



GC

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GENERAL COMMITTEE

RECORD OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna,
on Monday, 29 September 1986, at 5.50 p.m.

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[*] A provisional version of this document was issued on 10 October 1986.

[**] GC(XXX)/774.

ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING

Chairman

Mr. RAMANNA (India), President of the General Conference

Members

Mr. CHERIF (Algeria), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. BAEYENS, representing Mr. CAPRON (France), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. CASTILLO CONTOUX (Guatemala), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. TSUKADA, representing Mr. MURATA (Japan), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. BADRAN (Jordan), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. CHUTHASMIT (Thailand), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. ZOBOV, representing Mr. PETROSYANTS (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. KENNEDY, representing Mr. HERRINGTON (United States of America), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. BARRE d'ERQUELINNES (Belgium), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. STANCEL, representing Mr. HAVEL (Czechoslovakia), Additional Member

Mr. THOMPSON, representing Mr. FITZGERALD (Ireland), Additional Member

Mr. OMWONY (Kenya), Additional Member

Mr. KANIEWSKI, representing Mr. SOWINSKI (Poland), Additional Member

Mr. COSTANZO (Uruguay), Additional Member

Ms. SUDIRDJO (Indonesia), Chairman of the Board of Governors

Secretariat

Mr. SANMUGANATHAN, Secretary of the Committee

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING (GC(XXX)/GEN/69)

1. The CHAIRMAN asked the Committee whether it wished to adopt the provisional agenda reproduced in document GC(XXX)/GEN/69.

2. It was so decided.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONFERENCE

(a) ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS FOR INITIAL DISCUSSION (GC(XXX)/774)

3. The CHAIRMAN noted that the provisional agenda reproduced in document GC(XXX)/774 contained an item proposed by the Syrian Arab Republic, namely item 7 entitled "The Israeli nuclear threat". If there were no objections, he would take it that the General Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that the agenda for the thirtieth regular session should comprise all the items listed in document GC(XXX)/774.

4. It was so decided.

5. Mr. KENNEDY (United States of America) noted that his delegation had not commented on the agenda, which it considered satisfactory. Nevertheless, he wished to say a few words about item 7. The United States delegation considered it perfectly normal for a Member State to have an item included in the agenda; that was in fact provided for by the Statute and the Rules of Procedure. However, it was disappointed to see that particular item on the agenda. The matter had already been the subject of close examination for a number of years. In the previous year, it had been submitted to the General Conference in two different forms and, in each case, had been discussed. He had therefore hoped that it would no longer appear on the agenda. Consideration of the matter would again take up a considerable amount of time, to the detriment of the many very important matters to which the Agency should pay increased attention in view of the expansion of its nuclear safety programme. His delegation therefore regretted the fact that the matter had been included in the agenda but would still take part in the discussion.

6. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the comments made by the United States delegation be included in the record of the meeting and said he would inform the General Conference of those comments when reporting orally on the adoption of the agenda.

7. Mr. BADRAN (Jordan), while respecting the point of view of the United States delegation, considered that it would be better just to include that delegation's comments in the record of the meeting without informing the General Conference of them. Item 7 of the agenda was directly related to matters which had been examined during the special session on international nuclear safety. While recognizing that the Conference's time should be devoted to the more technical aspects of the Agency's work, he believed it would be wrong to ignore an important matter of international and regional interest which had a direct bearing on international nuclear safety.

8. Mr. CHUTHASMIT (Thailand) pointed out that the agenda for the General Conference was a full one and that it contained a number of very important items. The Conference should use the limited time at its disposal to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The question of the Israeli nuclear threat had already been examined at length at the previous regular session of the General Conference. He therefore found it surprising that it should have been included in the agenda again. It would be better for a matter of that nature to be considered by the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council.

9. Mr. BARRE d'ERQUELINNES (Chairman of the Committee of the Whole) said that it would not be appropriate for him to comment at the present stage, since he was attending the meeting in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. Nevertheless, when item 7 was considered by the Conference, the Belgian delegation would take part in the discussion.

10. The CHAIRMAN invited the delegate of the Syrian Arab Republic, who was attending the meeting pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, to take the floor.

11. Mr. HADDAD (Syrian Arab Republic) thanked the members of the Committee for agreeing that item 7 should remain on the agenda. He wished,

however, to comment on some of the comments made. The matter which his delegation had requested to have included in the agenda was entirely different from the issues considered by the General Conference in 1982, 1983, 1984 and 1985, which had related to military action aimed at destroying nuclear installations and, in particular, Iraq's new reactor. Today, it was a matter of Israel's nuclear potential and its capacity for using that potential for aggressive purposes against neighbouring Arab countries. In the Middle East the situation prevailing was an abnormal one - rather like a war that was sometimes declared and sometimes not. For that reason his delegation had asked the Conference to consider the matter with a view to finding an appropriate way of removing the risk of a nuclear war in the Middle East, together with its radiological and political consequences - consequences which the whole world would have to face.

12. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that, for each item of the agenda, document GC(XXX)/774 contained an annotation with a suggestion whether it should be considered in plenary session or in a committee.

13. Mr. BAEYENS (France), speaking on his own behalf and not in his capacity as representative of France, asked why items 7 and 17, which were of political importance and were likely to give rise to long discussions, were to be examined in plenary session and not in the Committee of the Whole.

14. Mr. SANMUGANATHAN (Secretary of the Committee) replied that that allocation of items was in keeping with the practice followed in the past for similar questions.

15. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Conference should consider the items of the agenda in the order shown and that they be allocated as suggested in document GC(XXX)/774.

16. It was so decided.

(b) CLOSING DATE OF THE SESSION AND OPENING DATE OF THE NEXT SESSION

17. The CHAIRMAN noted that 65 speakers were still entered on the list. He suggested that speakers should be asked to be brief and that he should recommend to the General Conference that the session be closed on the Friday evening.

18. It was so decided.

19. The CHAIRMAN asked the Committee, pursuant to Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure, to consider the question of setting a date for the next regular session of the Conference. Traditionally, the Conference met during the last complete week of September. He therefore suggested that the Committee recommend that the Conference's thirty-first regular session should begin on Monday, 21 September 1987, in Vienna. If the Committee agreed, he would also make that recommendation orally to the General Conference.

20. It was so decided.

NEXT MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

21. The CHAIRMAN recalled that under Rule 28 of the Rules of Procedure the Committee was to meet as a credentials committee. He proposed that a meeting for that purpose should take place at 5 p.m. on Thursday, 2 October, in the same room.

22. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 6.15 p.m.