



International Atomic Energy Agency

ANNUAL REPORT TO
THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL OF
THE UNITED NATIONS
FOR 1968-1969

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THE AGENCY'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR 1968-69

The text of the Agency's annual report to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations for 1968-69 is reproduced in this document for the information of all Members.

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL FOR 1968-69

(1 April 1968-31 March 1969)

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[1] The Agency's main programmes of interest to ECOSOC are described in the addendum to the present document, entitled "Atomic Energy in the Developing Countries: The 1968-69 Programme".

List of abbreviations

ACST	United Nations Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development
ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (of the United Nations)
Agency	International Atomic Energy Agency
CCAQ	Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IACB	Inter-Agency Consultative Board
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ILO	International Labour Organisation
OAU	Organization of African Unity
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WHO	World Health Organization

NOTE

All sums of money are expressed in United States dollars.

GENERAL

1. The annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the United Nations, which covers all the Agency's activities, is submitted to the General Assembly pursuant to Article III.B.4 of the Statute. Following previous practice, therefore, the present report covers those aspects of the Agency's work which are of direct interest to ECOSOC.
2. As was reported last year, the review of the Agency's activities resulted in various recommendations for intensifying the Agency's programmes that directly support economic development [2].
3. Since that time several events have taken place which will have the effect of increasing the Agency's programmes, notably the General Assembly's endorsement of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, its signature by more than 85 and ratification by ten States, the subsequent action taken by the Agency's General Conference [3] and by the General Assembly of the United Nations, arising out of the recommendations of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States.
4. Of special interest to the Council is the impetus that Articles IV and V of the Treaty will give to the Agency's promotional activities. These Articles deal with increased international exchange of information, equipment and materials for the peaceful uses of atomic energy as well as with appropriate international procedures for ensuring that non-nuclear-weapon States have access to the benefits of peaceful nuclear explosions.
5. The Agency welcomes the growing awareness of the contribution that the peaceful uses of nuclear energy can make to economic development. To keep ECOSOC fully informed of the Agency's work in this sphere that is of direct benefit to developing countries, the summary of its main programmes usually included in its annual report has been replaced this year by a more detailed survey of the potentialities of nuclear technology and nuclear techniques, the problems to be solved in their introduction into developing countries and recent work of the Agency directed to this end. The survey is presented separately as an addendum to this report.
6. Apart from this change in presentation, the structure of the report, which has been written in the form of an analytical summary, is the same as in previous years, conforming with the request made by ECOSOC in Resolution 1172 (XLI).

ACTIVITIES OF MAJOR ORGANS

7. The twelfth regular session of the General Conference was held in Vienna from 24 to 30 September 1968. At that time, preliminary consideration was given to the effect on the future activities of the Agency of the coming into force of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.
8. It was generally considered that, with its experience, the Agency could effectively perform the functions envisaged for the international body referred to in Article V relating to the provision of services for the use of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. By Resolution GC(XII)/RES/245 the General Conference requested the Director General to initiate studies of the procedures that the Agency should employ in performing such a role.

[2] INFCIRC/113, paras 3-8; United Nations document E/4490.

[3] See paras 7 and 8 below.

9. Furthermore, the Conference, by Resolution GC(XII)/RES/241, requested the Board to review Article VI of the Agency's Statute, dealing with the composition of the Board in the light of developments since the establishment of the Agency and of the new responsibilities to be assumed by the Agency under the Treaty.

10. The Conference approved Liechtenstein, the Niger and Zambia for membership of the Agency [4]. By Resolution GC(XII)/RES/237 the Conference approved the draft co-operation agreement between the Agency and OAU [5].

11. In February the Board considered the implementation of Resolutions GC(XII)/RES/245 and GC(XII)/RES/241 which in the meantime had been noted by the General Assembly in Resolution 2457 (XXIII). After giving preliminary consideration to the matters involved, the Board decided that they were of such importance that their detailed study should be undertaken by ad hoc committees which it accordingly established and on which all Member States of the Agency will have the opportunity of being represented. The Board will discuss both matters further in June.

12. The Board also gave preliminary consideration to General Assembly Resolution 2456 A (XXIII) concerning the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States; in June it will consider the special report to the Secretary-General called for by paragraphs 3-6 of the Resolution.

13. Lastly, the Board discussed a proposal made during the General Conference last September relating to the possibilities of obtaining finances from international sources for nuclear projects, particularly in developing countries. The Director General was asked to explore urgently any possible sources of additional funds.

DEVELOPMENTS IN MAJOR PROGRAMMES

14. Developments in major programmes of interest to ECOSOC are described in the addendum "Atomic Energy in the Developing Countries: The 1968-69 Programme".

15. The amounts spent in 1968-69 on the main programmes of the Agency were [6]:

Nuclear power (including desalting)	\$ 970 000
Nuclear science in food and agriculture	1 250 000
Nuclear science in medicine	680 000
Nuclear science in industry	110 000
Nuclear science in water resources development	260 000
Nuclear science information	1 390 000

CO-ORDINATION AND RELATIONS WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

16. The Agency has continued to participate in the work of the various intergovernmental and inter-agency bodies which have been set up to promote co-operation and ensure co-ordination in the United Nations system. These include ACC and its sub-committees, such as CCAQ and IACB, and ACST which held its tenth regular session at the Agency's Headquarters from 25 November to 6 December 1968.

[4] During the year under review the Agency's membership rose by three to a total of 101 on 31 March.

[5] See also para. 24 below.

[6] This list does not include all of the Agency's activities, in particular, its important safeguards programme on which a full report is made to the General Assembly.

17. The meeting of ACST in Vienna enabled the Committee to be given a full description of the Agency's scientific programme, and to visit the Agency's laboratories at Seibersdorf and Headquarters. ACST indicated its general agreement with the objectives put forward by the Agency, and noted with special interest the programme of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Atomic Energy in Food and Agriculture and its work on the application of irradiation techniques to develop high-protein strains [7] and varieties of plants. Several members of ACST expressed interest in the Joint Division as a means of achieving full inter-agency co-ordination.

18. As nuclear techniques are applied in an ever widening range in the future, it is expected that co-operation between the Agency and other interested organizations will increase.

19. Co-operation with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs continues by joint participation in expert meetings, missions and studies on such matters as energy, desalting and resources of the sea.

20. The Agency's activities of interest to UNIDO are those dealing with the use of radiation for preservation and disinfestation of food, and the application of isotopes in industry. Steps have been taken for co-operation in some of these subjects and more comprehensive arrangements for co-operation are being discussed. With the establishment of UNIDO in Vienna certain administrative services, such as interpretation and procurement, are being run jointly. With the setting up of the Agency's permanent Headquarters in the Donaupark, in the same complex as UNIDO, plans are being made to develop further common services wherever this will increase efficiency and ensure economy.

21. During the year, there has been further progress in dovetailing the Agency's and WHO's work on subjects of joint interest - e.g., joint sponsorship of safety recommendations in the nuclear field and the use by WHO of the Agency's laboratory services.

22. In compliance with Resolution GC(X)/RES/215 adopted by the Agency's General Conference at its tenth regular session, recommending close co-operation with ILO and UNESCO, particularly concerning the training of technicians and the teaching of nuclear science in developing countries, it is expected that, in future, greater emphasis will be placed on the training of technicians. To help meet this need, a course was held for Agency trainees at the ILO International Centre for Advanced Technical and Vocational Training in Turin, from 1 April to 30 June 1968. This was on the maintenance of nuclear electronic equipment, and another such course is planned to be held at the Centre in 1970.

23. From 1970 onwards, UNESCO will be a full partner with the Agency in operating the International Centre for Theoretical Physics at Trieste. UNESCO is also co-operating actively in the studies that are being made for establishing an international computer-based nuclear information system.

24. The draft co-operation agreement between the Agency and OAU was approved by the General Conference in September. As previously reported, this is the third such agreement concluded with an organization outside the United Nations framework, the others, both of which came into force in 1960, being with the European Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Inter-American Nuclear Energy Commission of the Organization of American States.

[7] In the section entitled "More Food, Better Quality" of the addendum special reference to the protein problem is made as requested by the General Assembly in Resolution 2416 (XXIII).

25. During the year under review there were exchanges of letters between the Agency and the Commission for Mutual Economic Aid and between the Agency and the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research at Dubna. The purpose was to ensure closer co-operation in certain technical meetings and to provide for an increased exchange of information on matters of mutual interest.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

26. In 1968 the Agency's Regular Budget amounted to \$10 477 000 of which \$10 163 500 represented assessed contributions from Member States. The Regular Budget for 1969 has been set at \$11 251 000 including a contingency appropriation of \$130 000 which may be utilized only after special authorization by the Board of Governors. Of the total Regular Budget of \$11 251 000, an amount of \$10 887 500 represents assessed contributions payable by Member States.

27. The Agency's Operational Budget amounted to \$2 430 000 in 1968 and has been set at \$2 512 000 for 1969. Of these amounts, \$2 million represents the target set for voluntary contributions from Member States each year since 1962; the balance in each case is to be obtained from special contributions for specific purposes and from minor miscellaneous income. By 31 March 1969 pledges of voluntary contributions for 1968 amounted to 68.31%, and for 1969 to 66.82% of the targets.

28. During the past year, the Agency has implemented most of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, including the submission of a six-year programme for the period 1969-74 covering in significant detail the first biennial period of this six-year programme together with proposals for budgetary appropriations for 1969. The remaining recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee, which would not require amendment of the Statute, require further inter-agency consultation before they may be implemented. The Agency is actively participating in meetings of the finance working group of CCAQ in order to reach inter-agency agreement on further implementation of the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations. One member of the Inspection Unit visited the Agency during the year for briefing in preparation for a field assignment.