

General Conference

GC(66)/1/Add.2

Date: 25 August 2022

General Distribution

Original: English

Sixty-sixth regular session

Provisional Agenda

Supplementary item for inclusion in the provisional agenda

1. On 19 August 2022, the Director General received a request, submitted by the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan, for the inclusion of an item entitled “Restoration of sovereign equality in the IAEA” in the agenda of the 66th (2022) regular session of the General Conference.
2. Pursuant to the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference¹, this item is hereby placed on a supplementary list which will be circulated not later than 6 September 2022. The Note Verbale from the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan and the accompanying explanatory note relating to the inclusion of this item are attached hereto.
3. It is suggested, for consideration by the General Committee, that in the provisional agenda this item follow the item circulated in document GC(66)/1/Add.1 and be discussed first in the Committee of the Whole.

¹ Rules 13 and 20, GC(XXXI)/INF/245/Rev.1.



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
TO THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
IN VIENNA**

30-35/156

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the International Atomic Energy Agency and as a follow up of the deliberations of the 65th General Conference has the honour to request the inclusion of an item entitled “Restoration of sovereign equality in the IAEA” into the agenda of the 66th regular session of the IAEA General Conference to be held on 26-30 September 2022. The relevant explanatory note is attached.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew its compliments to the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration.

Attachment: 1 p.

19 August 2022



INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

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Explanatory Note
on the agenda item entitled:
“Restoration of sovereign equality in the IAEA”

As a follow up to the deliberations of the 65th General Conference and the following sessions of the Board of Governors under the same agenda item, the issue of “Restoration of sovereign equality in the IAEA” requires further progress.

The Agency is based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all its members; and ensures to all of them the rights and benefits resulting from the membership (Article IV.C). Thus, the activities of the Agency shall be carried out with due observance of the sovereign rights of States (Article III.D).

The membership of the Board of Governors requires representation in the areas (Article VI.A). But taking into account that the Statute does not assign members to specific areas as defined in its Article VI.A.1. and there are no established criteria for getting into any of them, some full-fledged Member States for at least 30 years are outside of the areas (so called regional groups) and have no further perspective to join them.

It is also a concern that the sovereign equality of the IAEA members is an issue within the areas, i.e. regional groups. The lack of procedural and agreed regulations inside the areas is a reason for growing absence of consensus and accord on nomination processes within the areas and violation of the fundamental principle of equality in the Agency. We all cooperate on equal ground with due respect of all parties in accordance with universal and indivisible core values of democracy, equality and transparency. No Member State has the right for a veto on geographical belonging and representation of an area as such.

An amendment to Article VI of the Agency’s Statute of 1999 is an important threshold in restoration of the sovereign equality of all IAEA members, which is yet to come into force. There is a need for introducing a fair international mechanism that will complement this amendment and boost its early entry into force.

The inclusion of an item entitled “Restoration of sovereign equality in the IAEA” in the agenda of the 66th regular session of the General Conference will contribute to finding a solution on restoration of equality in a democratic way for the benefit of the health of our “common house” – the IAEA.