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Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna,
on Friday, 6 October 1961, at 3.30 p.m.

President: Mr. QUIHILLALT (Argentina)

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* GC(V)/171.

The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document GC(V)/INF/42/Rev.3.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND FOR 1962 (GC(V)/163 and Corr.1, 183, 187) (continued from the 61st meeting)

1. The DIRECTOR GENERAL said that, at the previous meeting, the delegate of the Soviet Union had expressed disappointment at the delay in taking advantage of his Government's generous offer relating to the supply of Soviet technical equipment^{1/}. There had been a regrettable delay, but he could assure the Conference that it had not been caused deliberately by the Director General or the Secretariat. Since it was neither appropriate nor timely to give a detailed explanation of the efforts made to reach a solution of the problem, he had decided to issue an information document, setting forth the exchange of views, consultations and communications between the Secretariat and the Soviet Union, which would be circulated to all Member States as soon as possible.

2. Mr. WERSHOF (Canada) said that the Conference, when considering the draft resolution contained in document GC(V)/183, should bear in mind the peculiar financial structure of the Agency. The regular budget was financed by assessed contributions from all Member States on a percentage basis. A large part of the Agency's useful work, however, particularly the provision of technical assistance and fellowships, was financed from the operational budget, which amounted to a little more than US \$2 million for 1962. In order to secure funds for the operational budget, the Agency tried to obtain voluntary contributions to the General Fund. About one-third of the operational budget was allocated to Type I fellowships financed by the Agency, about one-third to technical assistance, and about one-third to laboratories. Unfortunately it had not been possible to obtain sufficient funds by means of voluntary contributions during the last few years to permit the Agency to carry out those activities to the full extent. That was an unsatisfactory state of affairs from the Agency's point of view, and particularly from that of the developing countries, which, quite rightly, looked to the Agency for technical assistance and fellowships.

3. The type of contributions which could be made to the General Fund was laid down in the Rules Regarding the Acceptance of Voluntary Contributions of Money to the Agency^{2/}, which had been approved by the Conference on 1 October 1959. Contributions of money to the General Fund were not, however,

^{1/} GC(V)/OR.61, paragraphs 89-92.

^{2/} INFCIRC/13, section II.

the only type of assistance which Member States could give the Agency. They could also, under a different set of rules^{3/}, offer the Agency services, equipment or facilities. Also some countries had offered Type II fellowships and the services of experts, which was quite different from a voluntary contribution of money to the General Fund. A clear distinction should be made between such offers and a contribution of money to the General Fund, which in turn was used to finance the operational budget.

4. Countries which attached restrictions to the way in which money contributed to the General Fund should be used created very serious difficulties for the Board and the Secretariat in employing that money to finance the operational budget. Not only had such restrictions been imposed by the Soviet Union, but on two occasions Western Governments had wished to impose similar restrictions. In speaking of restrictions, he was not referring to the fact that some contributions were made in local currency. It would be better of course if contributions could be made in a currency which was convertible and readily usable by the Agency, although he understood that that was not always possible; but by restrictions he meant, for example, a limitation of use to a certain specified part of the operational budget.

5. So far it had rarely been possible to attain more than half the target for voluntary contributions to the operational budget. The draft resolution under discussion would not be legally binding, since such contributions were voluntary. His Government considered that the draft resolution might encourage some Governments to increase the amount of their voluntary contributions of money to the General Fund, and hoped that countries requesting technical assistance would vote in favor of it.

6. With regard to the Soviet delegate's statement just referred to by the Director General, he pointed out that the Rules Regarding the Acceptance of Voluntary Contributions of Money to the Agency required the Director General to report to the Board whenever he had difficulty in making use of the money contributed. That provided the Board with an opportunity to consider the difficulties in detail. His Government did not agree that the Board or the Secretariat had been reluctant to use the money contributed to the General Fund

^{3/} Rules to Govern the Acceptance of Gifts of Services, Equipment and Facilities (INFCIRC/13, section I).

by the Soviet Union in 1959. The difficulty had arisen from the restrictions that had been imposed regarding the use to which that money was to be put. He was sure that the information document to be issued by the Director General would make it quite clear that the Board and the Secretariat had in no way been responsible for the delay in making use of the Soviet contribution.

7. Mr. QUANSAH (Ghana) said that, in the report of the Committee for Pledges of Voluntary Contributions to the General Fund, Ghana did not appear in the list of Member States which had pledged voluntary contributions to the General Fund because his delegation had not consulted its Government on the point before coming to the Conference. His Government undertook, however, to contribute to the General Fund, and the nature of the contribution would be communicated to the Director General in due course.

8. Mr. MICHAELS (United Kingdom) said that a solution of the financial problem confronting the Agency was essential if it was to perform its work satisfactorily. It was therefore difficult to understand the opposition to the draft resolution contained in document GC(V)/183. The Agency was the only United Nations organization of a technical character which relied upon voluntary contributions in order to carry out its technical assistance activities.

9. If a State offering a voluntary contribution were permitted to specify the country which was to benefit from that offer, it would reduce the Agency to the role of a broker and undermine the whole concept of multilateral assistance. The existence of the Agency would then be pointless. He thought it was in the interests of the less-developed countries that technical assistance provided in a multilateral form should become far larger than assistance provided bilaterally.

10. If planning were undertaken without a knowledge of the resources available to the Agency, if the resources were confined to a particular type of assistance, or if the offers of contributions were earmarked for a particular receiving State, the whole purpose of planning would be defeated.

11. It had been contended that there should be a fundamental change in the composition of the Board. It seemed that there was a desire to wield power through membership of the Board, but a distinct reluctance to accept the financial implications of membership. In order to ensure that the Board should be able to determine policy, its Members and all the Members of the Agency must be willing to accept their individual and collective responsibilities in financial matters.

12. His delegation supported the draft resolution in question.
13. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution contained in document GC(V)/183.
14. The draft resolution was adopted by 29 votes to 10, with 18 abstentions.
15. The draft resolution contained in document GC(V)/187 was adopted unanimously.

THE QUESTION OF A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATUTE (GC(V)/182, 188/Rev.1) (continued from the 60th meeting)

16. The PRESIDENT invited the General Conference to consider the draft resolutions contained in documents GC(V)/182 and 188/Rev.1. He drew attention to the fact that, whereas five States had jointly submitted the first text of the latter draft, the revised text was also co-sponsored by Australia and the United Arab Republic.
17. Mr. SMYTH (United States of America) said that the basic object of the United States in co-sponsoring the draft resolution contained in document GC(V)/182 was to obviate the necessity for a general review of the Statute at the sixth regular session of the Conference. There had apparently been some misunderstanding regarding that draft resolution, and his delegation considered that the new draft resolution contained in document GC(V)/188/Rev.1 would remove that misunderstanding, and would, therefore, support it. It wished to withdraw the draft resolution contained in document GC(V)/182.
18. Mr. PETRZELKA (Czechoslovak Socialist Republic) said his delegation had pleasure in co-sponsoring the draft resolution contained in document GC(V)/188/Rev.1, which was in conformity with the Agency's Statute and the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference. The resolution noted "that in the course of the discussion on the question of a general review of the provisions of the Statute no formal proposal for its realization was submitted for decision by the General Conference". That did not invalidate the criticism expressed by his delegation, and certain other delegations, of the obsolete provisions of the Statute and the manner in which some delegations interpreted the Statute. The draft resolution would, in accordance with the Statute, enable any Member State to propose that the question of a general review of the Statute be discussed at a **future** session of the Conference.

19. Mr. McKNIGHT (Australia) said he had pleasure in co-sponsoring the draft resolution. Although the Conference had agreed that there should be no general review of the Statute at the sixth regular session of the Conference, it had not agreed on the manner in which that conclusion could be expressed. The draft resolution reflected the fact that nobody was in favor of holding a Conference on the Statute in October 1962. The preamble referred to the whole of Article XVIII of the Statute in order to meet the statutory requirement that the question of a review of the Statute should be discussed at the present session of the Conference, and also because Article XVIII made provision for any Member State to propose any amendment of the Statute at any time. Any defects which might exist in the Statute could be considered by adopting the procedure laid down in the Statute, which had been followed when the question of the representation of the "Africa and the Middle East" area had been considered. Another reason for referring in the preamble to Article XVIII, and to the Rules of Procedure, was to make it clear that it was the right of any Member State to request the inclusion of items in the agenda of the Conference at any time; such items, of course, might relate to a revision of the Statute.

20. Mr. DAGUERRE (Senegal) said his delegation accepted the changes and additions proposed by the delegations of Australia and Czechoslovakia and embodied in the revised version of the draft resolution.

21. The draft resolution contained in document GC(V)/188/Rev.1 was adopted unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL (continued from the 57th meeting)

22. The PRESIDENT recalled that the appointment of Mr. Eklund to the post of Director General of the Agency had been made by the Board and approved by the Conference^{4/}. Under Regulation 1.12 of the Provisional Staff Regulations^{5/}, Mr. Eklund was required to take the oath of office at a public meeting of the Conference. Mr. Eklund was present for that purpose, but any delegates who had statements to make regarding the taking of the oath by the Director General Designate should do so beforehand.

^{4/} See documents GC(V)/165, paragraph 2 and GC(V)/RES/91.

^{5/} INFCIRC/6 and Add.1.

23. Mr. EMBELIANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he wished to state the attitude of the socialist countries towards the appointment of Mr. Eklund as Director General. The Agency had 76 Member States, differing in their social and political structure and level of economic development. Some of them were advanced in the use of atomic energy; some were taking their first steps in that direction. The Agency's work could never bear fruit, nor could it perform its duties, unless all its Members were fully equal and their interests were justly considered. That fundamental requirement, upon which the success of the Agency's work depended, had been trodden brutally underfoot by the Western group of States.

24. The dictatorial policy of the United States had been clearly manifested in the appointment of Mr. Eklund as Director General. Although 23 Member States representing two large groups of States - all the socialist countries and a majority of the countries of Asia and Africa - had opposed his appointment, the United States and its allies had ridden roughshod over the elementary rules of co-operation between equal States and used their mechanical majority to force through the appointment of their own candidate to the post of Director General. Thus a henchman of the Western group of States occupied that post for the second time. Mr. Eklund's acceptance of the appointment against the will of many countries, representing the majority of the world's population, proved that he had become a tool of the Western countries' policy, and determined what attitude to him should be adopted.

25. The Director General could fulfill his functions with success only if he was supported by all three groups of States: the socialist, the neutral and the Western. The voting at Mr. Eklund's appointment showed that he did not enjoy that support. The United States, in foisting its chosen candidate upon the Agency against the will of the socialist and the neutral States, had shown that it had lost all sense of proportion and reality. It disregarded the radical changes that had taken place in the world. A decision **suiting the** Western group could not be forcibly imposed on the socialist countries and on the Soviet Union, which led the way in scientific progress and the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The United States and its followers had assumed a grave responsibility for the unfavorable consequences which would accrue to the Agency from the appointment they had compelled it to make. That appointment could not promote the development of truly international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy, and the Soviet Government would draw from it the necessary inferences.

26. Mr. SMYTH (United States of America) greatly regretted the statement which had just been made; the United States did not accept those views. He would not reply however, because he did not consider it appropriate to do so. For his part he could state that the United States remained devoted to the high purposes of the Agency, which sought to promote the peaceful uses of atomic energy for the increasing benefit of mankind. As the Conference proceeded to the induction of the new Director General, Mr. Eklund was entitled to know that he had the full support of the United States and of the great majority of the Members represented in the Conference. He wished also to assure Mr. Eklund that the United States would do its best to heal such wounds as existed and would co-operate with him and other delegations in making the Agency an effective instrument for improving the lot of man.

27. The PRESIDENT invited Mr. Eklund to take the oath of office prescribed by Regulation 1.11 of the Provisional Staff Regulations.

28. Mr. EKLUND (Director General Designate) took the oath in the following terms:

"I solemnly swear to exercise in all loyalty, discretion and conscience the functions entrusted to me as Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to discharge these functions and to regulate my conduct with the interests of the Agency only in view, and not to seek or accept instructions in regard to the performance of my duties from any Government or other authority external to the Agency."

29. He then thanked the Board and the Conference for the confidence they had shown in him in appointing him Director General. He realized he was undertaking a great responsibility and would try to justify the confidence shown in him. In accepting the appointment, his sole motive had been a sincere desire to promote the objectives of the Agency. Although certain Member States had not supported his appointment, he had accepted it because he knew he had been appointed in full accordance with the Statute of the Agency and had received a large majority of votes. He felt confident that all Member States would work together in order to further the Agency's objectives, and he would do his utmost to co-operate with all Members of the Agency to enable it to achieve its purposes throughout the world. He was glad to know that in his task he would be supported by an excellent Secretariat, which had been set up largely through the skill of the present Director General.

30. Sooner or later the stocks of conventional energy would run out, and a lot still remained to be done to develop atomic energy to the point where it could take over. Both money and talent would be necessary. The developing countries could provide talent for education and research and development work in science and technology; and the Agency should be able to give considerable assistance.

31. He pointed out that the development costs involved in producing competitive power reactors were very high, as could be seen from a study of different national programs, and the financial means available to the Agency were not great. Its role in developing competitive reactors would probably have to become much less ambitious, unless finances were increased. He praised the important work done by the Agency in the dissemination and free exchange of scientific knowledge, and felt sure that such work would lead to a better understanding between different countries.

32. He was starting his work at the Agency with an open mind and would welcome constructive suggestions that might prosper its work. He counted on the collaboration of the developing countries in the work of the Agency and said he would pay particular attention to the question of equitable distribution of posts in the Secretariat. The Agency depended on the collaboration of all Member States, and he on his side intended to collaborate with them, recognizing that they had equal rights and equal duties.

33. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): "With this ceremony, the Director General-elect of the Agency has now taken the oath of office. The fifth regular session of the Conference has complied with the final statutory requirement for ensuring that the Agency will have the necessary leadership and guidance during the next four years. For the first four years of its existence the Agency has had as its leader Mr. Sterling Cole who, for the last time in his capacity of Director General, is present at this final meeting of the present session. The first years in the life of any institution are decisive for its future development, and the Agency is no exception to this rule. I am firmly convinced that the International Atomic Energy Agency enjoys a position of great prestige throughout the world. This position has not been attained without effort or without overcoming serious difficulties. I am equally convinced that credit for these achievements belongs largely to

Mr. Cole, who for four years has worked effectively and tirelessly as the head of the organization. He has brought together an outstanding team of scientific and administrative personnel in which we can take pride.

34. "He has also shown absolute impartiality in conducting the business of the Agency and has shown no **favoritism** towards any nation or region of the world. He has always taken account of all points of view and has done everything in his power to promote the Agency as a scientific rather than a political organization. He has always shown particular interest in the less-developed countries, and under his guidance the efforts of the Agency have been increasingly directed towards assisting those countries to achieve a better standard of living through the peaceful use of atomic energy.

35. "Mr. Cole, I believe that I can speak on behalf of the Conference as a whole in taking this opportunity of expressing to you our sincere gratitude for your dedication to the Agency during the past four years. We express our warmest wishes that you - and also your distinguished consort, who has always been of such assistance to you throughout your difficult task - may enjoy all success in your future activities." (Applause).

36. The DIRECTOR GENERAL: "Mr. President, Members of the Conference, it is with great reluctance that I seek to impose upon your time for just a moment, knowing full well the weeks of arduous toil and discussion you have already had. I had not entirely expected that this would form a part of this afternoon's program, in fact I had sought from the President that he should not do what his genial and generous personality eventually prompted him to do. The warmth of his remarks which were supported by your own generous applause prompts me to take this rostrum.

37. "It seems but a moment ago since I took the oath of this high office down in the Konzerthaus where the first General Conference was held, and many of you will remember that occasion. Even though it was but yesterday, four long arduous years have passed - years devoted to a determination to do all possible for the success of this organization and a measure of achievement in the accomplishment of its great goal. Whatever may have been said of credit to me is deserved fully by that fine cadre of scientific and administrative staff which surrounds me. Without their support, their advice and their encouragement, we could not have accomplished as much as we have during that time. I feel I am entitled to some degree of pride for credit in the

construction of a bridge of accommodation between the East and the West and I now want publicly to acknowledge that on the basis of my own experience in this office the accommodation between me and the West and between me and the East has been of the highest order and also the harmony, the good feeling between staff members from the so-called East and West has been of the highest order.

38. "Saying good-bye is never an easy task, especially to persons who have come to be regarded as friends - not official friends, but personal friends. During this period I have visited over thirty Member States of the Agency for the purpose of arousing their interest in and their support of the Agency and in that course, and in the course of the meetings of the Board of Governors and the General Conference, these personal friendships have developed. With regret I bid them farewell and also with the hope that our paths may again cross some place.

39. "It is not easy to depart from the scene of the most active part of one's entire lifetime, particularly when that scene is set in a city such as Vienna. The officials of Austria, the officials of Vienna have been most co-operative with me officially, most hospitable, cordial with me personally, and I hope that the representatives of Austria may convey to the President and the Chancellor, to the Mayor of Vienna, my gratitude for their confidence, their cordiality and their hospitality. Also to leave Vienna, which in itself has the charm of complete tranquillity so sorely needed in our effort to achieve a degree of peace among nations is a difficult thing. It was most fortunate when the decision was made to locate the Headquarters of the Agency in this city, because of its tranquil, peaceful atmosphere.

40. "During this time I have had a high degree of support from all Member Governments; to leave now with the atmosphere such as has developed is a pain of the highest order to me. The success, the accomplishment of the purposes of this organization has been included as a part of my daily prayer. I seek for my successor, who has a very difficult task ahead to rebuild and to reconstruct the degree of harmony which has previously existed - I seek for him most earnestly a support, a confidence, a co-operation no less sincere, no less complete than was given to me throughout my service. I have been grateful for the opportunity of filling this high office; I have been constantly aware of the injunction imposed by the oath. As I have previously said in my more official statement, I wish for the Agency nothing but the very best of success and accomplishment in bringing some order out of this chaotic world and some semblance of comfort and happiness to its people."

(On the conclusion of his statement, the Director General received a standing ovation from the General Conference).

THE AGENCY'S PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR 1962 (GC(V)/186).

41. Mr. PERERA (Ceylon), Rapporteur of the Program, Technical and Budget Committee, presented the Committee's report on the Agency's program and budget for 1962 (GC(V)/186).

42. The PRESIDENT said the Conference would now have to vote on the draft resolutions contained in the Annexes to the Committee's report. In Annex I there were two draft resolutions, the first on Budgetary Appropriations for 1962, the second on the Use of the Working Capital Fund in 1962. The first of those draft resolutions was divided into two parts: part A, dealing with the administrative expenses of the Agency in 1962, and part B, dealing with the operational funds. He suggested that the Conference vote on parts A and B separately and then on the draft resolution as a whole.

43. Mr. THOMAS (Australia) said he wished to record the attitude of his Government regarding the draft resolutions contained in Annexes I to VI. He wished to make it clear that his Government's acceptance of the Committee's report and the Annexes thereto was subject to the views expressed by the Australian delegation in the Committee. In particular, he wished to draw attention to the views of the Australian delegation regarding the proposals dealt with in the draft resolutions reproduced in Annexes II and IV^{6/}.

44. Mr. LESZCZYNSKI (Poland) requested, under Rule 75 of the Rules of Procedure, that a separate vote be taken on paragraph 4 of part B of the first draft resolution in Annex I, which had been the subject of an amendment proposed by Czechoslovakia in the Committee^{7/}.

45. The PRESIDENT put to the vote part A of the first draft resolution contained in Annex I to the Committee's report.

46. There were 38 votes in favor and 8 against, with 2 abstentions. Part A of the first draft resolution was adopted, having obtained the required two-thirds majority.

47. The PRESIDENT put to the vote paragraph 4 of part B of the first draft resolution.

^{6/} See document GC(V)/COM.1/OR.40, paragraphs 12-14 and 95.

^{7/} GC(V)/COM.1/59; see also document GC(V)/COM.1/OR.39, paragraphs 5-21.

48. There were 39 votes in favor and 12 against, with 5 abstentions. The paragraph was approved, having obtained the required two-thirds majority.

49. The PRESIDENT put to the vote part B of the first draft resolution.

50. There were 48 votes in favor and none against, with 4 abstentions. Part B of the first draft resolution was adopted, having obtained the required two-thirds majority.

51. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the first draft resolution in Annex I (Budgetary appropriations for 1962) as a whole.

52. There were 41 votes in favor and none against, with 13 abstentions. The first draft resolution was adopted, having obtained the required two-thirds majority.

53. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the second draft resolution in Annex I (Use of the Working Capital Fund in 1962).

54. There were 41 votes in favor and 8 against, with 4 abstentions. The second draft resolution was adopted, having obtained the required two-thirds majority.

55. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolutions in Annexes II to VI.

56. The draft resolutions in Annexes II and III (A long-term program for the activities of the Agency; International co-operation in the utilization of research reactors) were adopted unanimously.

57. The draft resolution in Annex IV (The establishment of an international center for theoretical physics) was adopted by 35 votes to none, with 18 abstentions.

58. The draft resolution in Annex V (The functions of the Agency's laboratory) was adopted unanimously.

59. The PRESIDENT said he had been asked by the original sponsors of the draft resolution set out in Annex VI, which had been approved unanimously by the Committee, to ask the Conference whether it would agree to repair an inadvertent omission from the text of paragraph (b) of the preamble, by inserting the words "preliminary assistance and" after the word "Agency's".

60. The draft resolution in Annex VI (International co-operation for developing nuclear power projects), as amended, was adopted unanimously.

61. Mr. MITRA (India) wished it to be recorded that his delegation had abstained in the voting on almost all the draft resolutions annexed to the Committee's report.

SCALE OF MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1962 (GC(V)/184)

62. The PRESIDENT invited the Conference's attention to the draft resolution set out in the report of the Program, Technical and Budget Committee (GC(V)/184). The recommended scale of contributions for 1962 was based on the membership of the Agency as of 31 August 1961.

63. The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

STUDIES OF NUCLEAR POWER COSTS (GC(V)/185)

64. The PRESIDENT invited the Conference's attention to the draft resolution on studies of nuclear power costs, set out in the report of the Program, Technical and Budget Committee (GC(V)/185).

65. The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

CLOSING OF THE SESSION

66. Mr. PERERA (Ceylon), speaking on behalf of the delegations from the British Commonwealth countries, thanked the President for the admirable way in which he had discharged his onerous duties. He also thanked the Secretariat for providing the technical services without which the work of the Conference could not have gone on. Lastly, he added a special word of gratitude to the retiring Director General for the skill, tact and effective way in which he had led the Agency in the first four years of its life.

67. Mr. FLORES (Mexico), on behalf of the delegations from the Latin American countries, joined in congratulating the President on the ability and skill with which he had directed the discussions, and in expressing gratitude to the retiring Director General for all he had attempted and accomplished over the past four years. He also thanked all the members of the Secretariat who had contributed to the success of the session.

68. Mr. de ERICE (Spain), speaking on behalf of the delegations from Western Europe, first expressed their gratitude to the Austrian Government and people for their cordial and generous hospitality to the Conference. The President deserved the warmest congratulations for the efficient manner in which he had guided the discussions which, at times, had been difficult. He also thanked the Chairmen and other officers of the two Main Committees for their substantial contribution to the work of the session, and the members of the Secretariat, whose work behind the scenes was so essential.

69. Lastly, he thanked the retiring Director General, who, despite having had to start from scratch in setting up the Agency's administrative machinery, had found time for the friendly contacts so conducive to the smooth running of the Agency's affairs. The incoming Director General could, he was sure, count on the same collaboration that had been shown to Mr. Cole and he would wish him the greatest success in his task. It was his earnest hope that the Agency would continue its work of promoting peace and understanding throughout the world.

70. Mr. SMYTH (United States of America) expressed his delegation's appreciation for the inspiring leadership the President had given to the session, the more so as at times the meetings had not been without difficulty. He thanked all members of the Secretariat for the efficiency and goodwill they had shown in their work.

71. The familiar and reassuring figure of the Director General would not be appearing in his accustomed place at forthcoming sessions. He would reiterate his delegation's warmest thanks for the devoted services Mr. Cole had given to the Agency and for his invaluable efforts to promote the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

72. Mr. NADJAKOV (Bulgaria), speaking on behalf of the Soviet Union, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Albania and his own country, thanked the President for the efforts he had made in bringing the work of the Conference to a successful conclusion, and for the impartiality he had displayed. Differences of opinion had emerged during the discussions and it had not been possible to achieve unanimity on a number of important issues, due to lack of goodwill on the part of some delegations. The President, for his part, had exercised restraint and tact in his efforts to reconcile opposing opinions.

73. The PRESIDENT said he would have liked to be able to say that the discussions had been characterized throughout by a spirit of understanding and collaboration, but unfortunately that had not been so. Differences of view that were difficult to reconcile had emerged. He would like to thank those delegates who, in spite of the differences that had arisen, had enabled the discussions to be carried through to a conclusion in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

74. He wished particularly to thank the Secretariat for its indefatigable efforts during the session. He again expressed gratitude to the Austrian Government and the Vienna municipal authorities for their co-operation and generous hospitality, and thanked the Chairmen of the two Main Committees and the representatives of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and inter-governmental organizations and the observers for non-governmental organizations for their contribution to the work. He likewise offered his thanks to the representatives of the Press and other information media who had kept the public informed of the progress of the work.

75. At the opening of the session, he had spoken of the faith the developing countries had in the Agency and the hopes they placed in its future. The developing countries needed all the aid they could get; and the more advanced countries could not lightly set aside their responsibility to collaborate in supplying that aid. But it was no longer merely a question of co-operation in matters of research, important though that might be. If agreement could not be reached in a technical body like the Agency, there was obviously little hope of achieving common accord in the political sphere. Yet failure was a luxury that mankind could not afford, since survival itself was at stake.

76. Man's achievements through the centuries were a matter of pride for every human being, irrespective of race or creed, and the opening up of space offered magnificent prospects for the generations to come. He would therefore urge Member States most earnestly to avoid opening a breach in one of the existing means of communication that had been found between the opposing camps in the world, namely the Agency itself, with all the possibilities it presented for the eventual achievement of mutual understanding. In the future, details should be relegated to the secondary place they merited and endeavors should

be focused on seeking ways and means of bringing about that greatly desired end. He thanked the delegates for the help he had received in carrying out his duties and for the response he trusted his appeal would elicit.

77. In accordance with Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure, he invited the delegates to observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation.

78. All present rose and stood in silence for one minute.

79. The PRESIDENT then declared closed the fifth regular session of the General Conference.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.

