

General Conference

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Plenary

Record of the Tenth Meeting

Held at Headquarters, Vienna, on Friday, 20 September 2013, at 3.35 p.m.

President: Mr MABHONGO (South Africa)

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¹ GC(57)/24.

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Abbreviations used in this record:

DPRK Democratic People's Republic of Korea

NPT Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

20. Implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

(GC(57)/22; GC(57)/L.8 and Add.1-3)

- 1. <u>Mr JOURNES</u> (France) said that the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/L.8 submitted by Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States of America had been developed by them in close consultation with China and the Russian Federation. The text, based on resolution GC(56)/RES/14 adopted by consensus in September 2012, reflected concerns about developments during the past year.
- 2. The draft resolution had thus far been co-sponsored by 46 Member States, and the sponsors hoped that it would be adopted by consensus.
- 3. The <u>PRESIDENT</u> took it that the Conference wished to adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/L.8 without a vote.
- 4. It was so decided.
- 5. <u>Mr CHENG Jingye</u> (China) said that the resolution just adopted emphasized the importance of the Six-Party Talks and the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement.
- 6. The current year marked the tenth anniversary of the start of the Six-Party Talks and the eighth anniversary of the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement. An international symposium had been held in Beijing earlier that week to mark those anniversaries. At that symposium, China's Foreign Minister had highlighted the fact that there had been some positive developments in the situation on the Korean Peninsula in the recent past. The international community should seize the opportunity afforded by those positive developments to continue moving forward.
- 7. All parties should exercise restraint and take constructive action with a view to an early resumption of the Six-Party Talks. Efforts should be made to achieve the objectives set out in the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement and address the justified concerns of all parties. Also, steps should be taken to refine the mechanism of the Six-Party Talks.
- 8. $\underline{\text{Mr CHO Hyun}}$ (Republic of Korea) said that his country, which welcomed the adoption of the resolution contained in document GC(57)/L.8 by consensus, hoped that the unified message from the international community would be heeded by North Korea, paving the way for its denuclearization.
- 9. North Korea's third nuclear test had been a flagrant violation of the relevant Security Council resolutions, threatening the peace and security of north-east Asia and beyond and undermining the foundations of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime, as were North Korea's ongoing nuclear activities, which should be halted immediately.
- 10. A resumption of the Six-Party Talks might be desirable, but dialogue should not be used by North Korea as a means of buying time to enhance its nuclear capabilities. North Korea must demonstrate its sincerity about denuclearization by complying, without further delay, with its commitments in the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement and its obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions.

- 11. As the resolution clearly showed, the right choice for North Korea was to become a responsible member of the international community by completely abandoning its nuclear weapons and its ongoing nuclear activities in a verifiable and irreversible manner.
- 12. North Korea should, without further delay, come into full compliance with the NPT and start cooperating promptly with the Agency in the full and effective implementation of comprehensive Agency safeguards, including by allowing the Agency to establish a long-term presence in North Korea to verify and monitor the abandonment of all nuclear activities.
- 13. In order to achieve the shared objective of a denuclearized North Korea, it was important for the international community to send a clear message to Pyongyang. His country would continue cooperating with other members of the international community with a view to encouraging the leadership of North Korea to make the right choice.
- 14. <u>Mr OZAWA</u> (Japan) said that his country, which welcomed the adoption of the resolution by consensus, greatly appreciated the fact that the resolution had been co-sponsored by over 40 Member States.
- 15. The resolution's strong language was an appropriate response to recent serious developments in North Korea a firm message to North Korea from the international community.
- 16. Mr MACMANUS (United States of America), welcoming the adoption of the resolution, said that the resolution contained important new elements. It emphasized, for the first time, the importance of a complete understanding of the DPRK's entire nuclear programme, which could be gained only if the DPRK declared all its nuclear activities, particularly its uranium enrichment activities. Also, the DPRK was urged in the resolution "to halt any actions to restart and readjust, and expand its nuclear facilities at Yongbyon"— actions that ran directly counter to the efforts being made to create favourable conditions for a resumption of dialogue with a view to achieving the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.
- 17. The United States, which believed that the Agency had an essential role to play in connection with the DPRK nuclear issue, greatly appreciated the efforts of the Agency in maintaining its preparedness to resume its monitoring and verification activities in the DPRK, especially as the Agency's prolonged absence from the DPRK was intensifying the international concerns about the nuclear weapons proliferation implications and also the nuclear safety risk implications of the DPRK's irresponsible actions.
- 18. The DPRK should reaffirm the commitment to denuclearization made by it in the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement, immediately cease all nuclear activities, reverse all actions aimed at restarting its nuclear facilities at Yongbyon, and resume cooperation with the Agency.
- 19. Mr MARSÁN AGUILERA (Cuba) said that his country, which had joined in the consensus on the resolution, continued to believe that the issue of safeguards in the DPRK was complex and should be approached through dialogue and negotiation.
- 20. Cuba, which advocated nuclear disarmament as a goal of the highest priority, called for the total elimination and permanent prohibition of nuclear weapons as a matter of urgency, since their mere existence posed a serious threat to the whole of humankind.
- 21. Also, Cuba was opposed to all kinds of nuclear weapons testing not only test explosions, but also tests involving sophisticated non-explosive methods such as the use of supercomputers.

- 22. The goal of nuclear disarmament could not be continually set aside. At the 2010 NPT Review Conference, nuclear disarmament had been recognized as a common goal, but little had been done since then.
- 23. Cuba wished to see the start of negotiations on and the prompt adoption of an international convention on nuclear disarmament.
- 24. Cuba, which was in favour of complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, welcomed all steps towards that goal. A long-term resolution of the issue would be achieved only through diplomacy and dialogue.
- 25. Cuba was also in favour of peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula, without foreign intervention, with respect for sovereign equality and with strict adherence to the principle of the non-use of force and threats of force.

The meeting was suspended at 3.55 p.m. and resumed at 7.00 p.m.

- Oral report by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

- 26. Mr STRATFORD (United States of America), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, presented the outcome of the Committee of the Whole's deliberations on agenda items 16, 17, 19 and 23.
- 27. Under item 16, "Nuclear security", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/L.10.
- 28. Under item 17, "Strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/L.9.
- 29. Under item 19, "Strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and application of the Model Additional Protocol", although there had been broad agreement on most of the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/COM.5/L.9/Rev.2, there was one paragraph on which some delegations had expressed concerns and which had prevented consensus being reached.
- 30. Under item 23, "Promotion of Efficiency and Effectiveness of the IAEA Decision Making Process", the importance of maintaining the efficiency and effectiveness of the Agency's decision-making processes and strengthening the Agency and its governing bodies had been highlighted.
- 31. Expansion of the Board's membership and enhancement of the role and authority of the General Conference, and the importance of maintaining an appropriate balance between the two bodies, had been referred to by several Committee members.
- 32. Caution had been expressed about distracting the Agency and undermining its ability to effectively implement its activities.
- 33. The relevance and importance of the current process for achieving the entry into force of the amendment of Article VI of the Statute had been referred to. The importance of respect for the decisions of the Agency's policy-making organs and the need to avoid politicization of the Agency had been emphasized.
- 34. The need for a continuation of the joint efforts of Member States and the Secretariat to strengthen the Agency and achieve common goals had also been emphasized.

- 35. Several members had called for open-ended consultations on the issue and had expressed a desire to continue considering it at the 2014 session of the General Conference.
- 36. He thanked the General Conference for the confidence that it had placed in him by electing him to chair the Committee of the Whole.
- 37. He also thanked Mr Spassov of Bulgaria and Mr Labbé Villa of Chile, who had served as the Vice-Chairmen, the members of the Committee for their cooperative spirit, and the staff of the Secretariat and all others who had contributed to the quite successful outcome of the Committee's work.
- 38. The <u>PRESIDENT</u> appealed to delegates, when considering the remaining agenda items, not to reopen issues which had been exhaustively discussed in the Committee of the Whole.

Nuclear Security (agenda item 16)

39. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/L.10 was adopted.

Strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities (agenda item 17)

40. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/L.9 was adopted.

Promotion of the efficiency and effectiveness of the IAEA decision making process (agenda item 23)

- 41. The <u>PRESIDENT</u> assumed that the General Conference wished to take note of the report of the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole.
- 42. <u>It was so decided.</u>

Strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and application of the Model Additional Protocol (agenda item 19)

- 43. Ms STIX-HACKL (Austria), presenting the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/COM.5/L.9/Rev.2 on behalf of the co-sponsors, said that broad agreement had been reached on it in the Committee of the Whole. She believed that the text represented the best basis for achieving consensus.
- 44. Mr RASHID (Pakistan) requested that operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution be put to the vote.
- 45. Mr SHAMAA (Egypt) requested that the vote be taken by roll-call.
- 46. The <u>PRESIDENT</u> invited the Conference to vote by roll-call on whether to retain operative paragraph 6 in the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/COM.5/L.9/Rev.2.
- 47. Morocco, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.
- 48. The result of the vote was as follows:

In favour: Albania, Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland,

Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Against: Pakistan.

Abstaining: Angola, Botswana, Cote D'Ivoire, India, Israel, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago.

- 49. There were 98 votes in favour and 1 against, with 10 abstentions. The paragraph was adopted.
- 50. Mr SWAMINATHAN (India), speaking in explanation of vote, said that his country, a founder member of the Agency, had consistently supported all Agency activities conducted within the framework of the Statute. It attached particular importance to Agency safeguards and had helped to increase their effectiveness and efficiency through, inter alia, participation in the work of the Standing Advisory Group on Safeguards Implementation. Accordingly, India would have liked to see the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/COM.5/L.9/Rev.2 adopted by consensus. It had striven hard to that end in the Committee of the Whole, making suggestions with regard to operative paragraph 6, but its suggestions had regrettably not been accepted. It had therefore been left with no option but to abstain in the vote on operative paragraph 6.
- 51. Mr RASHID (Pakistan), speaking in explanation of vote, said that the support of his country for Agency safeguards was evident from the implementation by it of all its safeguards obligations.
- 52. Pakistan believed that the role of Agency safeguards was to provide a framework for cooperation in the peaceful applications of nuclear energy without discrimination.
- 53. His country had been constrained to vote for the deletion of operative paragraph 6 in the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/COM.5/L.9/Rev.2 owing to the failure of the sponsors to ensure that the text was consistent with the Statute, which took account of the different safeguards obligations of different Member States. In operative paragraph 6, all States were urged to enter into a particular type of safeguards agreement, the conclusion of which was not a legal obligation of all Member States, as the Statute did not prescribe any particular safeguards model as the only standard for Agency nuclear verification activities. The vote of Pakistan reflected its commitment to upholding the Statute in letter and spirit. Pakistan would continue to support the Agency verification activities consistent with the Statute.
- 54. The <u>PRESIDENT</u> said that the consideration of paragraph 6 of the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/COM.5/L.9/Rev.2 had been concluded. He took it that the Conference was ready to adopt the draft resolution as a whole.
- 55. It was so decided.
- 56. The <u>PRESIDENT</u> said that the General Conference had dealt with all the items referred to the Committee of the Whole. He expressed his sincere appreciation to the Chairman of the Committee for his skilful guidance of the Committee's deliberations and to the two Vice Chairmen.

28. Report on contributions pledged to the Technical Cooperation Fund for 2014

- 57. The <u>PRESIDENT</u> said that document GC(57)/21/Rev.1 contained details of the pledges of contributions to the Technical Cooperation Fund for 2014 which Member States had made to the Director General by 6.30 p.m. on 19 September 2013. By that time, Member States had pledged a total of € 10 150 982, or 14.66 % of the Technical Cooperation Fund target for 2014. Since that document had been sent for printing, further Member States had communicated pledges to the Director General as follows (in euro equivalent): Albania € 6922; Argentina € 287 962; China € 3 432 014; Myanmar € 6922; the Philippines € 102 448; and Sri Lanka € 16 613. That brought the total amount pledged to €14 003,863, or 20.23% of the target a percentage figure consistent with the corresponding figure in 2012.
- 58. He urged all Member States that had not yet made pledges for 2014 to do so as soon as possible and all Member States to pay their full target shares at the earliest opportunity.

Closing of the session

- 59. The <u>PRESIDENT</u> said that the current session of the General Conference had been well attended by high-level representatives of Member States, including one vice-president and 25 ministers. During the general debate, 117 delegates had taken the floor.
- 60. Mr BARROS OREIRO (Uruguay) commended the President for his dedication and impartiality.
- 61. Ambassador Mabhongo had been an excellent President and far better than his predecessor.
- 62. The <u>PRESIDENT</u> said that it had been an honour and privilege for him to serve as President of the General Conference during its fifty-seventh session.
- 63. He thanked all delegates for their cooperation, which had enabled a number of problems to be dealt with successfully.
- 64. On behalf of the General Conference, he thanked the Director General and his staff including the interpreters, the translators, the précis-writers, the members of the Conference Services Section, the members of the Secretariat of the Policy-Making Organs, the officers in charge of the speakers' list, the printers, and the officers in charge of documents control and distribution.
- 65. On behalf of the Conference, he thanked the Austrian authorities and the city of Vienna for their traditional hospitality during the week.
- 66. Lastly, he thanked the South African delegation for its support.
- 67. In accordance with Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, he invited the Conference to observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation.

All present rose and stood in silence for one minute.

68. The <u>PRESIDENT</u> declared the fifty-seventh regular session of the General Conference closed.

The meeting rose at 7.45 p.m.