conference", namely "Adoption of the agenda and allocation of items for initial discussion" and "Closing date of the session and opening date of the next session", the provisional agenda for the meeting (GC(44)/GEN/1) contained an item dealing with requests for restoration of voting rights. So far, the Secretariat had received two requests: one set forth in document GC(44)/INF/15, and another to be submitted later when the relevant documentation had been finalized.

3. If there were no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the agenda proposed in document GC(44)/GEN/1.

4. It was so decided.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONFERENCE

(a) ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS FOR INITIAL
DISCUSSION
(GC(44)/1 and Add.1)

5. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the provisional agenda for the Conference (GC(44)/1 and Add.1). The addendum to the document related to a request by Australia for the inclusion of a supplementary item entitled "Outcomes of the NPT Review Conference relevant to the activities of the IAEA". The explanatory memorandum required under Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure was contained in the addendum.

6. He suggested that the agenda for the current session consist of all the items listed in document GC(44)/1 and the supplementary item proposed by Australia.

7. It was so agreed.

8. The CHAIRMAN said that if there were no objections he would take it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference the allocation of items and order of discussion set out in documents GC(44)/1 and Add.1.

9. It was so decided.

(b) CLOSING DATE OF THE SESSION AND OPENING DATE OF THE NEXT SESSION

10. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee recommend to the General Conference that the closing date of the session be Friday, 22 September 2000.

11. It was so decided.

12. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee recommend to the General Conference that the opening date of the next regular session be Monday, 17 September 2001.

13. It was so decided.

(c) RESTORATION OF VOTING RIGHTS
(GC(44)/INF/15)

14. The CHAIRMAN said that a request for restoration of voting rights had been submitted by Iraq in document GC(44)/INF/15.

15. Under Article XIX.A of the Statute, a Member State which was in arrears with the payment of its financial contributions to the Agency had no vote in the Agency if the amount of its arrears equalled or exceeded the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two years. The General Conference could nevertheless permit such a member to vote if it was satisfied that the failure to pay was due to conditions beyond the control of the member. It was on that basis that Iraq had applied to have its vote restored.

16. In 1998, the General Conference had adopted, through resolution GC(42)/RES/4, criteria and guidelines for consideration by the Conference of future requests for the restoration of voting rights. They were set out in documents GC(44)/INF/11 and Add.1. In November 1998, at the request of the General Conference, the Board of Governors had adopted measures, set out in document GOV/1998/54/Rev.2, to facilitate the payment of contributions by Member States in arrears. Compliance by affected Member States with agreed arrangements for settling arrears in accordance with measures adopted by the Board had been intended to be one of the criteria to guide the Conference in its consideration of requests for the restoration of voting rights.

17. Ms. KENNEDY (United States of America) said the heart of the issue was whether a State's ability to pay was considered to be beyond its control. Her Government most definitely felt that that was not the case with Iraq, which would be able to pay if it met the conditions mandated by the Security Council.

18. Mr. MORGAN (Canada) said that the circumstances and conditions prevailing now were the same as in 1999. The Committee should accordingly adopt the same decision as in 1999.

19. The CHAIRMAN asked whether he could take it that the Committee held that Iraq's failure to pay the amount necessary to avoid the application of Article XIX.A of the Statute was not due to conditions beyond its control and that it therefore recommended that Iraq not be permitted to vote.

20. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 2.45 p.m.