



GC

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International Atomic Energy Agency

GENERAL Distr.

GENERAL CONFERENCE

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Forty-fourth regular session

ADVANCE INFORMATION FOR DELEGATIONS

OPENING OF THE FORTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

1. The forty-fourth regular session of the General Conference will open on Monday, 18 September 2000, at 10.00 a.m.¹ It will be held at the Austria Center Vienna (ACV), Bruno Kreisky Platz, 1220 Vienna, next to the Vienna International Centre (VIC).

2. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference, morning meetings will begin at 10.00 a.m. and afternoon meetings at 3.00 p.m. Delegates are requested to be in their places by those times in order to allow meetings to start punctually. If evening meetings prove to be necessary, the starting times will be announced during the session.

PRE-SESSION CONSULTATIONS

3. During the weekend preceding the opening of the Conference's session (Saturday, 16 September and Sunday, 17 September 2000), facilities for group meetings are being made available on request. Member States are strongly urged to avail themselves of those facilities, ideally following preliminary meetings in the margins of the Board meetings to be held during the preceding week, with a view to achieving agreement on organizational matters (e.g. regarding the composition of the General Committee) before the session opens on Monday, 18 September. This will contribute to the smooth running of the Conference's session. Consequently, Member States should ensure - where necessary - that their representatives arrive in Vienna in time to participate in pre-session group meetings and the associated group decision-making. Meeting rooms should be reserved in good time through the Secretariat's Conference Service Section.

NOTIFICATION OF THE COMPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS

4. 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 has been transmitted to Permanent Missions. Rule 23 of the Conference's Rules of Procedure² 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. A preliminary list of members of delegations will be issued

¹ The provisional agenda for the forty-fourth regular session is contained in document GC(44)/1.

² GC(XXXI)/INF/245/Rev.1.

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

on Wednesday, 13 September 2000; only those names which are received by the Secretariat before Friday, 8 September can be included in it. The first official list of members of delegations will be issued on Sunday, 17 September; it will contain information which has been communicated to the Secretariat by 6.00 p.m. on Thursday, 14 September.

5. If, during the session, changes are required in the particulars provided at the time of registration, delegations are requested to inform Protocol in writing, so that the list of delegation members may be brought up to date.

CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATES

6. Delegates (but not other members of a delegation) will require credentials specifically for the session, even if they are 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, in accordance with Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure, credentials should be submitted to the Director General if possible not later than Monday, 11 September 2000, issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Member concerned. If credentials have not been submitted by Friday, 15 September, Delegations should deliver them directly to the Credentials Officers at the ACV either on Sunday, 17 September, between 2.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. or on the following Monday morning.

REGISTRATION FOR BADGES

7. 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.

8. Participants may register on Friday, 15 September 2000 at the Agency's Registration Desk in the VIC between 9.00 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. and on Sunday, 17 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 in the ACV.

9. Participants also attending the meetings of the Board of Governors which start on Monday, 11 September 2000, may register simultaneously for both the Board's meetings and the Conference's regular session at the Agency's Registration Desk in the VIC between 8.30 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. on Monday, 11 September and Tuesday, 12 September, provided they inform the Secretariat of their intention to do so before Friday, 8 September.

DOCUMENTS

10. Delegates are reminded that General Conference documentation is available electronically and are urged to make full use of this service so as to reduce the costs to the Agency of printing and distributing hard copies of documents. (The address is <http://www.iaea.or.at/GC/gc44/documents/>). Each delegation is urged to visit the Documents Distribution Centre in room FM152 in the VIC not later than Friday, 15 September 2000, and specify its requirements for documents produced during the Conference 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, 17 September, between 2.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. or on the following Monday morning.

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

12. Delegates wishing to submit draft resolutions or other documents to the Conference during the session are requested to provide the Conference Secretary or the appropriate Committee Secretary with the text as early as possible.

SPEAKERS IN THE GENERAL DEBATE

13. Until the beginning of the Conference's session on Monday, 18 September 2000, requests for inscription in 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 2862). As Member States were informed by document GC(44)/INF/1, issued on 15 May 2000, inscription in the list of speakers started on 14 June 2000; a ballot was taken at 11.00 a.m. on that day in order to determine the order of priority among the Member States whose representatives had - between 10.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. - personally made a request for inscription in the list.³ Member States requesting, after 11.00 a.m. on 14 June, inscription in the list are being added in the order in which they make such requests. It should be noted, however, that the practice of giving priority to Ministers participating in the general debate will continue.

14. Delegates who have not inscribed their names in the list by the beginning of the session but wish to speak in the general debate are requested to contact the official responsible for maintaining the speakers' list, who will have a desk in Conference Room A (where the plenary meetings will take place). Delegates should also contact that official if they wish to speak on other items at plenary meetings.

15. The general debate usually extends over about four days of the Conference's sessions. With a view to making the best use of the time available during the forthcoming session, which is expected to last five days only, Member States may wish to consider the desirability of making group statements - a practice which is being followed in other UN organizations.

STATEMENTS IN THE GENERAL DEBATE

16. To make more efficient use of the general debate, and in line with the recommendations on 'Streamlining the work of the General Conference' approved in 1998 by the Conference in decision GC(42)/DEC/13, Delegates are invited to keep the duration of their statements to 15 minutes by focusing on the main points which they wish to make. Copies of the full texts (in the original language) will, if Delegates so request, be made available to other Delegates during the session.

17. To facilitate interpretation, texts of statements to be delivered should be handed to the Conference Officer in advance. It is of considerable help if the texts of statements provided to the

³ This procedure was approved by the Conference in 1989.

Secretariat are typed with double line spacing. In addition, to facilitate posting of statements on the Agency's website, copies of statements should also be provided in electronic form as early as possible to the Division of Public Information. Statements may be e-mailed to: worldatom@iaea.org.

WORKING LANGUAGES AND INTERPRETATION

18. The working languages of the Conference are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, and statements made in any one of these languages will be interpreted simultaneously into the others. If Delegates wish to make a speech in a language other than the working languages, they should, under Rule 87 of the Rules of Procedure, themselves arrange for interpretation into one of the working languages. Delegates are asked to provide the Secretariat with a written text of their speech in advance in that working language.

PLEDGES OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION FUND FOR 2001

19. A target has so far not been set for Members' contributions to the Technical Co-operation Fund for 2001. As a result, it has not been possible for the Secretariat at present to advise Member States of their respective shares of the target. It is expected, however, that a target will be recommended by the Board of Governors in September for the approval of the General Conference.

SCIENTIFIC FORUM ORGANIZED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CONFERENCE'S SESSION

20. The purpose of the Scientific Forum, established in 1998, is to stimulate discussion of scientific and technical issues relating to the Agency's activities and of interest to Member States. This year the Scientific Forum is on the theme "*Radioactive Waste Management: Turning Options into Solutions*". A summary of the proposed programme of discussions, to take place on 19 and 20 September 2000, is set out below. The full provisional programme is provided as an Attachment to this document.

Tuesday, 19 September 2000

10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.: Session 1 - *Opening of the Scientific Forum
Setting the Scene*

3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.: Session 2 - *Technology Aspects: What is being done and
looking ahead*

Wednesday, 20 September 2000

10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.: Session 3 - *Safety Aspects: Can we safely manage
radioactive waste?*

3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.: Session 4 - *Panel: Where do we go from here?*

All sessions will take place in Conference Room C (ACV).

The Scientific Forum is open to the general public. Advance registration is requested to facilitate entry to the Austria Center Vienna. It would be greatly appreciated if the Division of Conference and Document Services could be informed, if possible, by 1 September 2000, of the names of individuals attending only the Forum, together with the names and addresses (including e-mail and fax numbers) of their respective organizations.

SENIOR REGULATORS' MEETING

21. The meeting will take place on Thursday 21 September 2000. The provisional programme is as follows:

9.30 a.m.	Opening remarks Presentation of the Report on: IAEA Peer Group Discussions on the regulatory control of contractors by operating organizations.
	Session I: Impact of economic deregulation on nuclear safety regulatory work
12.30 p.m. - 2.00 p.m.	Lunch Buffet
2.00 p.m.	Session II: Research capacity needed by operating organizations to ensure operational safety in the long term
4.00 p.m.	Session III: Regulatory control of radiation sources and radioactive materials
5.00 p.m.	Chairman's closing remarks

Discussions will be conducted in English only.

The meeting will take place in Conference Room II, 7th floor of Building C, VIC. Further information may be obtained from the Department of Nuclear Safety (Tel.: 2600/22551).

TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION MEETINGS

- (i) Regional Co-operation Agreements: AFRA; ARCAL; RCA**
- (ii) Joint Meetings of Chairpersons and Representatives of Members States of AFRA, ARCAL and RCA**
- (iii) Regional Technical Co-operation Programmes: EUROPE; WEST ASIA**
- (iv) National Case Studies on: The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and Nuclear Power**

22. There will be meetings of groups and representatives of Regional Co-operative Agreements (AFRA, ARCAL, RCA). These individual group meetings will be followed by a Tripartite Forum with the Chairmen of the Groups and designated representatives of Member States. The representatives of Member States from the regions of Europe and West Asia will also hold individual group meetings. The Departments of Nuclear Energy and Technical Co-

operation will facilitate a special side meeting of interested Member States to discuss the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), and present results of four recently undertaken national (China, India, Pakistan and Viet Nam) case studies.

23. The timetable and location of the meetings are as follows:

AFRA:

Tuesday, 19 September 2000, from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
Meeting Room V, 7th Floor of Building C, VIC

ARCAL:

Tuesday, 19 September 2000, from 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.
Meeting Room V, 7th Floor of Building C, VIC

RCA:

Wednesday, 20 September 2000, from 9.00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
and from 3.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
Meeting Room V, 7th Floor of Building C, VIC

Tripartite Forum (AFRA/ARCAL/RCA):

Thursday, 21 September 2000, from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
and from 5.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
Meeting Room V, 7th Floor of Building C, VIC

Europe:

Thursday, 21 September 2000, from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon.
IAEA Board Room, 4th Floor of Building C, VIC

West Asia:

Thursday, 21 September 2000, from 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.
Meeting Room A-450, 3rd Floor, ACV

Case Studies on The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and Nuclear Power:

Thursday, 21 September 2000, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Conference Room "O", 1st Floor, ACV

(v) Consultations with Member States

24. Consultations with the representatives of most Member States that are engaged in technical co-operation activities with the Agency will be held prior to the Conference sessions. For those delegations present in Vienna only during the General Conference, and for specific issues and/or special problems, meetings will be arranged during the General Conference. In such cases, the Department of Technical Co-operation will provide advance notice of the schedule of meetings with individual Delegations. However, if no advance notice is issued and Member States' representatives wish to discuss technical co-operation projects, Delegations are requested to contact their corresponding TC Regional Section Head (Africa - Mr. A. Boussaha; Europe - Mr. M. Samiei; East Asia & the Pacific - Mr. M. Razley; Latin America - Mr. G. Piderit; West Asia - Mr. S. Chaudhri) at the ACV.

EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS

25. A number of displays will be featured, including displays by Member States and Agency programme areas. Information on specific displays may be found in the Daily Journal published during the Conference.

EXTERNAL E-MAIL SERVICE

26. Delegates will be able to receive and send electronic mail during the Conference.

27. The public address is: "GENCONF00@IAEA.ORG". Senders should specify the recipient's name and country in the subject line in order to ensure that the message is allocated to the proper delegate. Messages sent to this e-mail address may be picked up by delegates at the information desk. This e-mail address may be used only to receive messages.

28. In addition to the above general e-mail address, delegates may register during the Conference for an individual e-mail address valid for the duration of the General Conference. Computers will be available so that delegates may send and receive e-mail messages using their individual e-mail address.

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 any amount in Austrian Schillings. It is, however, recommended that Conference participants keep the receipts relating to all major currency exchange transactions in case they need to re-exchange currencies on their departure from Austria.

PARKING

3. Parking facilities will be available on parking decks 1 and 2 of the ACV. 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, Delegates are requested upon arrival to take a parking ticket from the ACV parking dispenser. This ticket should then be exchanged for a long-term, cost-free permit at the Registration Desk.

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 issuance 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.

**Scientific Forum during the 44th Session
of the General Conference (to be held on 19 and 20 September 2000)**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

“Radioactive Waste Management: Turning Options into Solutions”

Objective

To bring to the attention of senior governmental representatives present at the General Conference some of the important scientific and technical issues in the field of radioactive waste management and to promote awareness of the international dimension of current developments.

Sessions of the Scientific Forum

The first three sessions of the Scientific Forum will contain invited presentations by persons eminent in their fields. The final session will take the form of a panel discussion. Throughout the Scientific Forum participants from Member States and international organizations are expected to engage in discussions with the speakers and panelists.

Programme

Morning of Tuesday 19 September 2000

Opening

Opening Statement by Dr. M. ElBaradei, Director General of the IAEA.

Remarks by Chairperson of the Scientific Forum - *Dr. S. Jackson*, USA.

Rapporteur - *Mr. L. Williams*, UK

Session 1: Setting the Scene

Session Chair - *Prof. T. Taniguchi*, Japan

Topic 1

An overview of the world status of radioactive waste management

Presenter - *Prof. F. Parker*, IIASA /Vanderbilt University

This will include basic information on radioactive wastes in the world, different types, disposition, trends, and issues in different countries.

Topic 2

Strategy for developing a national repository for spent fuel

Presenter - *Mr. P. Nygårds*, Sweden

The background and basis for the strategy as well as the obstacles encountered and how they are being dealt with in one country will be described.

Afternoon of Tuesday 19 September 2000

Session 2: Technology Aspects: What is being done and looking ahead

Session Chair - *Academician N. Laverov*, Russian Federation.

Topic 1

An integrated approach to radioactive waste management

Presenter - *Mr. Y. Le Bars*, France

This presentation will describe a comprehensive programme for the management and disposal of radioactive wastes from all sources in an industrialized country with nuclear power. It will examine the extent to which the programme has been successful from technical, political and economic viewpoints.

Topic 2

Novel technologies - what are the incentives?

Presenter - (to be confirmed)

In view of the problems being encountered in radioactive waste disposal due to lack of public acceptance and nuclear proliferation concerns, attention has turned to the possibility of exploring other technologies which would reduce these problems. This presentation will review developments and the likelihood of their success.

Topic 3

Radioactive waste management in a country which has no nuclear power programme

Presenter - *Dr. H. Garnett*, Australia

This presentation will outline the radioactive waste management issues which exist in a country which has no nuclear power programme. These can arise from research reactor operations, isotope production and applications, uranium mining and milling and legacies of past activities.

Morning of Wednesday 20 September 2000.

Session 3: Safety Aspects: Can we Safely Manage Radioactive Waste?

Session Chair - (to be confirmed)

Topic 1

The Safety of Radioactive Waste Management: the Córdoba Conference and beyond.

Presenter - *Mr. P. Metcalf*, South Africa

While there was agreement among the many experts gathered at the Córdoba Conference on the basic safety concepts which apply to radioactive waste management, there remains a number of issues which still require resolution in the area of waste disposal. The presentation will summarize the outcome of the Córdoba Conference and present the remaining issues.

Topic 2

Assuring the safe international transport of radioactive waste

Presenter - *Mr. H. Hesse*, IMO

Recent events have shown that the transport of radioactive wastes by land or by sea raises public and political concerns. This presentation will review the situation from the perspective of an international organization with responsibility for setting international transportation standards.

Topic 3

Spent sealed sources - are they being managed safely?

Presenter - *Mr. D. Beninson*, Argentina

The frequency of incidents involving old and disused sealed radiation sources does not seem to be declining. What more needs to be done? This presentation will review the current situation and plans for intensifying international action.

Afternoon of Wednesday 20 September 2000

Session 5: Panel at the Forum

Panel Chair - *Dr. S. Jackson*, USA

An international panel will be asked to reflect on some of the key issues which need to be resolved in radioactive waste management.

a) International Advice - Setting the Scene

Guidance of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP)
Prof. R Clarke, Chairman of the ICRP

Advice of the International Nuclear Safety Advisory Group (INSAG)
Prof. A. Baer, Chairman of INSAG

b) Panel “Where do we go from here?”

Panel Members:

Mr. K. Balu, India

Prof. A. Baer, INSAG

Mr. S. Carroll, Greenpeace

Prof. R. Clarke, ICRP

Mr. G. Dials, USA

Mr. A.-C. Lacoste, France

Mr. H. Yang, China

Mr. V. Grachev, Russian Federation