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President: Mr. ASAKAI (Japan)

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* GC(IX)/313.

The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document
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GENERAL DEBATE AND REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR 1964-65 (GC(IX)/299, 307)
(continued)

1. Mr. HULUBEI (Romania) congratulated the President on his election and thanked the Japanese Government for its generous hospitality in a beautiful country which twenty years previously had suffered the terrible effects of the destructive power of nuclear energy.
2. Romania wished to do everything it could to contribute towards the fight against atomic weapons and for world peace. It was striving to arrest the armaments race, and was working for general disarmament and the creation of denuclearized zones as well as for the unconditional prohibition of nuclear weapons. The Romanian people unreservedly supported any reasonable measure for facilitating international co-operation and for clearing the difficult path towards world progress, both economic and social. Experience showed that most international problems, including the dangers of a nuclear conflict, could be overcome if the principles of national sovereignty and independence and non-interference in internal affairs were respected. In that connection, his Government considered that the imperialist intervention in Viet-Nam was causing unnecessary suffering and endangering world peace.
3. He warmly congratulated Jordan and Jamaica, the Agency's two new Members, and expressed the hope that their efforts would be both beneficial to their peoples and conducive to fulfilment of the Agency's noble aims. He also hoped that out of respect for the principle of universality, other peoples not yet represented in the Agency would be admitted to share in the common work, aims and aspirations.
4. The Board of Governors' annual report and the Director General's statement showed that on the whole the Agency's work was systematically being directed towards the goals set in the Statute. He paid tribute to the qualities of the Director General, an eminent scientist who was directing the Agency along a definite scientific path. His delegation supported the proposal for his re-appointment for another four years.
5. The services given by the Agency indicated that the time was approaching when it would play an important and essential role in the peaceful application of atomic energy despite international difficulties which were still hampering nuclear activities. As other delegates had examined the Agency's activity in detail he would confine himself to just a few comments.

6. Special mention should be made of the work done during the past year by the Division of Scientific and Technical Information. International meetings had been carefully organized and most of the topics considered had been of increasing interest to Member States. The numerous and excellent publications were much sought after and extremely useful.

7. The concentration of different forms of technical assistance in one Department had proved satisfactory, given the importance of such activities among those being carried out in the Agency.

8. Extremely interesting research in agriculture, such as the eradication of harmful insects through the sterilization of males, crop disinfection and the sterilization of fruit and fruit juice by irradiation, was proceeding in close collaboration with the specialized agencies of the United Nations. He also emphasized the importance to all Member States of the Agency's activities in the realm of health and safety, particularly its revision of the Safety Standards and the Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Materials^{1/}. He also mentioned the collaboration with specialized agencies on radiation protection and the disposal of radioactive waste.

9. The Agency's Laboratory had produced standard radioisotope sources for 114 institutions, and 15 Member States had received assistance under the co-ordinated research programme on rice and maize. Twelve countries had also received help in research on male sterilization techniques for destroying noxious insects.

10. The Division of Nuclear Power and Reactors had also been very busy, both on power reactors and reactor physics. It was studying the use of plutonium in thermal-neutron reactors and of thorium in converter and breeder reactors. He also mentioned the work of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics at Trieste organized by the Agency in conjunction with UNESCO.

11. The Board had approved the revised safeguards system. Romania had taken part in the work of revision and was ready to vote for the new system. Its application would reveal its merits and defects, and it could be revised when that proved necessary.

^{1/} STI/PUB/97.

12. The Third International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy held in Geneva had shown that the world could rely on atomic energy for progress, and it could be claimed with justice that the first steps in the nuclear age had been taken. The forecasts made at Geneva had been confirmed by intense activity, in both the highly industrialized and the less advanced countries.

13. Romania was striving to develop its industry, and an average annual increase of 10.5% for industrial production was planned up to 1970. The output of electrical and thermal energy was to increase at an even higher rate in the coming years and was to be nearly doubled in five years. Use must be made of nuclear energy, and it was planned to put into operation two nuclear power stations with a total capacity of 1000-1200 MW before 1975.

14. His delegation believed that the Agency's activities in the coming years should be directed in particular towards solving urgent problems such as those relating to nuclear power stations and associated matters; such problems should be given a prominent place in the next biennial programme. The Agency had in the past rightly included in its programmes matters of major interest, of the type of those that had been mentioned, for the applications of radioisotopes were of great economic importance; but greater weight should now be given to problems of nuclear power. The Agency could undertake studies of great international interest, such as comparative technical and economic studies of the different reactor types, comparative studies of different types of fuel, studies on the best way of constructing power reactors and studies relating to the use of nuclear power in merchant fleets or space travel.

15. No doubt all delegates were familiar with Resolution 1090 (XXXIX) of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations regarding the use of human resources, which were recognized to be an essential factor in the economic and social development of developing countries in particular. The United Nations and other international bodies, including the Agency, were asked to give that resolution the attention it deserved. According to certain writers, two-fifths of the increase in production were due to skilled labour. The United Nations Committee on Science and Technology had stressed that the size and distribution of a country's trained and specialized manpower resources determined, in the final instance, its capacity. It was therefore necessary to reinforce the intellectual potential of a country that was being helped to develop, if technical assistance was to have any point. Such countries would not be really free or masters of their fate unless they disposed of a highly-skilled labour force.

16. Training should be an essential part of the Agency's programme. The results so far obtained had been satisfactory and had also been noted by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution of 2 July 1965. His delegation hoped that in the context of the rapid development of nuclear power, the Agency would give special attention to the training of experts. In its view, a carefully prepared plan for training the personnel who were so essential to the success of the Agency's work should, if possible, be included in the coming biennial programmes, perhaps in collaboration with UNESCO.

17. In conclusion, he earnestly hoped that the work of the present session would be crowned with a full measure of success.

18. Mr. HAYMERLE (Austria) congratulated the President on his election and thanked the Japanese Government for having invited the Conference to meet in Tokyo and for having facilitated the work of delegations by the efficiency of the arrangements it had made.

19. He welcomed the new Member States which had joined the Agency in the past year and those States whose applications for membership had been approved by the Conference.

20. It had been encouraging to read the annual report of the Board, which contained detailed information on the progress made in carrying out the Agency's biennial programme for 1965-66, and to hear the statement made by the Director General on the opening day of the Conference, which had emphasized that the implementation of the Agency's long-term programme^{2/} was making good headway. Both the report and the Director General's statement had made it clear that the Agency had before it many opportunities for constructive work.

21. A number of the items referred to were of particular interest to Austria. A very promising start had been made with the International Programme on the Irradiation of Food and Fruit Juices, which was being carried out jointly by the Oesterreichische Studiengesellschaft für Atomenergie (Austrian Atomic Energy Research Organization), the European Nuclear Energy Agency and the Agency, and for which Austria bore a major share of the cost. Another important project being

^{2/} INFCIRC/50.

carried out at the Agency's Laboratory at Seibersdorf involved research on eradication of the Mediterranean fruit fly in Central America. While on the subject of the Agency's Laboratory he wished to mention that Austria continued to place at the Laboratory's disposal about 25% of the capacity of the Austrian 5-MW research and test reactor free of charge. Investigations were going on near Vienna in collaboration with the Agency and within the framework of the International Hydrological Decade with a view to opening up new sources of water supply. The isotope techniques being developed as a result of those investigations - particularly those based on the use of tritium - would be equally applicable to the problems of other countries.

22. Austria was particularly pleased to note that the work of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics at Trieste was developing successfully. In that connection he wished to state that if the Agency should one day wish to establish a similar institute for research in the medical applications of radioisotopes, his country would be glad to be of assistance in every way possible.

23. Another matter of particular interest was the question of non-destructive techniques for testing irradiated reactor fuel. The fact that an adequate solution to that problem seemed to have been devised by Austrian scientists working in conjunction with the Agency was significant not only from the technical and economic standpoint in general but also from the standpoint of the Agency's safeguards system in particular.

24. The revised safeguards system was one of the central topics of the present session of the General Conference and could become the key to further progress in international co-operation. Austria had already accepted the principle of Agency control by entering into an agreement with the Agency and the Government of the United States of America. That agreement had been ratified and was due to come into force shortly.

25. Another item of interest to Austria was the question of the elaboration of a draft agreement on emergency assistance to be provided in the event of radiation accidents. It would be useful if the General Conference could underline the urgency of the problem since, unless there was international agreement, the assistance needed in such cases might be held up by internal obstacles of a legal and administrative nature.

26. As far as the budget estimates for 1966 were concerned, the proposed increases seemed reasonable and his country would support the budget as submitted. He was glad to state that Austria would be able to increase its voluntary contribution to the General Fund in 1966. Under the technical assistance programme useful work had been done in the past year. Austria had accepted 19 post-graduate students from 14 Member States and had spent considerable sums on its contribution to the fellowship programme. Austria was at present considering an extension of her fellowship programme with a view to enabling Agency fellows to attend lectures at Austrian universities.

27. His delegation was extremely pleased that Dr. Eklund was willing to serve the Agency for a further four-year term. Austria was convinced that, aided by his able staff, he would continue to lead the Agency on to further successes.

28. One of the sources of the Agency's strength was its determination to tackle the limited tasks entrusted to it in a thoroughly realistic manner. All Member States, whatever their political or ideological background, had come to realize that the complex problems posed by the rapid rate of technical progress could only be solved through international agreement. It was in that spirit that Austria would continue to give its full support to the work of the Agency.

29. Mr. SCHULTE-MEERMANN (Federal Republic of Germany) conveyed his delegation's congratulations to the President on his election and its thanks and admiration to the Japanese Government and people. Although his country was not a Member of the United Nations, it had joined all the specialized agencies and had always endeavoured to contribute to the realization of the United Nations' aims and objectives. It also did all in its power to support the programmes of the United Nations and its agencies.

30. In the same way as the Third International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy had shown that the use of nuclear power had now come of age, so the Agency's achievements during the past year had shown that it, too, had reached maturity.

31. From his country's standpoint, the Third International Conference had also shown that no major changes were required in the national atomic energy programme drawn up for the years 1963-67. A shift had, however, occurred as far as priorities in reactor development were concerned. Up to a few years previously the electricity industry, for commercial reasons, had still been reluctant to

order major power stations and the reactor industry had only just started to develop some prototype reactors of advanced design. For their part the research centres had believed they had plenty of time for the long-term programme of breeder development. It now appeared that breeder reactors were being developed energetically all over the world and immediate and close co-operation between research centres and industry was therefore required in order to be able to build prototype breeders of approximately 250-MW capacity as soon as possible. It was very satisfactory to find that the smaller prototype reactors with a capacity of 25-100 MW developed under the transitional programme, at a time when breeders had still seemed a long way off, were proving of inestimable value as the forerunners of full-scale breeders.

32. The Federal Republic deeply regretted that the progress it had achieved in reactor development should have aroused the suspicion in certain quarters that its atomic energy programme also served military purposes and would permit the production of nuclear weapons. He took the present opportunity of emphasizing yet again that all his country's nuclear installations were, and would remain, exclusively devoted to the peaceful uses of atomic energy. There were no classified establishments in his country and all activities in the atomic energy field were subject to virtually unlimited control. During the past few years the Karlsruhe Nuclear Research Centre, which had been the main object of suspicion, had been visited by more than one hundred thousand people, among them a great number of outstanding experts from many countries - including countries in Eastern Europe - who had been quite free to inspect all the installations at their ease. Apart from bilateral controls under agreements with the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada, every nuclear installation in his country was subject to the comprehensive and rigid security control system of EURATOM, which was generally considered the most comprehensive and effective multilateral system of security control in the world.

33. His Government also approved the Agency's efforts to devise a world-wide control system which should be as uniform as possible and should not discriminate against any State, and specially appreciated the progress made in that respect.

34. The annual report of the Board showed that the Agency had during the past year made useful contributions in many other fields as well. In particular he congratulated the Agency on the success of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics at Trieste, which was a good example of the way in which the Agency could help its Members by a programme of specialized training and co-operative research on a regional or international level.

35. The Government of the Federal Republic was always particularly glad of the occasion to arrange Agency meetings on its territory, and also to co-operate in the Agency's work on hydrology, where the forthcoming results of the research contracts awarded to the Heidelberg and Munich laboratories would be of special importance for the developing countries.

36. In order to encourage co-operation between the research centre of Garching near Munich and foreign reactor stations, the Federal Republic was again prepared to offer two fellowships and the necessary experimental equipment, with which the fellows would first work at Munich and which they would then take home with them. Experts from the Federal Republic were willing to assist the fellows in their future work once they had returned to their native countries.

37. His delegation approved the Agency's programme for 1966 and regarded the 10% increase in the Regular Budget as reasonable and inevitable. The re-appointment of the Director General for a further four years strengthened its confidence in the Agency's future.

38. Mr. SIWABESSY (Indonesia) congratulated the President on his election and said that the choice of Tokyo as the venue for the General Conference was recognition of the important part played by Japan in the application of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. It was regrettable that one Asian nuclear Power had been excluded from the deliberations.

39. He expressed appreciation of the work of the Director General and supported his re-appointment.

40. Indonesia had received valuable assistance from the Agency but was disappointed with some aspects of the policy followed, particularly during the past year.

41. In his country the planning, co-ordination and supervision of atomic energy activities had been entrusted to the Institute for Atomic Energy, which had now been upgraded to the level of a Government department and the Director General of which now held the rank of cabinet minister. The department's technical work was carried out in three centres. In Jogjakarta there was an isotope laboratory, a reactor simulator and cobalt-60 unit for experiments in biology and agriculture, and a specialized laboratory. There was also a subcritical

assembly with which difficulties were being experienced, the output of neutron sources being too low. The Agency was helping to make good the deficiency. The Triga Mark II reactor had been completed in Bandung and had been operating since the end of 1964. It was now being mainly used for the production of radioisotopes.

42. Progress had been made in constructing the Serpong reactor, bought from a friendly nation. The reactor was expected to become critical by the end of 1966.

43. At the seventh regular session of the General Conference, his delegation had expressed the desire to organize a regional isotope training course and as a first step in that direction five national courses had been arranged and had given good results.

44. As part of the effort to become self-sufficient and produce nuclear source material at home, five national survey teams were making a complete survey of resources. Although Indonesia had adequate hydro and fossil power resources it had to keep abreast of the search for more economic methods of power production, and preparations were under way to launch a nuclear power pilot project in 1970.

45. A pilot thorium plant had been constructed and would soon start operating with a daily capacity of one ton of monazite.

46. His country had benefited from help given by the Agency and under bilateral agreements in the form of grants, credits, technical assistance, the procurement of equipment and the training of experts. However, bilateral arrangements were often more satisfactory because of undue delays in implementing agreements with the agency. The processing of applications for fellowships and experts had been slowed down unnecessarily and some of the experts had not come up to expectations. The same delays had occurred with equipment. His Government wondered whether those difficulties had resulted from deliberate discrimination or obstruction.

47. The Soviet delegate had rightly emphasized that the safeguards system must be applied without discrimination and in a way that would not hamper the scientific progress of developing countries. That warning was equally applicable to every other Agency operation.

48. A more equitable geographical distribution of staff would prevent prejudice and discrimination.

49. It would be disastrous if mankind's fear of an atomic holocaust were exploited by the nuclear Powers to keep others out of their club and the appeal for the non-proliferation of atomic bombs would remain a hollow one if not accompanied by a call for a total ban on the production of atomic weapons and the destruction of existing ones.

50. The French delegate had been right in pointing out that the increase in the number of countries producing nuclear weapons might increase the chances of an expansion in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

51. Mr. KRASIN (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) congratulated the President on his election and thanked the Japanese Government for having invited the General Conference to hold its ninth session in Tokyo and for having thus provided an opportunity of observing at first hand the advances made by Japan in the economic, technical and cultural fields. He then gave a brief review of the advances made in the nuclear sphere in the past year.

52. The world's first nuclear power plant had been put into service in the Soviet Union a little over 11 years ago. He had participated personally in the development and start-up of that plant and recalled the exhilaration experienced by all his colleagues when the first several thousand kilowatts obtained from the fission of the uranium nucleus had been fed into the electricity grid. Barely ten years later the delegates to the third Geneva conference had been unanimous in emphasizing the benefits to be obtained from making increasing use of nuclear power plants. A number of countries had announced their intention of building such plants in the next few years, which would mean that the world's nuclear electricity potential would rise to a total of several tens of millions of kilowatts. It was clear that the exchange of scientific knowledge and practical results on the international scale was bound to play an increasingly important role in the rapid development of nuclear power production.

53. He then gave a brief outline of the progress made in his country over the past year in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The IRT-2000 reactor, which was used for research purposes, had been successfully operated. In 1965 a

second reactor, intended for physics studies, had been brought into service and would be used for a wide variety of reactor physics studies. The Byelorussian Nuclear Research Centre also had a radiochemistry laboratory, which was equipped with a gamma-irradiation facility, and work on the construction of a more powerful installation, to be used for the irradiation of materials, was proceeding apace.

54. Thanks to the IRT-2000 reactor, the second reactor for physics studies, the radiochemistry laboratory and other facilities, the Academy of Sciences of the Byelorussian Republic had been able to organize an independent nuclear power institute, where its scientists would be able to work on the practical application of the latest scientific and technical achievements obtained in the nuclear field and the improvement of the technical parameters of nuclear power plants. During the past year work on the training of experts at the university and of highly qualified staff had been stepped up thanks to the organization of more advanced courses of practical training. In the near future nuclear energy would be playing an important role in his country's economy. The progress being made in Byelorussia was thus clear evidence of the fact that atomic energy could make a real contribution to the welfare of the peoples of the world.

55. It had to be borne in mind, however, that nuclear energy could also be used for military purposes and everyone was fully aware of the enormous destructive potential of nuclear weapons. Several delegates had already recalled the twentieth anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki tragedies, which mankind could not and should not forget. Everything should be done to ensure that nuclear weapons were never again used and that the greatest discovery ever made by man - nuclear energy - should be applied solely for peaceful purposes, for the advancement and welfare of humanity.

56. In that connection, great importance attached to the draft resolution which had been submitted by the delegations of the Soviet Union and various other countries and which called on Member States to refrain from the use of nuclear weapons, to take steps to accelerate the conclusion of an agreement on the prohibition of nuclear weapons and to render assistance in every possible way to the success of the negotiations for general and complete

disarmament and for the prohibition and destruction of nuclear weapons.^{3/} His delegation had been one of the sponsors of that resolution and had noted with satisfaction during the general debate that it was supported by a large number of other delegations.

57. It was felt by a number of countries, however, that the Agency was not competent to deal with political questions, particularly those concerning disarmament and the prohibition of nuclear weapons, and should confine its attention to purely technical matters. It was that mistaken attitude which had led to the presentation, on the initiative of the United Kingdom delegate, of a resolution expressing doubts as to the competence of the Conference in the matter. The resolution was an attempt to hide, by various means which were contrary to the Agency's Statute and the Conference's Rules of Procedure, the unwillingness of certain countries to accept the prohibition of nuclear weapons and the curtailment of the arms race.

58. He felt that countries had a right to confront the Agency with a question such as the banning of nuclear weapons. Specialists understood better than anyone else the consequences of resorting to those terrible weapons, and therefore every possible step should be taken to outlaw them. The Agency, as an organization called upon to act in accordance with the aims and principles of the United Nations in order to forward the cause of peace and international co-operation, should not turn its back on the problems of banning nuclear weapons.

59. The fact that two years previously the Agency had welcomed the conclusion of the Moscow agreement on the prohibition of nuclear weapons testing in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water, and that it had adopted several resolutions on the study of the social and economic aspects of disarmament, again showed that it could and should occupy itself with questions of disarmament.

60. As an organization charged with promoting international co-operation, the Agency was deeply interested in the stabilization of the international situation. It had unfortunately to be admitted that the present session of the General

^{3/} GC(IX)/316.

Conference was taking place in an exceptionally unfavourable international situation. By taking a course leading to the aggravation of world tension and the creation of new breeding grounds for war, certain Western Powers were accelerating the arms race and opposing the implementation of any effective measure which would permit general and total disarmament to be attained.

61. On the subject of the Agency's activities in the past year, he noted that the objectives set had been attained. The Agency had based its work on the valuable conclusions regarding the world exploitation of atomic energy reached by the third Geneva conference, in whose organization it had played an active part. The clearest expression of that contribution was the fact that the Agency was increasingly interested in nuclear power and related questions. A very useful part of the Agency's activity, and one which should be encouraged, was scientific and technical documentation and the organization of scientific and technical conferences, symposia and seminars.

62. He particularly noted the great importance to specialist circles of the Agency's publication of the proceedings of seminars and conferences. The publication of the Reactor Directory also made it possible to profit by experience. He hoped that the Agency would further expand its activity in that field, and that symposia and technical meetings in various branches of atomic energy and reactor physics would become an aid to the systematic exchange of experience. A particularly good idea was that of setting up a centralized service to collect documentation on nuclear constants and establishing at the Agency a mechanized centre for the rapid treatment and distribution of the constants necessary for practical work.

63. Although the coming year could be expected to bring some improvement in its work, there were still numerous imperfections in the Agency's operation. For example, the Agency's technical assistance resources were dispersed by its staff among a large number of countries and projects. In addition, many of those projects were of no real importance in themselves, and often served only the individual interests of particular laboratories, which made the assistance valueless. Technical assistance projects had so far been implemented extremely slowly, and the receiving countries had to wait months for their realization. The senior staff of the Agency also showed a tendency to widen excessively the range of scientific activity and research undertaken by the Agency itself. The

Byelorussian delegation, among others, had already frequently pointed out that the role and the function of the Agency were quite different. It should be essentially an organ of co-ordination and information in scientific and research matters, while scientific research should be carried out principally by the Governments of Member States.

64. He would now go on to another aspect of the agency's scientific activities, that of research contracts. He recalled that the total sum spent on financing research contracts since the establishment of the Agency was about \$5 million. That was a very considerable sum. However, the extent to which the results of the work had benefited Member States was not known. The Byelorussian delegation warmly supported the proposal made by the Soviet delegation at the June meeting of the Board of Governors, requesting the Secretariat to prepare a general report on the research for which \$5 million had already been spent. Such reports should be prepared periodically and should be included in the annual report to the General Conference, together with the information on the Agency's technical assistance.

65. The statements by numerous delegates at the General Conference showed the lively practical interest of all countries of the world in the widespread application of the present achievements of atomic science; the most recent work and research should bring further advantages and lead to discoveries in a large number of branches of nuclear science. It was sufficient to mention problems such as the nuclear super-heating of steam, the development of high-temperature reactors, in particular breeder reactors, and the use of plutonium for power reactors. The success of such research would be even greater when international co-operation was better organized and more effective.

66. Mr. BENCHRIKH (Algeria) congratulated the President on his election. His delegation was convinced that the President's efficiency and his enlightened devotion to the cause of international co-operation would contribute substantially to the success of the Conference. His delegation also extended its congratulations to the other officers of the Conference on their election. He also wished to express his thanks to the Japanese Government for having invited the Conference to meet in Tokyo and for giving delegates an opportunity of experiencing the traditional hospitality and kindness of the Japanese people.

67. His delegation welcomed Jordan and Jamaica on their admission to the Agency. His own country, which had been discharging responsibilities in the international sphere for the past three years, intended to contribute in every way possible to the work being carried out by the Agency with a view to promoting international co-operation. It was for that reason, among others, that his delegation deplored the absence of the representatives of numerous African peoples, which were subjected to apartheid or colonial domination, of the people of Palestine, which had been expelled from its homeland and was forced to lead a wretched existence on the borders of its own country, and of the people of the People's Republic of China, which was debarred from admission to the Agency on ideological grounds. The restoration of their legitimate rights to those peoples so as to enable them to participate in it would enable the Agency to ensure the maintenance of peaceful co-operation and thus help to diminish the threat to international security presented by the present state of affairs.

68. It was superfluous to emphasize that the changes that had taken place in Algeria opened up a new phase in the struggle for the attainment of the objectives of the Algerian revolution, i.e. material and scientific progress through utilization of the country's intellectual and material resources. Algeria faced a situation which would require large-scale intervention on the part of all the specialized agencies of the United Nations and his country considered that relations between the Agency and the specialized agencies should be even closer than at present.

69. Many countries were in the same position as Algeria and their requirements were enormous. It was imperative therefore that the Agency should lose no time in making additional efforts to enable countries to tackle their development problems under the most favourable possible conditions. The Conference should therefore give priority to the problem of ensuring that countries such as Algeria were represented on a broader and more realistic basis on the executive bodies of the Agency. It was in that spirit that his delegation had supported the re-appointment of Mr. Eklund for a further term as Director General.

70. In connection with the problem of safeguards, his country, which had not yet reached an advanced stage of nuclear development, trusted that the system which was finally elaborated would not widen the gap existing between the

industrialized and the developing countries. His delegation also hoped that the resources required to implement the system would not adversely affect the Agency's technical assistance budget.

71. Algeria was deeply attached to the cause of peace and international co-operation. It was anxious to make a modest contribution to the work being carried out by the Agency to build a better world, in collaboration with all those countries which were committed to the ideal of justice through progress.

72. In conclusion he expressed the conviction that the Agency would rapidly overcome the difficulties facing it and that, strengthened by the confidence of its Member States, it would not fail to justify the hopes placed in it by the peoples of the world.

73. Mr. MARULANDA (Colombia) associated himself with the congratulations that had been addressed to the President on his election and expressed his appreciation to the Japanese Government for having invited the Agency to hold the General Conference in Tokyo. He then gave a brief outline of the progress made by Colombia in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

74. Colombia had made considerable strides in the nuclear field thanks to the efforts made by the Government and the Congress and to the assistance provided by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United States Atomic Energy Commission.

75. The IAN-R1 reactor, which had been operated since February by the Nuclear Energy Institute, had been given to Colombia by the United States under the "Atoms for Peace" programme. It had been set up at the Institute, which also housed a radiochemistry laboratory and a laboratory for nuclear physics, together with other ancillary facilities.

76. The reactor was of the swimming-pool type and used 90%⁺-enriched uranium-235. It was moderated with ordinary water and had a graphite reflector. The reactor core and all the ancillary equipment had been designed to ensure safe and flexible operation for the purposes of research and training.

77. Since the reactor had been brought into operation, it had been used for irradiation work for research and training, for activation analysis and for research on solid-state physics.

78. In connection with the agricultural applications of radioisotopes, research of considerable importance had been carried out which had provided information on soils and on methods for applying fertilizers. Particular attention had been paid to the conservation of foodstuffs by irradiation and good results had been obtained with potatoes treated with cobalt-60 with a view to increasing storage times and to studying the effects of gamma radiation. The irradiated samples had been stored for eight months under strictly predetermined temperature and humidity conditions and it had been found that the irradiation had not impaired the quality of the product in any way.

79. As for the application of fertilizers labelled with radioisotopes, a series of phosphorus-32 experiments had been carried out to study the effects of various methods of applying phosphate fertilizers on phosphorus uptake and on the growth of barley; radiophosphorus studies had been carried out to study the influence of phosphate fertilizers on the growth of rice; research had also been done on the development of roots, etc. A contract had been concluded with the Agency providing for research on corn. The per hectare yield for corn was very low in Colombia and the purpose of the project was to determine the best method and the best time for applying the fertilizer.

80. Two years previously the Institute had carried out research of considerable importance for the economy of Colombia. The Sacadodes Pyralis Dyar worm caused considerable losses in cotton crops every year and it was hoped to exterminate it by the sterile male technique, which had been used to excellent effect in similar cases. The results obtained hitherto were promising and indicated that the dose should be at least 20 000 rads.

81. In medicine and biology close collaboration had been established with the National Cancer Institute. Recently a study had been made of the analysis of iodine in urine and blood by neutron activation analysis. It was planned to analyse other elements which it was practically impossible to detect by other means because of their low concentration.

82. The Institute was also doing work of direct interest to industry, viz. industrial gamma radiography, which could be used to check welds in pressure tubes.

83. On the training side the Institute was working in close collaboration with universities and research centres, and physicians, chemists, agronomists, physicists and students were able to make use of the Institute's laboratories to acquire further knowledge. It would be seen, therefore, that in Colombia the promise implied in the "Atoms for Peace" programme was being fulfilled.

84. In conclusion he wished to congratulate the Director General and the staff of the Agency on the way in which they had handled the technical assistance requests submitted by Colombia. His delegation would take great pleasure in supporting the re-appointment of the Director General for a further term of office.

85. Mr. EL FASSI (Morocco) congratulated the President on his unanimous election and thanked the Japanese Government for the welcome it had extended to the Conference.

86. The Moroccan Government had just concluded, in Tokyo, a project agreement with the Agency under which the Agency would make arrangements to facilitate the delivery to Morocco of a Rum-7 X-ray apparatus and a Luch cobalt therapy unit. The equipment, which had been placed at the Agency's disposal free of charge by the Soviet Union, would be used to develop the Radiology and Cancer Centre at Casablanca.

87. A similar agreement had been concluded between the Government of Afghanistan and the Agency. It would be seen, therefore, that the Agency was discharging its statutory responsibilities in an effective and positive manner by encouraging and facilitating the development and practical utilization of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, taking particular account of the special needs of the developing countries. In the name of his country he thanked the Government of the Soviet Union and the Agency.

88. It was not the first time that Morocco had benefited from the Agency's assistance. Morocco's requests for experts, fellowships and equipment had on the whole been met. Studies carried out in collaboration with the Agency had indicated interesting possibilities for the use of radioisotopes. It had not been possible to embark on the construction of power reactors because nuclear electricity costs were still too high. On the other hand, it was planned to build a small research reactor to produce short-lived radioisotopes with a view to making extensive use of nuclear techniques in the near future.

89. His country was devoted to the principles of loyalty and respect for law. As a Member of the Agency it intended to exercise its rights and discharge its obligations in a fair and straightforward manner. It would refrain from any action that might hamper the effective operation of the Agency. His delegation would vote in favour of the budget and would rely on the Secretariat to ensure that the increase in the post adjustment allowance for Vienna staff would not adversely affect the programme of assistance to the developing countries. It would also support the revised safeguards system, which would help strengthen the role of the Agency as well as serving the cause of world peace.

90. During the present session, new Members would be elected to the Board. As an outgoing Member, Morocco wished to point out that, if the aim of the majority of the Agency's Members was to step up assistance to the developing countries, the present composition of the Board failed to reflect that principle. The proposal submitted by the Congo had been criticized on the grounds that it upset the extremely precarious equilibrium that existed at present; what was needed, however, was to ensure a more stable equilibrium by broadening the basis of representation on the Board. Article VI.A.3 of the Statute should again be amended with a view to increasing the representation of Africa and the Middle East. It was to be hoped that the next Board would carefully review that problem and would present an equitable draft proposal to the tenth session of the General Conference.

91. His delegation welcomed the two new Member States, Jordan and Jamaica. It wished to thank the Director General for having agreed to serve a new term and wished him every success. For the developing countries his re-appointment was a guarantee of efficiency and impartiality.

92. Mr. ESENBEL (Turkey) thanked the Japanese Government for its hospitality. Japan was an outstanding example of a country that had converted its economy from an agricultural to an industrial one in a short space of time and had proved that unremitting national endeavour could make up for the lack of natural resources. He congratulated the President on his election and expressed satisfaction at Mr. Eklund's re-appointment.

93. It was gratifying that two new countries should have joined the Agency.

94. The fact that it was the experts' view that the problem of persistently low income levels could be solved through science and technology brought hope to developing countries at a time when the gap between their real income and that of industrial countries was widening. It was thus essential to find a means of disseminating scientific knowledge from the advanced to the less advanced countries by giving them massive technical assistance and training their experts. To that end the developed nations should pool their resources so as to narrow the technological gap between themselves and the rest. It would be extremely useful if the Agency's budget could be increased for purposes of disseminating information and supplying equipment.

95. His Government was grateful for the valuable technical assistance it had received during the past year, thanks to which certain projects had been initiated.

96. He welcomed the reorganization of the Secretariat's technical assistance activities, proposed by his delegation in 1964, which should result in a better integrated programme and staffing economies. The Agency was to be congratulated on having set up a panel to study the problem of the shortage of trained experts in nuclear science and technology in the developing countries.

97. The creation of a Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Atomic Energy in agriculture so as to develop a single programme for both agencies and to ensure full co-operation between their technical services should serve as a model to other United Nations bodies. In a short space of time the Division had made considerable progress. The pilot project on the use of radiation for the disinfection of stored grain in Turkey ought to benefit other Member States faced with the same problem.

98. In conclusion, he said that a regional study group on irradiation techniques would be meeting in November in Istanbul and was being jointly organized by the Agency and the Turkish Atomic Energy Commission.

99. Mr. STEVENS (Burma) joined in congratulating the President on his election and assuring the able Director General of the Burmese delegation's confidence in him and his most competent staff. Although he personally was a stranger to the complexity of atomic energy matters, the debate had convinced him of the great role the Agency was destined to play in the future welfare of mankind.

100. Though it had only a modest atomic energy programme, Burma was greatly interested in the various peaceful applications of atomic energy and was keeping in close touch with the Agency's valuable work. The foundation of a sound atomic energy programme had already been laid by the establishment of courses in nuclear subjects at the various universities, co-ordination in all matters relating to atomic energy and the Agency being the responsibility of the Atomic Energy Centre. Burma greatly appreciated the technical assistance it received from the Agency and only regretted that the Agency's resources for technical assistance appeared to be severely limited. He would therefore appeal to all Member States, especially the more advanced ones, to do their utmost to increase their voluntary contributions to the Agency in order that developing countries might receive adequate assistance.

101. He recalled that Burma had always supported the designation of other Member States to represent South Asia on the Board and had itself declined election. As Burma was now for the first time allowing its candidature to go forward, he appealed to all delegations for their support.

The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.