

General Conference

GC(48)/OR.9

Issued: October 2004

General Distribution

Original: English

Forty-Eighth (2004) Regular Session

Plenary

Record of the Ninth Meeting

Held at the Austria Center Vienna on Friday, 24 September 2004, at 10.15 a.m.

President: Mr. RÓNAKY (Hungary)

Contents

Item of the agenda*	Paragraphs
– Oral report by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole on the following items:	1–16
– The Agency's accounts for 2003	10
– The Agency's budget for 2004 — supplementary appropriation	11
– The Agency's budget for 2005	12
– Scale of assessment of members' contributions towards the Regular Budget	13

The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document GC(48)/INF/16/Rev.1.

[*] GC(48)/25.

Contents (continued)

Item of the agenda*		Paragraphs
	– Measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and transport safety and waste management	14
	– Strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications	15
	– Elections to the Agency's Staff Pension Committee	16
18	Implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	17–27

Abbreviations used in this record:

DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
NPT	Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
TCF	Technical Cooperation Fund

– **Oral report by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole**

1. Mr. OTHMAN (Syrian Arab Republic), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, presented the outcome of the Committee's deliberations on agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16 and 21.
2. Under item 9, the Agency's accounts for 2003, the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution on page I of document GC(48)/9.
3. Under item 10, the Agency's budget for 2004 — supplementary appropriation, the Committee recommended that the Conference approve the supplementary appropriation to the Regular Budget for 2004 as set out in document GC(48)/16 and adopt the draft resolution contained in the Annex to that document.
4. Under item 11, the Agency's budget for 2005, the Committee recommended that the Conference approve a total Regular Budget figure for 2005 of US \$281 430 000 on the basis of an exchange rate of €0.9229 to \$1.00 and adopt draft resolution A in the Annex to document GC(48)/2; that it approve a target for voluntary contributions to the TCF for 2005 of \$77 500 000 and adopt draft resolution B in document GC(48)/2/Mod.1; and that it approve the maintenance of the level of the Working Capital Fund in 2005 at its current level of \$18 000 000 and adopt draft resolution C in the Annex to document GC(48)/2.
5. Under item 12, scale of assessment of members' contributions towards the Regular Budget, the Committee recommended the adoption by the Conference of the draft resolution on page 3 of document GC(48)/10.
6. Under item 13, measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and transport safety and waste management, the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt draft resolutions A, B and C contained in document GC(48)/L.4.
7. Under item 16, strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications, the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt draft resolutions A, B, C, D, E and F contained in document GC(48)/L.3.
8. Under item 21, elections to the Agency's Staff Pension Committee, the Committee recommended that the Conference elect Ms. Tracy Roberts as an Alternate Member on the Staff Pension Committee.
9. The PRESIDENT invited the Conference to take up one by one the agenda items regarding which the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole had just reported.

The Agency's accounts for 2003 (agenda item 9)

10. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the draft resolution on page I of document GC(48)/9 was adopted.

The Agency's budget for 2004 — supplementary appropriation (agenda item 10)

11. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the draft resolution contained in the Annex to document GC(48)/16 was adopted.

The Agency's budget for 2005 (agenda item 11)

12. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, draft resolution A in the Annex to document GC(48)/2, draft resolution B in document GC(48)/2/Mod.1 and draft resolution C in the Annex to document GC(48)/2 were adopted.

Scale of assessment of members' contributions towards the Regular Budget (agenda item 12)

13. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the draft resolution on page 3 of document GC(48)/10 was adopted.

Measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and transport safety and waste management (agenda item 13)

14. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the three draft resolutions contained in document GC(48)/L.4 were adopted.

Strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications (agenda item 16)

15. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the six draft resolutions contained in document GC(48)/L.3 were adopted.

Elections to the Agency's Staff Pension Committee (agenda item 21)

16. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, Ms. Tracy Roberts was elected as an Alternate Member on the Staff Pension Committee.

18. Implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (GC(48)/17, GC(48)/L.2 and Add.1)

17. The PRESIDENT noted that the item had been included in the agenda pursuant to General Conference resolution GC(47)/RES/12. The Director General had reported to the Board periodically on the issue during the intervening year and his report, contained in document GC(48)/17, summarized developments over that period.

18. Ms. HALL (Canada), introducing the draft resolution contained in document GC(48)/L.2 and Add.1, said that it was based closely on the resolution that had been adopted without a vote at the 47th regular session of the General Conference, with updates to reflect developments in the interim. It was the product of intensive consultations with the countries most directly involved in the efforts to achieve a peaceful resolution of the issue and it enjoyed wide support from diverse regions. It underscored the abiding interest of the Agency and its governing bodies in the issue and urged the DPRK to reconsider its actions and announcements that ran contrary to non-proliferation obligations, to accept comprehensive Agency safeguards, and to dismantle any nuclear weapons programme in a prompt, transparent, verifiable and irreversible manner, maintaining the essential verification role of the Agency. Moreover, it encouraged the diplomatic efforts under way to find a peaceful solution and welcomed in particular the six-party talks which had taken place in Beijing at the initiative of the Government of China. It was important to maintain the momentum gained in those talks. All Member

States of the Agency were appreciative of the role that China had played in seeking a peaceful settlement to the issue. Her delegation believed that the draft resolution represented the consensus view of the General Conference and it hoped that it would be adopted without a vote, thus expressing the international community's united resolve to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free Korean Peninsula.

19. The PRESIDENT took it that the Conference wished to adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(48)/L.2 and Add.1.

20. It was so decided.

21. Mr. TAKASU (Japan) noted that direct dialogue between the Agency and the DPRK remained suspended owing to non-cooperation on the part of the latter. The DPRK continued to be in non-compliance with its obligations under its safeguards agreement and the Agency had been unable to verify the non-diversion of nuclear material under safeguards. He endorsed the Director General's statement that the situation in the DPRK continued to pose a serious challenge to the nuclear non-proliferation regime. Early peaceful resolution of the DPRK nuclear issue was essential to preserve peace and stability in north-east Asia, including Japan, and to strengthen the international nuclear non-proliferation regime. He expressed regret that the DPRK continued to refuse to cooperate with the Agency.

22. During the third round of the six-party talks in June 2004, each party had made specific proposals and the six parties had conducted substantive and practical discussions and had reaffirmed their commitment to achieving the common goal of a denuclearized Korean Peninsula through peaceful negotiations. They had also agreed on the need to take the first steps towards achieving that common goal as soon as possible. Differences still remained. For instance, the DPRK did not acknowledge the existence of its uranium enrichment programme. Further efforts and a fourth round of talks were needed to encourage the DPRK to adopt a more positive stance.

23. Japan could not accept under any circumstances the development, acquisition, possession, testing or transfer of nuclear weapons by the DPRK and he called upon that country to ensure the complete dismantlement of all its nuclear programmes under credible international verification. The DPRK should observe all international agreements related to nuclear issues, including the NPT, and implement completely and immediately its comprehensive safeguards agreement with the Agency. It should commit itself to dismantling expeditiously all its nuclear programmes, including its clandestine uranium enrichment programme, and should provide complete information on all those programmes. The Agency would have a central role to play in the verification process. It was of paramount importance that the parties concerned agree promptly on a verification system that included complete and fully intrusive inspections and Japan continued to support the Agency in its efforts to persuade the DPRK to open all its nuclear-related facilities to Agency inspection and safeguards immediately. Furthermore, the complete dismantlement of its nuclear programmes would be beneficial for the DPRK itself.

24. In conclusion, Japan remained ready to make every effort to resolve the issue by diplomatic means, primarily by contributing actively to the six-party talks process.

25. Mr. Chang-beom CHO (Republic of Korea) said that it was cause for grave concern that the Agency remained unable to provide any level of assurance to the international community regarding the non-diversion of nuclear material in the DPRK. The DPRK's nuclear weapons and related programmes remained a threat to regional and global security and continued to pose a serious challenge to the nuclear non-proliferation regime. The resolution contained in document GC(48)/L.2 and Add.1 delivered a clear message. To achieve early resolution of the DPRK nuclear issue that country would have to make a fundamental strategic decision. It should return to the nuclear non-proliferation regime and accept comprehensive Agency safeguards without further delay, and it should

cooperate with the Agency in their full and effective implementation. Moreover, it should give up all its nuclear weapons and related programmes, including its uranium enrichment programme, in a thorough and transparent manner, under international verification, so that the issue did not arise again in the future.

26. The international community was united in its support for a peaceful resolution of the issue through dialogue and diplomatic efforts. Steady progress had been made in the course of the three rounds of six-party talks. During the most recent round of talks, concrete proposals had been put forward and substantive discussions had been held. His Government, together with the other countries participating in the talks, was therefore eager that the fourth round of talks be held as soon as possible. The resolution of the issue would have a profound effect on relations between the DPRK and the international community as a whole and the DPRK should not miss the historic opportunity offered.

27. Mr. ZHANG Huazhu (China) said that his delegation had had reservations about adopting such a resolution in the current circumstances and had made clear its concerns regarding the need to take into account the legitimate security concerns of the DPRK when seeking a peaceful resolution to the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. It was of paramount importance that a common understanding be reached through the six-party talks. China had always advocated the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, and that the DPRK nuclear issue should be resolved through dialogue and consultations. Continuing the six-party talks process and maintaining dialogue with a view to finding a peaceful solution was in the interests of all parties concerned and was the correct way to proceed. All parties, including the international community and the Member States of the Agency, should remain cool-headed. China remained ready to work with the international community with a view to resolving the issue and achieving peace, stability and prosperity in the region.

The meeting rose at 10.45 a.m.