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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RECORD OF THE SECOND MEETING

Held at the Austria Center Vienna on Tuesday, 18 September 2001, at 3.20 p.m.

Chairperson: Ms. HERNES (Norway)

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[*] GC(45)/28.

The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document GC(45)/INF/17/Rev.2.

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Abbreviations used in this record

IMO	International Maritime Organization
OAU	Organization of African Unity
SIT	Sterile insect technique
TCDC	Technical co-operation among developing countries
Transport Regulations	Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material

ELECTION OF A FURTHER VICE-CHAIRMAN

1. The <u>CHAIRPERSON</u> said that it had been proposed that Mr. Sreenivasan (India) also serve as a Vice-Chairman of the Committee. She took it that the Committee wished to endorse the nomination of Mr. Sreenivasan.

2. <u>It was so agreed</u>.

MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN NUCLEAR, RADIATION, TRANSPORT AND WASTE SAFETY (continued)

(e) OTHER SAFETY MATTERS (GC(45)/INF/6 and GC(45)/COM.5/L.2)

3. The representative of <u>EGYPT</u>, introducing the draft resolution on education and training in document GC(45)/COM.5/L.2 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that its main purpose was to underline the relevance of the Strategic Plan referred to in operative paragraph 2.

4. The representative of <u>ISRAEL</u> proposed inserting, after operative paragraph 3, a paragraph to the effect that all Agency activities should be open to participants from all Member States.

5. The representative of <u>EGYPT</u> said that in his view the proposed wording implied that some Agency activities were not open to participants from all Member States, which was not the case.

6. The representative of <u>BULGARIA</u> suggested that "nuclear," be inserted before "radiation" in preambular paragraph (c) and operative paragraph 1, so that the two paragraphs would be more in line with the corresponding paragraphs of resolution GC(44)/RES/13.

7. The representative of <u>ECUADOR</u>, drawing attention to paragraph 14 of document GC(45)/13, where mention was made of a Secretariat invitation to Member States to have key regulatory personnel trained in the application of the Agency's Transport Regulations, proposed that ", transport" be inserted after "radiation" in the two paragraphs referred to by the representative of Bulgaria.

8. <u>The two suggestions were accepted.</u>

9. The representative of <u>ISRAEL</u>, expressing concern that participants from certain Member States might be denied access to some training activities, said it was important that all Agency activities should be open to participants from all Member States. That was the reason for the proposal just made by her.

10. The <u>DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF RADIATION AND WASTE SAFETY</u> said he was unaware of any cases where the Secretariat had restricted the access of participants from certain Member States to training activities in the field of radiation safety. Of course, it had no authority to require host countries to amend their visa regulations.

11. The representative of <u>ISRAEL</u> said that her delegation would like to see all Agency activities taking place in locations to which participants from all Member States had free access.

12. The <u>CHAIRPERSON</u> suggested adding the phrase "and the importance of broad access to such training for participants from all Member States" at the end of preambular paragraph (c).

13. The representative of <u>EGYPT</u> said that he was opposed to the inclusion of the words "for participants from all Member States", since they implied that the Secretariat's approach was a biased one.

14. The representative of <u>ISRAEL</u> said that her delegation would like the words "for participants from all Member States" to be retained.

15. The representative of <u>UKRAINE</u> proposed, as an alternative, "and the importance of unrestricted access to such training".

16. The representative of <u>EGYPT</u>, supported by the representative of <u>MOROCCO</u>, said that the word "unrestricted" implied that there was some danger of restrictions being applied by the Secretariat.

17. The representative of the <u>ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN</u> suggested the phrase "and the importance of broad access to such training".

18. The representative of <u>GERMANY</u>, expressing a preference for "broad access" rather than "unrestricted access", said the host State agreements concluded between the Agency and Member States in which courses were to be conducted addressed the question of any restrictions that might be imposed.

19. The <u>CHAIRPERSON</u> suggested that the issue of the wording of preambular paragraph (c) be considered in informal discussions outside the Committee.

- 20. It was so agreed.
- (c) TRANSPORT SAFETY (GC(45)/13, GC(45)/INF/18 and GC(45)/COM.5/L.3)

21. The representative of <u>NEW ZEALAND</u>, introducing the draft resolution contained in document GC(45)/COM.5/L.3, said that the concerns of her country about shipments of nuclear materials through the Pacific region were shared by its neighbours and also by coastal States along other routes used by shippers of nuclear materials. Those concerns were based on a hard-headed assessment of the environmental and economic damage in the event of an

incident. The risk of an incident was admittedly small, but the environmental and economic damage could be very substantial.

22. New Zealand appreciated its active bilateral and regional dialogue with Japan, the United Kingdom and France and welcomed the recent talks between those transport States and Pacific Island Forum members on liability and compensation issues. It also appreciated the current voluntary practice whereby those shipping States engaged New Zealand in dialogue and consultation in advance of shipments of nuclear materials and also the assurance that the vessels in question would enter its exclusive economic zone only in emergency circumstances.

23. However, New Zealand believed that bilateral and regional efforts to address the issues at stake would be strengthened by international efforts - in the General Conference and in other forums - to draw up a realistic but progressive agenda for improving the mechanisms relevant to the international maritime transport of radioactive materials and spent fuel. That view had been acknowledged in resolution GC(44)RES/17 adopted by consensus by the General Conference in September 2000 and by the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development in April 2001.

24. New Zealand continued to believe that more could be done to ensure that States adopted national regulations which met the highest possible standards, and that was reflected in operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 5 of the draft resolution.

25. Referring to operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, where the issue of liability arrangements was highlighted, she said that the countries of the Pacific attached great importance to the regional talks currently under way on that issue and were pleased with the progress made in July, in Fiji, at the most recent round of talks.

26. The draft resolution built on agreement - reached at previous sessions of the General Conferences - that States shipping nuclear materials should provide relevant information about the shipments to coastal and other potentially affected States, and there had been consensus at the recent session of the Commission on Sustainable Development about the need for further improvement in that respect. The purpose of the request made of shipping States in operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution was to promote a consistent, although voluntary, approach to the dialogue and consultations practised by most shipping States.

27. The overall purpose of the draft resolution was thus to prepare the ground for improving the current dialogue and addressing concerns about shipments of nuclear materials in a manner consistent with international law.

28. The representative of <u>CHILE</u>, drawing attention to document GC(45)/INF/18 ("Declarations by Member States and regional groups regarding safety in the maritime transport of radioactive material"), said that no country or international body could guarantee that there was nothing to fear from the maritime transport of radioactive material.

29. The purpose of the draft resolution before the Committee was to make the maritime transport of such material safe and foreseeable by requiring, as a minimum precaution, the

timely notification of planned shipments. Chile found it unacceptable, for example, to be given notification only 24 hours in advance, as had occurred on a number of occasions. When member countries of the South Pacific Permanent Commission were not even informed of such shipments, there was a clear breach of international norms of good conduct and of basic principles of international law. The safety of countries close to the shipping routes concerned was being compromised at a time when the highest priority should be given to international security.

30. The representative of <u>ALGERIA</u>, expressing support for the draft resolution under consideration, said that national regulations that took account of the Agency's Transport Regulations were soon to be promulgated in his country.

31. The representative of <u>INDONESIA</u> said that, as the largest archipelagic country in the world and a country traversed by three major international sea-lanes, Indonesia attached great importance to the draft resolution, which was a significant improvement on the corresponding resolution adopted at the General Conference's previous session. The new elements which it contained would doubtless be viewed with concern by some Member States, but his delegation hoped that the consideration of it would be guided by the need for consensus-building.

32. The representative of <u>ARGENTINA</u> said that the need to improve safety in the maritime transport of radioactive material and the issue of liability in the event of an accident during the maritime transport of such material had attracted increasing international attention in recent years, as could be seen from document GC(45)/INF/18.

33. Argentina considered it important to continue the current dialogue with shipping States with a view to revising and updating the Agency's Transport Regulations.

34. His delegation hoped that the draft resolution under consideration would be adopted by consensus.

35. The representative of <u>MEXICO</u>, expressing support for the draft resolution, proposed inserting the words "a potential accident during" before "the transport of radioactive material by sea" in preambular paragraph (d).

36. The representative of <u>UKRAINE</u>, expressing support for the draft resolution, said that his country had already incorporated the Agency's Transport Regulations into its national legislation and was a party to the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage.

37. The representative of the <u>UNITED KINGDOM</u> said that his delegation had difficulties with the draft resolution under consideration. It would have liked to see in it references to the conclusions in the recently issued IAEA-TECDOC-1231 entitled "Severity, probability and risks of accidents during maritime transport of radioactive material", to the safety record of the maritime transport of radioactive material and to the fact that compliance with regulations which took account of the Agency's Transport Regulations were providing a high level of safety during the transport of radioactive material.

38. Further, his delegation had difficulties with the references in the draft resolution to "economic loss" and "objective responsibility" - concepts which, in its view, might well not be compatible with current international law - and with the references to "liability" and "prior notification" - concepts which might well not be consistent with the principles of freedom of navigation on the high seas and innocent passage in territorial waters enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

39. The representative of <u>AUSTRALIA</u> said that, as both a coastal State and a shipper of radioactive material, his country appreciated the issues before the Committee and that his delegation looked forward to co-operating in efforts to arrive at a consensus resolution.

40. There had been encouraging progress in recent months in the dialogue between coastal and shipping States, as indicated in a communiqué in which leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum countries had in August referred to "the continued constructive and useful discussions taking place between Forum members and government officials and nuclear industry representatives from France, Japan and the United Kingdom on innovative arrangements and assurances to meet Forum members' continuing concerns".

41. Australia looked forward to participating constructively in the Conference on the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material which the Secretariat planned to hold early in 2003 and hoped that the Conference would play a useful role in addressing the concerns of coastal States.

42. Australia acknowledged the sovereign right of countries to choose how they generated electricity, nuclear power being a legitimate option which might necessitate shipments of nuclear material, but it expected the States shipping nuclear material to conform with the international standards of safety and physical protection established by the Agency and IMO. It had confidence in the effectiveness of those standards, as nuclear material had been transported around the world since the 1960s without, according to the Secretariat, any accident resulting in the release of radioactivity. In that connection, his delegation welcomed the publication of IAEA-TECDOC-1231.

43. Australia, while considering that international law granted all States the right of freedom of navigation on the high seas or through the exclusive economic zones of coastal States and the right of innocent passage through territorial seas, recognized the concerns of coastal States - including concerns about liability and compensation. It would continue to participate actively in the dialogue between Pacific Islands Forum countries on one hand and shipping States on the other in the relevant international fora.

44. Referring to operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, he expressed reservations about language which seemed to introduce the concept of compensation for loss due to perceptions of risk. His delegation would prefer the language in paragraph 8 of resolution GC(44)RES/17.

45. Referring to operative paragraph 6, he said that in his delegation's view the request for prior notification of shipments of radioactive material - even with the caveat that the

information provided should be consistent with physical security and safety - went too far. It suggested some form of obligation, and mandatory notification would undermine both the physical security of shipments and the principle of freedom of navigation enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. His delegation would prefer the language in operative paragraph 7 of resolution GC(44)RES/17.

46. The representative of <u>JAPAN</u> said that his delegation, which was very conscious of the concerns of many countries about safety in the maritime transport of radioactive material, hoped that the issue would not be politicized in the General Conference but considered from the technical point of view.

47. His delegation had major difficulties with parts of the draft resolution, but looked forward to discussing them with the sponsors.

48. The representative of <u>FRANCE</u> said that his country and the United Kingdom on one hand and Japan on the other had been transporting nuclear material by sea for the past 30 years without accidents, thanks to the fact that they applied the strictest safety standards - standards which conformed to the international law of the sea. They were conducting an intensive dialogue with other interested countries, and his delegation therefore considered that there was no justification for departing substantially from GC(44)/RES/17, which should constitute the basis for discussions on the draft resolution under consideration.

49. The representative of <u>CHILE</u>, responding to the statement made by the representative of France, said that the fact that there had been no accidents for 30 years was no guarantee that there would never be an accident - an accident from which developing countries might well suffer the most.

50. Responding to the statement made by the representative of Japan, he said that the sponsors of the draft resolution had no intention to politicize the issue of safety in the maritime transport of radioactive material. The draft resolution had been put together with a view to protecting the safety interests of the international community as a whole in the face of very powerful commercial interests.

51. With regard to the comment made by the United Kingdom representative about "objective responsibility", he said that Chile had ratified a treaty regarding objective responsibility in the 1980s.

52. He hoped that some shipping States would give prior notification of shipments simply as an act of good will vis-à-vis the potentially affected countries.

53. The <u>CHAIRPERSON</u> suggested that the Committee finish hearing initial statements of Member States' positions before embarking on the dialogue which representatives were clearly interested in.

54. The representative of <u>CANADA</u> said that, as his country had three long coastlines and was a major shipper of nuclear material, it was very interested in the issue and the draft resolution under consideration.

55. Having endorsed points made by the representatives of the United Kingdom, Japan and France, he said that most of the nuclear material of concern to small island developing States and other coastal States was transported in containers built to internationally agreed standards aboard purpose-built vessels which were registered in responsible States.

56. The requirements for the maritime transport of nuclear material were already more stringent than those for the transport of most other dangerous goods, despite the more limited consequences generally expected in the event of an accident at sea involving nuclear material.

57. A "prior informed consent" requirement might be desirable, but an international consensus regarding it was unlikely to emerge in the near future. Measures to strengthen safety must be realistic and have broad support, adequate account being taken of maritime freedoms established in international law. In his delegation's view, the draft resolution under consideration failed in that regard.

58. The representative of the <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u> said that his country, with its tens of thousands of kilometres of coastline, was a coastal State and understood the concerns of other coastal States. Also, it shipped a certain amount of nuclear material.

59. The draft resolution under consideration contained certain concepts - for example, "the risk of economic loss" and "the principle of objective responsibility" - which did not feature in resolution GC(44)/RES/17. His delegation felt that those concepts did not constitute an improvement, but it was open to dialogue in the interests of arriving at a consensus.

60. The representative of the <u>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</u>, having endorsed points made by the representatives of the United Kingdom, Japan and France, said, with regard to the comment just made by the representative of Chile regarding a guarantee that there would never be an accident during the maritime transport of nuclear material, that no human endeavour was risk-free; the real issue was whether the risk was unreasonably high.

61. Despite its difficulties with the draft resolution, his delegation was keen to reach a consensus on constructive language through dialogue.

62. The representative of <u>PERU</u> said that some of the wording in the draft resolution derived from a recommendation of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development.

63. The representative of <u>COLOMBIA</u>, having expressed support for the comments just made by the representative of Chile, said that, as a country with both a Pacific and an Atlantic coastline, Colombia was particularly sensitive regarding the issue of safety in the maritime transport of nuclear material.

64. The sponsors of the draft resolution had no desire to restrict freedom of navigation on the high seas or to create a binding legal instrument.

65. The representative of <u>NIGERIA</u> said that his country, as a coastal State and a developing country, was concerned about the safety of the maritime transport of radioactive material. Despite the safety record of the maritime transport of such material over the past 30 years, it could not be taken for granted that there would never be an accident - people took out motor vehicle insurance even if they had been driving without an accident for the past 30-40 years.

66. His delegation believed that prior notification arrangements and effective liability mechanisms should be put in place given the potential for an accident acknowledged at the end of operative paragraph 4.

67. The representative of <u>BRAZIL</u> said that her country remained concerned about the increasing frequency of maritime shipments of radioactive material and would like to see the Agency's Transport Regulations being applied as widely as possible, together with effective liability mechanisms and the prior notification of transit States.

68. The representative of <u>ECUADOR</u>, having pointed out that the sponsors of the draft resolution were not all Latin American countries, said that his country was a sponsor because it was concerned about the dangerous radioactive waste that was being transported internationally. His delegation, which believed in the "polluter pays" principle, attached great importance to the recommendation of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development referred to in document GC(45)/INF/18.

69. The representative of <u>URUGUAY</u>, endorsing the comment of the representative of Chile regarding the lack of a guarantee that there would be no accidents in the future in the maritime transport of nuclear material, said that the shipping countries seemed not to trust the Member States sponsoring the draft resolution, which wanted recognition of their logical right to be informed of shipments of such material in advance when they were likely to be affected by an accident.

70. The kind of information which the shipping countries should provide could be negotiated. Some coastal States had concluded bilateral agreements with shipping countries whereby they received - for example - notification of shipments at least ten days in advance and information about the configuration of the vessel.

71. The envisaged dialogue, which his delegation was ready to engage in, should not be preceded by the rejection of certain elements of the draft resolution.

72. The representative of <u>FINLAND</u>, thanking the sponsors of the draft resolution, said that his country had long experience in the area of the transport of radioactive material and attached great importance to transport safety.

73. Noting that the draft resolution did not distinguish between different kinds of radioactive material, he said that a distinction was made in the Agency's Transport Regulations and should be made in resolutions on transport safety.

74. Commending the statement made by the representative of Australia, he said that his delegation also had difficulties with the references in the draft resolution to "objective responsibility" and "arrangements for prior notification". The question of prior notification was a particularly difficult one given the importance of the physical security of shipments of radioactive material.

75. The representative of <u>SOUTH AFRICA</u> said that, as a coastal State, his country had a keen interest in the issues touched on in the draft resolution - especially that of effective liability mechanisms.

76. In his delegation's view, a prior notification requirement would not affect the freedom of navigation if the details were worked out in a spirit of co-operation.

77. The representative of <u>BOLIVIA</u> said that his country was an active participant in the work of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, referred to in document GC(45)/INF/18, and that his delegation hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted as a step towards ensuring greater safety in the transport of radioactive material.

78. The representative of <u>CHINA</u> said that, while keen to ensure the highest levels of safety in the transport of radioactive material, his delegation had reservations about preambular paragraph (c) of the draft resolution, which envisaged the possibility of the Agency's Transport Regulations being revised every two years. In his delegation's view, there should be longer intervals between revisions of the Agency's Transport Regulations.

79. The representative of <u>TURKEY</u> said that, despite some of the comments which had been made regarding the draft resolution, he was optimistic about the outcome of the Committee's deliberations since the basic concern of everyone was safety and security.

80. The <u>DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF RADIATION AND WASTE SAFETY</u>, referring to the statement just made by the representative of China, said that the Agency's Transport Regulations would be reviewed, rather than revised, every two years. They would be revised only when, in the light of a review, a revised edition was considered to be necessary.

81. The <u>CHAIRPERSON</u> said that she had decided to establish an open-ended sub-group, chaired by Ambassador Hughes of Australia, to examine the draft resolution in detail. The group would meet at 10.30 a.m. the next day in her office.

STRENGTHENING THE AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES RELATED TO NUCLEAR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND APPLICATIONS

(a) PLAN FOR PRODUCING POTABLE WATER ECONOMICALLY (GC(45)/15 and GC(45)/COM.5/L.4)

82. The representative of <u>EGYPT</u>, introducing the draft resolution in document GC(45)/COM.5/L.4 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, expressed the hope that the Secretariat would further strengthen its efforts in response to recommendations made by the International Nuclear Desalination Advisory Group (INDAG).

83. The representative of <u>ISRAEL</u> suggested amending paragraph 4 of the draft resolution through deletion of the word "developing", so that the paragraph would read "... open for the participation of any interested country".

84. The <u>CHAIRPERSON</u>, responding to a comment made by the representative of <u>JAPAN</u>, suggested that the phrase "the slow progress made" in preambular paragraph (h) be amended to read "the rate of progress".

85. The representative of <u>EGYPT</u> said that the two suggestions were acceptable.

86. The <u>CHAIRPERSON</u> took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution in document GC(45)/COM.5/L.4 with the suggested amendments.

87. <u>It was so agreed.</u>

STRENGTHENING OF THE AGENCY'S TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES

 Draft resolution entitled "SUPPORT TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY'S PAN-AFRICAN TSETSE AND TRYPANOSOMIASIS ERADICATION CAMPAIGN (PATTEC)" (GC(45)/COM.5/L.9)

88. The representative of <u>NIGERIA</u>, introducing the draft resolution, said that the OAU, meeting recently in Zambia, had called for broad technical assistance in support of the efforts of African countries to eradicate the tsetse fly - and particularly in support of the OAU's Plan of Action for eradicating the tsetse fly through use of the SIT.

89. The representative of <u>ETHIOPIA</u>, urging delegations to support the draft resolution, said that the SIT was an economically feasible and environmentally friendly technique.

90. The representative of <u>BURKINA FASO</u> said that there were many regions in Africa which were rich in resources but virtually uninhabitable owing to the presence of the tsetse fly. Hence, the great importance of the OAU's Plan of Action.

91. The representative of <u>SUDAN</u> said that his country's cattle stock was suffering a great deal as a result of the spread of trypanosomiasis - a problem aggravated by the civil war in his country.

92. The representative of <u>ANGOLA</u> said that his country had suffered greatly as a result of trypanosomiasis - economically and in human terms.

93. The representative of <u>MEXICO</u>, welcoming the reference to TCDC in operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, said that some non-African developing countries had acquired experience which could be of value in Africa.

94. The representative of <u>SOUTH AFRICA</u> said that urgent action was required in his country because of the social and economic devastation which the tsetse fly was causing there.

95. The representative of <u>JAPAN</u> said that his delegation, while endorsing the aims of the draft resolution, felt that the words "<u>Calls upon</u>" should be replaced by "<u>Invites</u>" in operative paragraph 3 and that the words "within available resources" should be added at the end of operative paragraph 5.

96. The <u>DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR MANAGEMENT</u> said that the Secretariat preferred the formulation "subject to the availability of resources", which reflected the reality of the situation better than the formulation "within available resources".

97. The representative of <u>FRANCE</u> recalled that the previous year, in resolution GC(44)/RES/24, the General Conference had recognized the success of the SIT in the eradication of the tsetse fly. She suggested that a reference to that resolution be included in preambular paragraph (a) of the draft resolution under consideration.

98. The representative of <u>SOUTH AFRICA</u>, referring to the comments made by the representative of Japan, said that his delegation would prefer the words "<u>Calls upon</u>" to be retained in operative paragraph 3. His delegation was not happy about the idea of including the words "within available resources" in operative paragraph 4, but it would prefer them to "subject to the availability of resources".

99. The <u>DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR MANAGEMENT</u> said that it would be imprudent not to include wording on the lines of "subject to the availability of resources" in the draft resolution.

100. The representative of <u>NIGERIA</u>, having expressed support for the retention of "<u>Calls</u> <u>upon</u>" in operative paragraph 3, said that his delegation was prepared to work with the Secretariat in finding acceptable language about resources for inclusion in operative paragraph 5.

101. The representative of <u>JAPAN</u> said that his delegation could go along with the retention of "<u>Calls upon</u>".

102. The representative of <u>FRANCE</u> said that it might be useful to draw attention in the draft resolution to the fact that for several years the Secretariat had been carrying out research and development work relating to the use of the SIT in eradicating the tsetse fly.

103. The <u>CHAIRPERSON</u> suggested that the Committee postpone further consideration of the draft resolution until a later meeting.

104. It was so agreed.

STRENGTHENING THE AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES RELATED TO NUCLEAR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND APPLICATIONS (resumed)

 Draft resolution entitled "AGENCY ACTIVITIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INNOVATIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY" (GC(45)/COM.5/L.8)

105. The representative of the <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u>, introducing the draft resolution in document GC(45)/COM.5/L.8, said that implementation of the International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles (INPRO) would help to restore trust in nuclear power and that implementation would be easier if a constructive dialogue could be established between all major international innovative programmes in the nuclear field.

106. The representative of <u>INDIA</u> said that the Group of 77 and China proposed that preambular paragraph (c) be amended to read "<u>Recalling</u> its resolutions GC(44)/RES/21 and GC(44)/RES/22 and <u>inviting</u> all interested Member States to combine their efforts under the aegis of the Agency in considering the issues of the nuclear fuel cycle, in particular by examining innovative, safe, economically competitive and proliferation-resistant nuclear technology for sustainable development".

The meeting rose at 6.00 p.m.