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Committee of the Whole

Record of the Third Meeting

Held at the Austria Center Vienna on Wednesday, 28 September 2005, at 10.20 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. STRATFORD (United States of America)

Contents

Item of the agenda ¹		Paragraphs
19	Strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and application of the Model Additional Protocol	1–3
17	Strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities	4–9
18	Strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications (<i>resumed</i>)	10–91
23	Personnel	92–93
	(b) Women in the Secretariat	

The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document GC(49)/INF/10/Rev.1.

¹ GC(49)/20.

Abbreviations used in this record:

CPF	Country Programme Framework
INPRO	International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles
ITER	International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor
PACT	Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy
SIT	sterile insect technique

19. Strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and application of the Model Additional Protocol

(GC(49)/9, GC(49)/COM.5/L.12)

1. The representative of AUSTRIA, introducing the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.12 and entitled “Strengthening the Effectiveness and Improving the Efficiency of the Safeguards System including Implementation of Additional Protocols”, said that it took account of developments since the 2004 session of the General Conference. She highlighted the fact that the title of the draft resolution was different from that of the resolution adopted by the General Conference in 2004, and drew attention to new preambular and operative paragraphs.
2. The CHAIRMAN said that, in the light of the experience of previous years, he believed that the draft resolution should be considered first in a working group. He proposed that the Committee establish a working group under the chairmanship of Ambassador Donoghue of Ireland for that purpose.
3. It was so agreed.

17. Strengthening of the Agency’s technical cooperation activities (GC(49)/INF/2 and Supplement, GC(49)/COM.5/L.1)

4. The representative of MALAYSIA, introducing the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.1, drew attention to certain respects in which it differed from resolution GC(48)/RES/12 adopted by the General Conference in 2004.
5. Referring to preambular paragraph (f), which spoke of “approved projects without financing (including footnote-a/ projects)”, and to operative paragraph 5, which spoke of “suspended funding”, he said that the Group of 77 and China did not wish to create a new project category.
6. Referring to preambular paragraph (x), he said that the Group of 77 and China would be proposing a modification designed to reflect the situation regarding the development of CPFs more accurately.
7. Referring to operative paragraph 1, he pointed out that — unlike operative paragraph 1 of resolution GC(48)/RES/12 — it did not mention outsourcing.
8. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee start discussing the draft resolution at its next meeting, after Members had had time to study it.
9. It was so agreed.

18. Strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications (resumed) (GC(49)/12 plus Corr.1 and Corr.2; GC(49)/INF/3; GC(49)/COM.5/L.2, L.3, L.7, L.8, L.9 and L.11)

10. The CHAIRMAN, drawing the Committee's attention to the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.2 and entitled "Use of isotope hydrology for water resources management", discussion of which had begun during the previous meeting, asked the representative of Japan whether his delegation was in a position to accept the text as it stood.

11. The representative of JAPAN said his delegation was in a position to accept it.

12. The CHAIRMAN took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.2.

13. It was so agreed.

14. The CHAIRMAN, drawing the Committee's attention to the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.3, discussion of which had begun during the previous meeting, asked the representative of Japan whether his delegation was in a position to join a consensus on the text with "materials science" replaced by "materials" in preambular paragraph (f), with preambular paragraph (g) amended in the manner suggested by the representative of Australia and with the addition of the words "and the Mediterranean fruit fly" after "mosquitoes" in operative paragraph 6.

15. The representative of JAPAN said that his delegation was in a position to do so, subject to a change in preambular paragraph (l) — the replacement of "six-nation" by "six-party" — to reflect the fact that the European Union was participating in the ITER project.

16. The representative of the RUSSIAN FEDERATION suggested that in the same preambular paragraph the words "a transition of the project to the engineering demonstration phase" be inserted after the word "milestone".

17. The CHAIRMAN took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.3 with the amendments which he had described and the amendments suggested by the representatives of Japan and the Russian Federation.

18. It was so agreed.

19. The CHAIRMAN, drawing the Committee's attention to the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.7 and entitled "Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy", discussion of which had begun during the previous meeting, recalled that much of the discussion had related to the availability of resources for PACT.

20. The representative of JAPAN said that his delegation would like the phrase "making use — inter alia — of available Agency information, human and financial resources" in operative paragraph 4 to be amended to read "making use — inter alia — of available financial resources, Agency information, and human resources".

21. The representative of PERU said that her delegation wished to keep the original wording of operative paragraph 4. In its view, the change called for by the delegation of Japan would unduly weaken the draft resolution.

22. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the delegations of Japan and Peru, along with other interested delegations and with the participation of the Secretariat, engage in informal consultations on operative paragraph 4.
23. The representatives of ZIMBABWE and ALGERIA, expressing their delegations' readiness to engage in informal consultations, said that they had serious difficulties with the suggested rewording of operative paragraph 4.
24. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee resume its consideration of the draft resolution after the informal consultations had been held.
25. It was so agreed.
26. The representative of ZIMBABWE, introducing — on behalf of the Group of 77 and China — the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.8 and entitled "Support to the African Union's Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign (AU-PATTEC)", said that trypanosomosis was still claiming tens of thousands of human lives every year, and that the situation was getting worse. The sponsors of the draft resolution therefore hoped that the Committee would recommend its adoption without amendment.
27. The representative of NIGERIA said that additional funding had been secured for AU-PATTEC thanks to the support of the Agency. However, as indicated in the draft resolution, the situation caused by trypanosomosis was getting worse. As more than 60% of Africans depended on agriculture for their subsistence, the threat posed by trypanosomosis in Africa could not be overemphasized.
28. Africa had benefited greatly from the use of the SIT, and his delegation was convinced that sustained Agency efforts to eradicate the tsetse fly would help to reduce poverty there.
29. Africa, which was very grateful for the Agency's support, had begun to assume effective ownership of AU-PATTEC. In Nigeria, the Government had committed itself to the campaign and a national task force to complement the African Union's activities had been set up. His Government stood ready to make available the services of the multi-purpose industrial gamma irradiation facility that was due to be commissioned in Nigeria before the end of 2005.
30. The task of eradicating trypanosomosis on the African continent was enormous but not insurmountable. Adoption of the draft resolution without amendment would be a step in the right direction.
31. The CHAIRMAN said that the Secretariat had informed him that preambular paragraph (i) should be amended to refer to the most recent report by the Director General — the document number should be GC(49)/12 and the year of issue should be changed from 2003 to 2005..
32. The representative of ZIMBABWE agreed to the amendments.
33. The representative of JAPAN said that his country, which had recently decided to support the tsetse eradication efforts under way in Ethiopia with a financial contribution of US \$2 million, attached great importance to AU-PATTEC. Nonetheless, his delegation would like the words "within available resources" to be added at the end of operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution — words which appeared at the end of operative paragraph 3 of resolution GC(48)/RES/13.B adopted in 2004.
34. The representative of ZIMBABWE said that Japan's support for tsetse eradication efforts in Africa was greatly appreciated but that his delegation was opposed to the introduction of the words "within available resources" into operative paragraph 3.

35. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee postpone further consideration of the draft resolution in order to allow time for the delegations of Zimbabwe and Japan to hold informal consultations.

36. It was so agreed.

37. The representative of the RUSSIAN FEDERATION, introducing the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.9 and entitled “Agency Activities in the Development of Innovative Nuclear Technology”, said that the INPRO methodology — referred to in operative paragraph 2 — had now been validated.

38. The representative of IRELAND, supported by the representatives of DENMARK, SWEDEN, AUSTRIA, LUXEMBOURG, NEW ZEALAND and GREECE, suggested the addition of the words “that wish to exercise that option” at the end of preambular paragraph (d), as the resulting text would better reflect the conclusions of the conference referred to in that paragraph, and called for the deletion of the words “to enhance the position of nuclear energy as a viable source of safe, secure and environmentally benign energy providing benefits to human health and social and economic development” at the end of preambular paragraph (f), as they had not appeared at the end of the corresponding paragraph of resolution GC(48)/RES/13.F and nuclear power was not environmentally benign.

39. The representative of the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, referring to operative paragraph 2, said that the Agency did not have an important role to play in the planning of national nuclear infrastructures and that in her view the words “planning and” should therefore be deleted. Also, the Agency did not have an important role to play in the selection of national energy strategies, so that her delegation had problems with the part of that paragraph starting at “and with the selection of efficient strategies”.

40. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the word “implementation” be substituted for “selection”.

41. The representative of the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC indicated that she could accept that suggestion.

42. The representative of SLOVAKIA asked whether the wording of preambular paragraph (d) as it stood was an accurate reflection of the Final Statement adopted at the International Ministerial Conference held in Paris in March.

43. The representative of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, expressing support for the draft resolution, said that the United States would be joining INPRO soon and that it would support INPRO activities in any way it could.

44. In his view, the use of the word “selection” in operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution did not imply that the Agency had an important role to play in the selection of national energy strategies.

45. The representative of INDIA, expressing support for the draft resolution, said that his country attached great importance to INPRO and believed that it should be fully funded from the Agency’s Regular Budget.

46. The representative of CANADA, expressing support for the draft resolution, pointed out that preambular paragraph (d) was very similar to preambular paragraph (d) of the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.3, whose adoption the Committee had already agreed to recommend.

47. The representative of FRANCE urged that preambular paragraph (f) be left as it stood since it accurately reflected the views of “all interested Member States”.

48. During the past year, the question of the utilization of nuclear power had taken on a new dimension, and the draft resolution reflected that fact.
49. The representative of the CZECH REPUBLIC, expressing support for the statement made by the representative of France, said that the wording of preambular paragraph (f) as it stood did not run counter to the views of those Member States which did not consider nuclear power to be a viable energy option.
50. The representative of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA said that the Final Statement of the International Ministerial Conference referred to in preambular paragraph (d) would best be reflected through the insertion of the phrase “, while recognizing that each State is free to define its national energy policy in accordance with its international obligations,” into that paragraph between “where” and “a vast majority of participants”.
51. The representatives of INDIA and SOUTH AFRICA expressed support for the suggestion made by the representative of the United States of America regarding preambular paragraph (d) and urged that preambular paragraph (f) be left as it stood.
52. The representative of FRANCE said that he preferred the suggestion regarding preambular paragraph (d) made by the representative of the United States of America to the one made by the representative of Ireland.
53. Just as it was perfectly legitimate to recognize that each State was free to define its national energy policy, it was perfectly legitimate to recognize the right of all interested Member States to decide on the purpose for which they were jointly considering innovations in nuclear reactors and fuel cycle systems with the framework of INPRO — as was done in preambular paragraph (f).
54. Referring to operative paragraph 2, he suggested replacing “the balanced development of the global energy system” by “the sustainable development of the global energy system”.
55. The representative of MOROCCO, referring to preambular paragraph (d), suggested the insertion of the words “needs and” after “in accordance with its” in the additional phrase suggested by the representative of the United States of America.
56. Referring to operative paragraph 2, he said that the Agency assisted Member States with the planning and development of their nuclear infrastructures and that he would therefore prefer the words “planning and” to be retained. Also, the Agency assisted Member States with the selection of energy strategies, and he would therefore not like the word “selection” in that paragraph to be deleted.
57. The representative of DENMARK, supported by the representative of LUXEMBOURG, wondered whether it might not be possible to include both the phrase suggested by Ireland and the one suggested by the representative of the United States of America in preambular paragraph (d).
58. The representative of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, supported by the representative of SLOVAKIA, said that preambular paragraph (d) should accurately reflect the Final Statement of the International Ministerial Conference.
59. The CHAIRMAN asked the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic whether, in the light of what had just been said by the representative of Morocco, she was prepared to accept the retention of the words “planning and” in operative paragraph 2.
60. The representative of the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC asked whether it was indeed the case that the Agency assisted Member States with the planning of their nuclear infrastructures.

61. As regards the word “selection” in operative paragraph 2, perhaps it could be amended to “selection and implementation”.

62. The PROGRAMME LIAISON OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, said that the Agency did assist Member States with the planning of their nuclear infrastructures.

63. The CHAIRMAN asked whether there were any objections to replacing the word “balanced” by “sustainable” at the end of operative paragraph 2.

64. The representatives of SWEDEN, IRELAND and AUSTRIA said that they preferred “balanced” to “sustainable”.

65. The CHAIRMAN, referring to preambular paragraphs (d) and (f), suggested a compromise — the insertion in preambular paragraph (d) of the phrase suggested by the representative of the United States of America rather than the addition of the phrase suggested by the representative of Ireland and, in exchange, the deletion of the words “to enhance ... social and economic development” in preambular paragraph (f) as suggested by the representative of Ireland.

66. The representatives of IRELAND and DENMARK said that they could accept the Chairman’s suggestion if the words “needs and” were inserted in the phrase suggested by the representative of the United States of America.

67. The representative of LUXEMBOURG, referring to preambular paragraph (f), said that he did not consider nuclear energy to be “a viable source of safe, secure and environmentally benign energy”. The phrase “to enhance ... social and economic development” should be deleted or the paragraph should be amended so as to make it clear that only some considered nuclear energy to be such an energy source.

68. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the last part of preambular paragraph (f) be amended to read “and fuel cycle systems which could make nuclear energy more safe, secure and environmentally benign, potentially benefiting human health and social and economic development”.

69. The representative of FRANCE suggested that in preambular paragraph (f) the words “that wish” be inserted after “all interested Member States” and that the words “to enhance” be replaced by “with a view to enhancing”.

70. The representative of INDIA expressed support for the suggestion just made by the representative of France and said, with regard to operative paragraph 2, that in his view many delegations would prefer the phrase “the sustainable development of the global energy system” to the phrase “the balanced development of the global energy system”.

71. The representative of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA said that he could not go along with the suggested insertion of the words “needs and” between “in accordance with its” and “international obligations” in the phrase which he had suggested. Their insertion would mean departing from the Final Statement of the International Ministerial Conference.

72. The representative of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN said that his delegation was one of those which would prefer the phrase “the sustainable development of the global energy system” to the phrase “the balanced development of the global energy system” in operative paragraph 2.

73. With regard to preambular paragraph (f), he did not think that it undermined any State’s position regarding the viability of nuclear power as a source of safe, secure and environmentally benign energy.

74. The representative of MOROCCO, referring to what the representative of the United States of America had said about the words “needs and”, suggested that the phrase suggested by that representative for insertion in preambular paragraph (d) be added — with the words “needs and” between “in accordance with its” and “international obligations” — at the end of the paragraph, so that it would be the General Conference “recognizing that each State is free ...” and not a vast majority of participants in the International Ministerial Conference.

75. The representative of AUSTRIA said that the Final Statement of the International Ministerial Conference had been prepared by the President of the Conference and did not necessarily reflect the views of all participating delegations.

76. The representative of FRANCE, supported by the representative of INDIA, said that his delegation was opposed to the deletion of the words “to enhance ... social and economic development” in preambular paragraph (f) in return for the insertion in preambular paragraph (d) of the phrase suggested by the representative of the United States of America. Every State was entitled to think what it wished regarding the purpose of innovations in nuclear reactors and fuel cycle systems, just as every State was free to define its own energy policy.

77. The CHAIRMAN, referring to the question of using “balanced” or “sustainable” in operational paragraph 2, said that one possibility might be to end the paragraph at “national objectives”.

78. The representative of INDIA expressed support for that idea.

79. The representative of FRANCE requested time for informal consultations on the draft resolution.

80. It was so agreed.

81. The representative of ZIMBABWE said that his delegation was now in a position to accept the suggested addition of the words “within available resources” at the end of operational paragraph 3 of the draft resolution on “Support to the African Union’s Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign (AU-PATTEC)” contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.8.

82. The CHAIRMAN took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.8 with the words “within available resources” added at the end of operative paragraph 3 and with preambular paragraph (i) amended in the manner indicated by the Secretariat.

83. It was so agreed.

84. The representative of CANADA, introducing the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.11 and entitled: “Approaches to supporting nuclear power infrastructure development”, said that it was based on the outcome of the International Ministerial Conference held in Paris in March 2005 and covered both short-term and long-term infrastructure development.

85. Referring to operational paragraph 1, he said that the word “generic” should be inserted between “to undertake” and “assessments”.

86. With regard to the wording of preambular paragraph (a), he said that in his view it should be consistent with that ultimately agreed upon for preambular paragraph (d) of the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.9.

87. The representative of DENMARK suggested replacing the phrase “with special regard to the situations in” by the word “for” in operative paragraph 1.

88. The representative of CANADA said that he could go along with that suggestion.

89. The representative of INDIA suggested replacing the words “, including those related to INPRO” by the words “regarding nuclear energy technologies” in operational paragraph 3.

90. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee postpone further consideration of the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.11 until consideration of the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.9 had been concluded. He also proposed that whatever wording was agreed on for preambular paragraph (d) of the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.9 be used for preambular paragraph (a) of the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.11.

91. It was so agreed.

23. Personnel

(b) Women in the Secretariat (GC(49)/15, GC(49)COM.5/L.5)

92. The representative of PERU, introducing the draft resolution contained in document GC(49)/COM.5/L.5 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that certain elements of resolution GC(47)/RES/14.3 adopted in 2003 had been retained and several elements had been added.

93. The past year had seen a slight increase in the representation of women in various Professional categories, and considerable progress had been made in the development of policies that were friendly towards women. The sponsors of the draft resolution hoped that its adoption would improve matters further.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.