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**Fifty-fifth regular session**

## Committee of the Whole

### Record of the First Meeting

*Held at the Austria Center, Vienna, on Tuesday, 20 September 2011, at 10.50 a.m.*

**Chairperson:** Ms YPARRAGUIRRE (Philippines)

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<sup>1</sup> GC(55)/COM.5/1.

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## – Election of Vice-Chairpersons and organization of work

1. The CHAIRPERSON, having expressed appreciation for the confidence which the General Conference had placed in her, said that, pursuant to Rule 46 of the Rules of Procedure, following group consultations it had been proposed that Ms Buján Freire of Spain and Mr Csuday of Hungary should serve as Vice-Chairpersons of the Committee.

2. It was so agreed.

3. Having drawn attention to document GC(55)COM.5/1, which listed the agenda items referred to the Committee by the General Conference, she proposed that, in line with past practice, she report orally on the Committee's deliberations at a plenary meeting of the Conference. Also, she took it that the Committee wished to continue, to the extent practicable, the practice of clustering the draft resolutions recommended to the Conference by the Committee for adoption.

4. It was so agreed.

## 9. The Agency's Accounts for 2010 (GC(55)/4)

5. The CHAIRPERSON, noting that no Committee members wished to take the floor, took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution on page "1" of document GC(55)/4.

6. It was so agreed.

## 10. The Agency's Programme and Budget for 2012–2013 (GC(55)/5)

7. The CHAIRPERSON drew attention to draft resolutions "A. Regular Budget Appropriations for 2012", "B. Technical Cooperation Fund Allocation for 2012" and "C. The Working Capital Fund for 2012" contained in document GC(55)/5.

8. With regard to the draft resolution on the Regular Budget appropriations for 2012, the draft Programme and Budget for 2012–2013 had been issued on 14 February 2011. Intensive consultations on the proposals had been conducted both before and after the meetings of the Programme and Budget Committee by Ambassador Rasi of Finland as Chairperson of the Working Group on Financing of the Agency's Activities. In light of the views expressed by Member States during those consultations, the Chairperson of the Working Group had developed a package proposal for the 2012–2013 Programme and Budget which had been approved by the Board in June 2011. The Board had accordingly

recommended to the General Conference a Regular Budget for 2012 of €333 297 799 for the operational portion and €8 153 455 for the capital portion.

9. With regard to the draft resolution on the Technical Cooperation Fund (TCF) allocation for 2012, Ambassador Vallim Guerreiro of Brazil and Ambassador Šmigolova of the Czech Republic had co-chaired a working group on target figures for the TCF in 2012–2013 and indicative planning figures (IPFs) for the biennium 2014–2015. In June 2011 the Board had accepted their recommendations that the target for the biennium 2012–2013 be US \$88 750 000 per year and that the IPFs for the following biennium be approximately US \$90 million per year. The Board had accordingly recommended to the Conference that the target for voluntary contributions to the TCF for 2012 be US \$88 750 000.

10. With regard to the draft resolution on the Working Capital Fund for 2012, the Board had recommended that the Fund be kept at the level of the euro equivalent of US \$18 million, i.e. €15 210 000.

11. Noting that no Committee members wished to take the floor, she took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it approve a total Regular Budget figure for 2012 of €333 297 799 for the operational portion and €8 153 455 for the capital portion on the basis of an exchange rate of €1.00 to \$1.00 and, accordingly, that it adopt draft resolution “A. Regular Budget appropriations for 2012”.

12. It was so agreed.

13. The CHAIRPERSON took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it approve a target for voluntary contributions to the Technical Cooperation Fund for 2012 of US \$88 750 000 and, accordingly, that it adopt draft resolution “B. Technical Cooperation Fund Allocation for 2012”.

14. It was so agreed.

15. The CHAIRPERSON took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the Conference that it approve the level of the Working Capital Fund for 2012 at €15 210 000 and, accordingly, that it adopt draft resolution “C. The Working Capital Fund for 2012”.

16. It was so agreed.

## **12. Amendment to Article XIV.A of the Statute** (GC(55)/7, GC(55)/COM.5/L.1))

17. The CHAIRPERSON, having drawn attention to document GC(55)/7, said that document GC(55)/COM.5/L.1 contained the text of the decision adopted by the Conference on the subject in 2010, updated for the current year. The Committee might wish to recommend the updated text as a decision to be adopted by the General Conference at its fifty-fifth regular session.

18. Noting that no Committee members wished to take the floor, she took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the Conference that it adopt the draft decision set out in document GC(55)/COM.5/L.1.

19. It was so agreed.

## **17. Strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications**

(GC(55)/COM.5/L.4)

20. The CHAIRPERSON drew attention to draft resolution GC(55)/COM.5/L.4 entitled "Support to the African Union's Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign (AU-PATTEC)".

21. The representative of ALGERIA, speaking on behalf of the African Group at the request of the representative of PERU, speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced the draft resolution.

22. The representative of CANADA asked why preambular paragraph (g) of resolution GC(54)/RES/10A.3 adopted by the General Conference in 2010, which referred to partnerships with the African Development Bank and other funding organizations and partners, had not been included in the draft resolution now before the Committee.

23. The representative of SUDAN said that there was no substantive reason for the omission. The drafters had simply considered that the reference in preambular paragraph (a) of the draft resolution to the General Conference's previous resolutions on support for AU-PATTEC constituted an endorsement of the content of those resolutions.

24. The CHAIRPERSON took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(55)/COM.5/L.4.

25. It was so agreed.

## **13. Scale of assessment of Members' contributions towards the Regular Budget**

(GC(55)/8)

26. The CHAIRPERSON, noting that no Committee members wished to take the floor, assumed that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution on page 3 of document GC(55)/8.

27. It was so agreed.

## **14. Measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety** (GC(55)/COM.5/L.5)

28. The representative of AUSTRALIA, introducing the draft resolution contained in document GC(55)/COM.5/L.5, thanked the delegation of New Zealand for coordinating the consultations on section 5 (Transport Safety) of the text.

29. He drew particular attention to the references in the draft resolution to the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, the IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety held in June 2011, the Ministerial Declaration and the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety contained in document GC(55)/14.

30. He also drew particular attention to paragraph 25, in which the Director General was requested to report on — inter alia — implementation of the Action Plan at the fifty-sixth (2012) regular session of the General Conference.

31. The representative of CANADA said that his delegation would have preferred a separate draft resolution on the issue of the Fukushima Daiichi accident. However, in light of the concerns of some Member States, it had not objected to incorporation of the issue in the draft resolution now before the Committee.

32. The representative of ARGENTINA said that her Government had traditionally co-sponsored the draft resolutions on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety. However, the draft resolution now before the Committee contained some elements which her delegation could not support. The references to the Agency's peer review services in paragraphs 13 and 33, for example, were inconsistent with the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety approved by the Board of Governors. Accordingly, her delegation had been unable to co-sponsor the draft resolution.

33. The representative of the RUSSIAN FEDERATION said that adoption of the draft resolution, of which it was a co-sponsor, would facilitate the creation of a genuine contemporary architecture for global nuclear safety.

34. His delegation was pleased that the draft resolution incorporated key elements of the Russian Federation President's initiative relating to the development of an international regime for safety maintenance at nuclear power plants.

35. The representatives of SOUTH AFRICA and INDIA expressed support for the draft resolution.

36. The CHAIRPERSON took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(55)/COM.5/L.5.

37. It was so agreed.

## **17. Strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications (resumed)** (GC(55)/COM.5/L.3)

38. The representative of INDIA, speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China at the request of the representative of Peru, introduced the draft resolution contained in document GC(55)/COM.5/L.3 and entitled "Use of isotope hydrology for water resources management".

39. Having noted that the subject of the Scientific Forum taking place in parallel with the General Conference's current session was "Water Matters", he said that the draft resolution took account of recent developments such as the launching of the IWAVE (IAEA Water Availability Enhancement) project.

40. The representative of CANADA, having welcomed "Water Matters" as the subject of the 2011 Scientific Forum, said that paragraph (f) was too general and should, in his view, be deleted.

41. As to the references to the IWAVE project in preambular paragraph (l) and operative sub-paragraph 1(c), he requested that the Secretariat provide the Committee with some more detail regarding the project.

42. The representative of INDIA said that the General Assembly resolution referred to in paragraph (f) was entitled "The human right to water and sanitation" (A/RES/64/292). In his opinion, the paragraph was useful and should be retained.

43. The HEAD OF THE ISOTOPE HYDROLOGY SECTION, DIVISION OF PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL SCIENCES, said that the purpose of the IWAVE (IAEA Water Availability Enhancement) project, was to assist countries in integrating nuclear techniques into their water resources management. The project would be implemented through the Agency's technical cooperation programme.

44. The representative of CANADA proposed that "IWAVE" be spelled out in full where first mentioned in the draft resolution.

45. In his view, paragraph (f), as amended with the addition of the title and the document number of the General Assembly resolution, would be more useful in the general draft resolution on non-power nuclear applications.

46. The representative of PERU said that the Group of 77 and China could agree to "IWAVE" being spelled out at its first mention and to paragraph (f) being transferred to the general draft resolution on non-power nuclear applications.

47. The representatives of the RUSSIAN FEDERATION, the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and AUSTRALIA expressed themselves in favour of adoption of the draft resolution as so amended.

48. The CHAIRPERSON said that, in the absence of any further comments, she took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(55)/COM.5/L.3 as so amended.

49. It was so agreed.

## **18. Strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and application of the Model Additional Protocol**

(GC(55)/COM.5/L.6)

50. The representative of AUSTRIA, introducing the draft resolution contained in document GC(55)/COM.5/L.6 on behalf of the European Union and Norway, said that it reflected a drafting approach different from that of previous years.

51. The CHAIRPERSON proposed that the Committee establish a working group under the chairmanship of Mr Brady of the delegation of Ireland to conduct negotiations on the draft resolution with a view to the achievement of consensus.

52. It was so agreed.

**The meeting rose at 12.15 p.m.**