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Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna,
on Monday, 29 September 1986, at 3.20 p.m.

President: Mr. RAMANNA (India)
later: Mr. CHERIF (Algeria)

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The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document GC(XXX)/INF/238/Rev.4.

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AND OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE; APPOINTMENT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE (resumed)

1. The PRESIDENT informed the General Conference that the consultations on the election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Conference and of the other members of the General Committee had been completed.

2. He proposed, in conformity with Rule 34 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, that the delegates of the following Member States be elected as Vice-Presidents of the General Conference: Algeria, France, Guatemala, Japan, Jordan, Thailand, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.

3. He proposed, pursuant to Rule 34 of the Rules of Procedure, Mr. de la Barre d'Erquelinnes of Belgium as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole and, pursuant to Rule 40, that the delegates of the following Member States be elected as additional members of the General Committee: Czechoslovakia, Ireland, Kenya, Poland and Uruguay.

4. The General Conference accepted the President's proposals.

5. The General Committee was thus duly appointed.

GENERAL DEBATE AND ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1985 (GC(XXX)/775 and Corr.1) (resumed)

6. Mr. PETROSYANTS (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), observing that the regular session was taking place immediately after the special session of the General Conference whose labours, devoted to a wide range of questions relating to the safe development of nuclear energy in the world, had been crowned with success, said that his delegation was most gratified that the final document of the special session recognized that nuclear energy, if properly used, would continue to be an important source of energy at the service of mankind. The special session had appealed to States to co-operate in order to further the development of nuclear energy while ensuring the maximum safety for people and for the environment. As was well known, the programme suggested by the Soviet Union to establish an international regime for the safe development of nuclear power had been widely supported by the participants at the special session. That programme envisaged a series of practical measures for the establishment of a scientific and technical basis

for the development of nuclear power. Their implementation through a common effort on the part of all States would make it possible to create the conditions in which nuclear power could meet the growing energy demand.

7. The special session of the General Conference had approved two international conventions, major legal instruments which constituted an initial international commitment to serve as the basis of a future system for the safe development of nuclear power. The important decisions taken at the special session on that matter would require continued co-operation between States and would enhance the Agency's role and responsibilities in that area, which was so important for the whole of mankind. The Soviet Union was aware that only the initial stages had been accomplished, but it was ready to make further efforts to reach the desired objective.

8. Safety in the peaceful use of nuclear energy was closely linked to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons in the world. The political realities of the present-day world required that effective measures be taken immediately to halt the nuclear arms race, to remove the latent threat of nuclear war and to protect the world from plunging into the abyss of a nuclear holocaust. That required wide international co-operation, based on the combined efforts of States, international organizations and peace-loving groups.

9. In the area of disarmament, the main initiatives of Soviet foreign policy and the programme which the Soviet Union had submitted for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the twentieth century opened up to humanity a real way to a world without nuclear weapons, to a world of genuine security for all States. As was well known, his country had decided to extend its unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions until 1 January 1987. It was deeply convinced that a total ban on nuclear tests was the first and most effective step towards nuclear disarmament. A ban on nuclear explosions would be a serious and realistic procedure for limiting the arms race. Wide and effective international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy could be developed successfully only if all the conditions were met to prevent a nuclear war, to limit the arms race, particularly nuclear weapons, and to increase confidence between States. The Agency was in a position to make a constructive contribution to solving those problems. The Stockholm Conference had laid the foundations.

10. In 1987 the Agency would celebrate its 30th anniversary. It was satisfactory to note that over the years it had become a universally recognized centre, able both to solve scientific and technical problems of the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to provide assistance to developing countries within its sphere of competence. The Agency was concerned with questions of special importance for all States, such as the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the promotion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. It had gained the confidence of the international community by becoming one of the most competent and efficient international organizations whose activities served the interests of all States. The Agency was particularly well thought of in the Soviet Union, where it was hoped that its activities would be strengthened. In accordance with the Statute, the control of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime and the progressive development of the safeguards system occupied a special place in the Agency's activities. In that respect it was appropriate to note that the safeguards agreement signed between the USSR and the Agency would enable the Agency to acquire new experience in the application of safeguards.

11. The annual report for 1985 showed that there had been positive results in that area during 1985. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea had become party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the number of parties to that treaty stood at 130. His country had always supported the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime and attached great importance to the universalization of NPT because it believed that that would serve the interests of the international community in general and would promote greater international co-operation, from which all countries would benefit. The success of the third NPT Review Conference had made a significant contribution to the development of the non-proliferation regime. The USSR wished to draw attention to the excellent work carried out by the Agency in preparing that important conference. The Agency had been given the essential task of verifying that the parties to NPT fulfilled their obligations. His delegation was pleased to note that in 1985, as in previous years, the Secretariat had, in carrying out the safeguards obligations of the Agency, not detected any irregularity which would indicate the diversion of a significant amount of safeguarded nuclear material - or the misuse of facilities or equipment subject to safeguards under certain agreements - for

the manufacture of nuclear weapons or for any other military purpose, or for the manufacture of any other nuclear explosive device. That demonstrated Members States' confidence in the international safeguards system set up by the Agency.

12. However, the Soviet delegation noted that in 1986 five non-nuclear-weapon States had unsafeguarded facilities capable of producing material which could be used for the manufacture of nuclear weapons. The strengthening of the non-proliferation regime remained an urgent problem. It should not be forgotten that its solution depended directly on the functioning of the Agency's safeguards system, which was the only generally recognized system for the international control of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Agency's efforts should be aimed at improving the effectiveness of that system in countries which could acquire nuclear capability and particularly in those which had not acceded to NPT. In those countries control activities should concentrate on the "sensitive" stages of the nuclear fuel cycle. As in the past, the Agency should continue to improve the effectiveness of control by recourse to more advanced methods, procedures and technical facilities and by optimizing its inspection activities. The Soviet Union was giving more help to the Agency's work in that area by providing assistance under its scientific and technical support programme for safeguards. The resources allocated to that programme for the period 1986-1988 had more than doubled to reach 5 million roubles. In addition, the USSR had made a special contribution of 330 000 roubles to finance the Agency's activities in the Soviet Union under that programme.

13. His country intended to take an active part in the Agency's efforts to increase co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. It greatly appreciated the work done by the Committee on Assurances of Supply (CAS) and continued to believe that there were real possibilities for establishing principles of international co-operation in the area of nuclear energy and a system of assured supplies as part of the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime. It was convinced that all members of CAS would contribute constructively to the conclusion of agreements which would benefit all countries and ensure that nuclear energy was used exclusively for peaceful purposes.

14. The Soviet Union actively supported, in its main outlines, the programme of scientific and technical co-operation with Member States for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, particularly those activities which were of interest to all countries. It lent constant support to the International Nuclear Information System (INIS), to co-operation on nuclear data research at the Agency and to work on nuclear power and the fuel cycle. It also supported the Agency's activities in the area of controlled nuclear fusion.

15. In view of the importance accorded at present to problems of nuclear safety, his Government approved the proposal to undertake additional activities in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection in 1987 in the amount of \$2 030 000. Although in favour of the programme in principle, his delegation believed that the Board of Governors should give it further consideration in order to introduce the necessary modifications and amendments.

16. The USSR had always believed that the Agency's technical assistance and co-operation activities were an important aspect of the organization's work, since they promoted the transfer of experience, knowledge and technology relating to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for the benefit of the economic and social development of countries. A growing proportion of the Agency's budget was being spent on technical assistance. At its previous session, the General Conference had decided on an increase of 12%, by comparison with 1986, in the indicative planning figure for the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund in 1987. His delegation approved that increase while urging that the principles of financing the Fund, namely voluntary contributions in national currency, should remain unchanged. The total amount of resources available for technical co-operation in 1987 would reach \$42.5 million. That figure was a very good illustration of the Agency's success in the technical co-operation field and showed clearly that the financial resources allocated to that important area were continuing to increase substantially. The system of indicative planning figures had proved to be effective; it provided reliable, predictable and assured financing for the Agency's technical co-operation activities.

17. The Soviet Union had continued to increase its participation in the implementation of the Agency's technical assistance programme. It paid its

share of voluntary contributions to the Fund regularly and in full, and in 1987 that contribution would be the equivalent of \$3 434 000 in national currency. Those resources should be used to provide developing countries with equipment, instruments, facilities and material from the Soviet Union and to train Agency fellows under training programmes, study tours and other activities organized in the country. In addition, the USSR had allocated 2 million roubles for the financing during the period 1986-1988 of footnote-a/ projects in countries party to NPT. His delegation believed that increasing the efficiency of the Agency's activities depended greatly on the use of proven mechanisms such as the implementation of long-term, large-scale technical assistance projects, international and regional co-operation in the implementation of projects and participation by other international organizations in Agency projects. The Agency had an important role to play with regard to mobilizing and making the best use of all the available resources: it should continue to improve its administrative procedures and to make regular evaluations of the results of technical co-operation.

18. The analysis of the causes and consequences of accidents in nuclear power plants, which had taken place during August, had shown the important role of the human factor and the man-machine interface. In that respect, the Agency should make greater use of its training potential in order to improve the theoretical and practical knowledge of staff in recipient countries. His delegation noted that in previous years the implementation of the technical co-operation programme and the utilization of Member States' resources had generally led to positive results. That work should be continued unremittingly and new projects using all the financial resources available to the Agency for technical assistance should be regularly submitted to donor countries for their consideration.

19. Since the Chernobyl accident, the question of nuclear safety had acquired a new urgency. In his delegation's view, the conclusion to be drawn from the accident was quite clear: nuclear energy should be developed under conditions which ensured the maximum safety both for the public and for the environment. In the USSR a series of measures had been taken to improve the monitoring of safety at nuclear power plants throughout the country. The Soviet Union had shown a great sense of responsibility in the conclusions

which it had drawn from the Chernobyl accident and from accidents at nuclear power plants in other countries. The set of proposals for the establishment, through close co-operation between all States, of an international regime for the safe development of nuclear energy, which had been submitted by the Deputy-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, B.E. Shcherbina, at the special session of the General Conference, was based on those conclusions. The main elements of that programme had been described in the statements made by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR, Mr. M. Gorbachev, on 14 May and 9 June 1986.

20. His delegation associated itself with those which had expressed their approval of the annual report for 1985 and wished to thank the Director General and the Agency Secretariat for the valuable and efficient work they had done during the past year. It was convinced that the Agency would remain a reliable instrument for the development of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy under a permanent regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

21. Mr. JIANG (China) said that 1985 had been marked by important activities in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and had on the whole been fruitful.

22. The first special session of the General Conference had been a success. His delegation had very much appreciated the spirit of co-operation and understanding shown by the participants. That meeting had reviewed recent important events and had adopted by consensus two conventions which the majority of Member States had signed or were proposing to sign. That fact demonstrated that, provided account was taken of the different requirements of Member States and of the interests of the various parties in seeking a common ground without ignoring differences, it was possible to solve within the framework of the Agency certain important problems of common interest.

23. His delegation approved the Agency's Annual Report for 1985. During that year Member States, particularly developing countries, had greatly appreciated the efforts made by the Agency to increase the implementation rate of the technical co-operation programme, to improve the effective utilization of technical assistance resources and the practical results of technical

assistance, and to encourage developing countries to make their contribution to technical co-operation. His delegation sincerely hoped that the Secretariat would redouble its efforts in its future activities. It hoped, in particular, that the Agency would do everything in its power to increase the implementation rate of technical co-operation projects, to improve the effectiveness of technical co-operation and to strengthen international co-operation in the area of nuclear safety. Recalling certain suggestions made by the Governor from China at the meetings of the Board in June, his delegation wished to stress that in promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy the Agency should increase expenditure on technical co-operation and the resources allocated to promotional activities in order better to meet the needs of Member States, particularly developing countries.

24. His delegation believed that the development of relatively simple nuclear power plants, safe to operate and low in cost, was important for the development of nuclear power. It supported all the Agency's efforts in that area. With regard to the application of nuclear techniques in agriculture, his delegation believed that it was an extremely important area for developing countries and hoped that the Agency would continue its work therein so as to derive still better economic returns.

25. Despite the controversies caused in international public opinion by the development of nuclear energy, China's view of nuclear energy was identical to that of the Director General who had commented in one of his reports that nuclear power was a very promising source of energy. His country would therefore continue its nuclear power programme as planned, in a positive and appropriate way in accordance with its principle of requesting foreign co-operation while safeguarding its autonomy. Nuclear power plants at Guangdong Daya Bay and Zhejiang-Qinshan were under construction. The first would have two 900 MW units and the second would have one of 300 MW. In both cases they would be pressurized-water reactors designed in accordance with the Agency's nuclear safety standards. In the design and construction of the two power plants priority was being given to safety and quality assurance, and China had made an in-depth study of the relevant experience of other countries. In order to improve effectively the safety of nuclear power plants, a Chinese State Nuclear Safety Administration had been established.

In addition, a committee of nuclear safety experts had been founded. His Government attached great importance to international co-operation in nuclear safety. It had actively participated in meetings organized by the Agency during which Chinese experts, together with their counterparts from other countries, had examined technical, political and legal questions associated with nuclear safety and had put forward suggestions and proposals. In addition, China was ready to exchange information on nuclear safety with other countries.

26. Since China had become a Member of the Agency, technical co-operation with the latter had increased every year, covering an increasing number of areas and producing increasingly tangible results. In 1985, the Agency had co-operated with his country in the organization of various courses: an advanced training course on elemental analysis by nuclear techniques, a training course/demonstration on radiation cross-linking applications in the wire and cable industry, and a training course on radioimmunoassay techniques. A number of international meetings had been held in China, including the Asian and Pacific Regional Seminar on Food Irradiation, co-sponsored by the Agency and FAO, the second meeting of the project on food irradiation in the Asian and Pacific Region and study tours on the same subject, as well as a meeting of experts on low-energy research reactors. China had contributed to those activities as host country. In 1986 the Agency and China had organized two training courses, on radiation-induced mutation and on non-destructive testing, a second training course/demonstration on radiation cross-linking applications in the wire and cable industry and a workshop on the radiosterilization of medical products. By participating in technical co-operation activities organized by the Agency, Chinese scientists and experts had been able to exchange views with colleagues from other countries, which had enabled everyone to learn from the strong points of others. His country believed that such international exchanges were very valuable.

27. His delegation had announced at the twenty-ninth regular session of the General Conference that China would voluntarily place some of its civil nuclear facilities under Agency safeguards at an appropriate time, and that it would hold consultations with the Agency on that subject. Recently, a

delegation from the Agency, headed by Mr. Herzig, Director of the Division of External Relations, had visited Beijing. The first round of negotiations between China and the Agency relating to the voluntary submission of nuclear facilities to Agency safeguards had taken place and the planned objective had been reached.

28. Mr. KWON (Republic of Korea) said that his delegation was particularly interested in the discussions at the thirtieth regular session of the General Conference concerning the activities to be undertaken to solve the crucial safety problems highlighted by the Chernobyl accident. That accident had provoked renewed public concern about nuclear safety and had served as a reminder of the need to be better prepared for emergency situations, both at international and at regional level. In that respect, his delegation was pleased to learn that the conventions on early notification and on emergency assistance had been adopted by consensus at the special session of the General Conference. His Government welcomed the adoption of those two conventions, which it fully supported, and proposed to take the necessary measures for their signature and ratification as soon as possible.

29. Many constructive ideas had been submitted at the Post-Accident Review Meeting and at the meeting of governmental experts to prepare the two draft conventions; his delegation hoped that those ideas would be studied in greater detail at international level and that they would be taken up in the Agency's programme. It also hoped that all Member States would associate themselves with the Agency and spare no effort - particularly with regard to financing - to strengthen the Agency's role in nuclear safety. The participants in the Post-Accident Review Meeting had made very interesting recommendations regarding follow-up activities; those recommendations included the launching of a long-term programme for a comprehensive analysis at international level which would make it possible to apply the lessons learned to all types of reactors. However, it would perhaps take years to gather and analyse some of the data. His delegation was convinced that the Secretariat would make the full body of information available to Member States in an efficient manner, thus enabling them to strengthen the technical and economic aspects of preventive measures.

30. With regard to the annual report for 1985, the Agency had made commendable efforts in the area of technical assistance and co-operation and had played an outstanding role in that area. The annual report showed that in 1985 the Agency had adopted a series of measures designed to increase the implementation rate of the technical co-operation programme, to improve the utilization of the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund and to increase the overall efficiency of the technical assistance programme. His delegation noted with satisfaction that the technical co-operation activities had concentrated more on nuclear power and safety and that the net expenditure on technical co-operation had considerably increased. However, more than one third of the available resources had not yet been used, and the implementation rate for footnote-a/ projects had continued to decrease. His delegation therefore hoped that the Agency and Member States would endeavour to increase net expenditure still further and to improve the implementation rate for footnote-a/ projects.

31. The Agency's safeguards activities played a key role since they made it possible to ensure nuclear non-proliferation while promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. His delegation noted with satisfaction that in 1985, as in previous years, the Agency had not detected any anomaly which would indicate diversion of special fissile materials. The Agency was to be commended on the way in which it had implemented its safeguards system in 1985 and on its very important role in nuclear non-proliferation. It appeared that the Agency's safeguards system had been expanded and improved. In view of the increase in the number of nuclear facilities subject to safeguards, the financial and human resources allocated to inspections should be strengthened. However, neither that measure nor the increase in the frequency of inspections would, in themselves, be sufficient to ensure the development of the safeguards system. His delegation therefore urged the Secretariat to make efforts further to improve the safeguards system in terms of safeguards evaluation and the cost-effectiveness of safeguards activities. It hoped, for example, that the Agency would develop a standard safeguards system for pressurized heavy water reactors, which would make it possible to increase the overall efficiency of inspection activities.

32. With regard to the nuclear power programme in the Republic of Korea, six reactors with a total capacity of 4800 MW providing about 26% of all electricity generated were already in service and three additional reactors, of 950 MW each, were under construction. The tendering procedure for units 11 and 12 was in its final stage. It should ensure his country's autonomy in nuclear technology, since the construction of the facilities would be carried out by the national nuclear industry as the main contractor responsible for the design and manufacture of components and of the overall facilities, with foreign firms acting as sub-contractors.

33. The Atomic Energy Law had been amended so as to take account of nuclear technology development in the Republic of Korea. The Atomic Energy Commission, which had formerly been headed by the Minister of Science and Technology, had been reorganized and was now headed by the Deputy Prime Minister, its membership including all ministers whose functions were related to nuclear energy. Furthermore, the law stipulated that electricity producers should set aside a fixed amount of the income from the sale of electricity for radioactive waste management, and likewise provided for the establishment of a national accounting and control system for nuclear materials.

34. With regard to Regional Co-operation Agreement (RCA) activities, his country would strengthen its active participation in that regional co-operation effort, and there was every indication that the RCA programme would be accelerated. In April 1986 his country had hosted the eighth working group meeting of RCA member countries in Seoul, at which the participants had agreed to extend the agreement for at least five years and to move to the implementation of stage II of the UNDP industrial project, following the completion of stage I in 1986. It was also satisfying to note that just before the Seoul meeting responsibility for the RCA programmes had been transferred from the Agency's Department of Research and Isotopes to the Department of Technical Co-operation, in order to ensure better co-ordination between RCA projects and the Agency's technical co-operation activities. His Government wished to finance a new regional project, if possible as from 1987, on the medical and biological applications of nuclear techniques. In addition, his country intended to support the Agency's technical co-operation activities by providing extrabudgetary resources either for footnote-a/ projects or for other projects of benefit to developing countries.

35. In conclusion his delegation trusted that the current session of the General Conference, aimed at the long-term improvement of nuclear safety, would lead to specific results which would strengthen the Agency. It was convinced that the Agency would remain a reliable instrument for the development of international co-operation while ensuring the effectiveness of the international non-proliferation regime and of the safeguards system.

36. Mr. KHAN (Pakistan) noted that the present session of the General Conference was dominated by the aftermath of the Chernobyl accident. The nuclear cloud had disappeared, but its shadow still hung over atomic energy, gravely compromising nuclear programmes all over the world. Since the last session of the Conference, misfortunes had multiplied: the slowing down of economic growth in developed countries had already cut down the demand for electricity, and then the fall in oil prices had reduced the relative economic advantages of nuclear power, which still involved substantial initial investment. After the Chernobyl accident, the very safety and viability of nuclear power had been seriously questioned. One should not underestimate the seriousness of the problems which beset the future of nuclear energy, whether from the technical, political or public acceptance points of view. It was necessary to undertake an agonizing reappraisal of the situation and to start out on a new course of action, so as to save the nuclear alternative and ensure a secure energy future for mankind.

37. There were lessons to be drawn from Chernobyl which, if learnt in good time, could not only rehabilitate nuclear power but also strengthen it. The Chernobyl accident had obliged countries to think together, and had led to the realization that the world was very small and that in nuclear matters all countries were dependent upon each other. No country could plan and implement its nuclear programmes in complete isolation. The initial tendency to make political capital out of the tragedy which had occurred had soon given way to co-operation, when it had been realized that no country was immune to such accidents. Nuclear safety should transcend politics, for it was linked to the very survival of mankind. It was to be hoped that no one would exploit the incident in order to persuade Third World countries that nuclear power was unsafe for them and then use that excuse, along with the principle of non-proliferation, to withhold the sharing of peaceful nuclear technology with

the developing countries, which were suffering from an energy deficit and which, in order to ensure their economic and social development, desperately needed that technology. Member States should work together to restore the credibility of nuclear power as an economically and technically viable source of energy for all countries, both developed and developing, to guarantee nuclear safety, and to preserve the nuclear option for the future.

38. His delegation was greatly impressed by the solidarity and co-operation exhibited by the nuclear community, which had been reflected in the timely adoption and opening for signature, during the preceding week, of two very important conventions on early notification and on emergency assistance. Those were major steps in the right direction, but they were only the beginning: the aim must be not only the ability to handle post-accident situations but also the prevention of nuclear accidents in future. His delegation therefore unreservedly supported all measures which would help to increase nuclear safety. In that connection it considered that the Agency's expanded nuclear safety programme was of particular relevance. Pakistan advocated the universal adoption of the highest standards of safety in nuclear installations and the construction of inherently safe nuclear power plants which would be capable of overriding any human or operational errors. It endorsed the Director General's efforts to encourage the development of safe small and medium power reactors. It was greatly appreciative of the dynamic role which the Director General had played in making a quick and timely response to the situation after the Chernobyl accident and in setting in motion a whole series of useful activities, including the Post-Accident Review Meeting.

39. The Pakistan delegation was convinced of the need for a wider sharing of nuclear safety related information through the Agency and in the context of multilateral and bilateral arrangements. In that connection it believed that a great moral and technical responsibility devolved upon the suppliers and the advanced countries. The latter must be generously prepared to help in enhancing the safety of nuclear installations by sharing their technical know-how. Any further Chernobyls must be avoided. Pakistan trusted that that matter would receive serious consideration by Member States. There was another important aspect of the overall safety of nuclear power plants: it

was necessary to prevent any accident from occurring as a result of an act of aggression, whether sponsored by a State or by an irresponsible group. Nuclear installations should not be at the mercy of would-be aggressors. That would jeopardize the future of atomic energy. Appropriate measures must be taken to adopt an international convention on the prohibition of armed attacks on nuclear installations. That problem was undoubtedly a complex one, but it was to be hoped that further discussions and negotiations would yield positive and rapid progress in that regard.

40. Turning to those problems relating to Agency activities which were of particular concern to his Government, he noted that the General Conference and the Board of Governors had, for nearly a decade, had before them a proposal to amend Article VI.A.2 of the Statute, so as to remove the under-representation of the two areas of Africa and of Middle East and South Asia. The questions to be answered were whether Member States wanted a just and modest expansion in the number of Members of the Board, or a substantial one, and whether they wished to restructure the entire Board by introducing new concepts or by proceeding in a prudent manner. However that might be, it was necessary to put an end to the gross under-representation on the Board of Governors of the countries in the two areas in question, which together constituted about 40% of the entire membership of the Agency. The present situation was unacceptable for the Pakistan delegation, which trusted that Member States would give proof of a political will to resolve the problem in the very near future.

41. Regarding technical assistance, a consensus as to the best way of financing it must be sought as quickly as possible. His delegation appreciated the increased voluntary contributions which Member States, particularly the developed countries, had made to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund in recent years. The needs of the developing countries in the technical co-operation area were expanding, and a corresponding increase was required in the resources allocated to technically sound and viable projects in those countries. In his delegation's view, technical assistance should be funded through the Agency's Regular Budget on a predictable, assured and adequate basis in accordance with resolution GC(XXV)/RES/388 of the General Conference.

42. Turning to safeguards, he said that his delegation supported the Agency's safeguards system, which had given proof of its credibility and efficient operation. The system furnished an assurance that no diversion of a significant amount of safeguarded nuclear material took place, and that the nuclear material under Agency safeguards in 1985 had remained devoted to peaceful nuclear activities. However, his delegation felt that there was room for improving the management of the system so as to reduce the cost of safeguards activities. The Agency should maintain a proper balance between its regulatory and promotional activities, which were its two main functions under the Statute.

43. On the subject of the staffing of the Secretariat, measures had been taken during the last four years to correct the previous marked under-representation of developing countries on the Agency's staff at the Professional level. His delegation was grateful to the Director General for his sincere, courageous and persistent efforts to implement resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386 in that connection. The Pakistan delegation requested him further to improve the situation, for it believed that the developing countries, which constituted about two thirds of the membership of the Agency, should have at least one third of the Professional posts in the Secretariat.

44. In spite of unjustified obstruction and other difficulties, Pakistan was continuing to operate its nuclear power plant at Karachi safely and efficiently using indigenous resources. All possible measures were being taken to improve the safety of that plant, and his Government would welcome the input of any relevant nuclear safety data which other countries might be able to provide. It sincerely hoped that it could count on international co-operation for building more nuclear power stations in order to overcome the country's grave and persistent electric power shortages. Pakistan likewise attached great importance to the application of nuclear energy in agriculture, medicine and industry. Pakistan's efforts had led to an important breakthrough in the development of new varieties of cotton, chick-pea and rice, which had now been introduced for general cultivation throughout the country with a very significant economic impact and gain. Pakistan had taken steps to expand its programme in the field of biotechnology and genetic engineering, particularly for reclamation of saline soils and research on

fixation of atmospheric nitrogen by plants. Work on constructing a cobalt-60 irradiator for the sterilization of medical and agricultural products had been started and should be completed in early 1987. In the realm of nuclear medicine, Pakistan's eight medical centres had treated nearly 120 000 patients during the past year; the construction of a ninth nuclear medical centre should be completed in the following year.

45. Pakistan had organized at Nathia Gali, in collaboration with the International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, the eleventh International Summer College on Physics and Contemporary Needs. His delegation commended the achievements of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics, which had very greatly assisted Third World countries by successfully encouraging collaboration and contact between East and West.

46. His Government also recognized the value of North-South and South-South co-operation. It had actively participated in regional projects under the RCA and had hosted various activities relating to that programme. It had concluded bilateral co-operation agreements with several countries, advanced and developing. It had recently signed a bilateral agreement with the People's Republic of China for co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. In keeping with the policies of the two countries, any transactions in nuclear materials and equipment effected under that bilateral co-operation agreement would be placed under Agency Safeguards.

47. Pakistan had participated actively in the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy (UNCPICPUNE) and was looking forward to contributing to the work of the conference. It urged all Member States to do their utmost to ensure that the conference, scheduled for early 1987, would be successful. In conclusion, Pakistan genuinely appreciated the technical assistance and co-operation which it had received from the Agency, and wished to assure the Director General of its continuing support for the Agency's programme.

48. Mr. HAVEL (Czechoslovakia) said that the experience of the past thirty years showed that the Agency had carried out good work, frequently under difficult conditions, and, in accordance with the provisions of its Statute, was contributing to promoting the use of nuclear energy for

exclusively peaceful purposes. Czechoslovakia was in favour of deepening and strengthening international co-operation in the context of the Agency, with a view to ensuring the safe development of nuclear power and the use of nuclear energy for purposes other than power generation, but it was opposed to attempts to establish any new machinery for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

49. The present session of the General Conference was being held in an extremely tense international atmosphere, at a period of acute world crisis, when the question was being asked whether the policy of peace would prevail over the policy of force. Everyone knew that peace was a necessity for all peoples. The preservation of civilization in the nuclear and space age called for a new political mentality; a halt to the armaments race, disarmament, and the establishment of living conditions which would enable mankind to enter the new century without the threat of atomic war should therefore be the only objectives. That was why Czechoslovakia gave its full support to the new peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, particularly the proposals for the total abolition of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction by the end of the century, and to the Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium, several times extended, on nuclear weapons testing.

50. The strengthening of the principle of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons was a vital element in the strengthening of international security. The conclusions of the Third Review Conference of Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons had confirmed the vital importance of that legal instrument, which prevented the proliferation of nuclear weapons and at the same time opened up new possibilities for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Czechoslovakia noted with satisfaction that the Agency, in the course of its inspection work, had detected no serious irregularities indicating that certain countries were illegally using nuclear materials to fabricate nuclear weapons or explosives for unknown purposes. Czechoslovakia was satisfied at the results obtained by the Agency in the safeguards field, particularly in the sensitive area of the nuclear fuel cycle, and at the introduction of an effective system for evaluation of safeguards activities, and was ready to support any action aimed at improving safeguards. The

expansion of international co-operation in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the removal of any nuclear threat were closely linked with the safe development of nuclear power. One could not speak of the inherent danger of peaceful nuclear reactors while at the same time accumulating nuclear weapons which constituted a much greater threat. It was necessary to eliminate any attempt to exploit nuclear accidents for purposes of exacerbating tensions and distrust between States. Czechoslovakia was convinced that the solution to all those problems lay in the proposal by the Soviet Union to institute an international regime governing the safe development of nuclear power. The measures proposed in that connection would ensure that the safe operation of nuclear installations became an international duty.

51. The conclusions of the special session of the General Conference and the international conventions on early notification and on emergency assistance were among the first results accruing from the efforts and initiatives of the Agency, of its Director General and of its Member States. Czechoslovakia approved of those two conventions and would take all the measures necessary to fulfil its obligations thereunder. The solution of international nuclear safety problems could also be assisted by measures to prevent any form of nuclear terrorism. In that connection, the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material should come into force as soon as possible, and the Czechoslovak delegation urged Member States which had not yet done so to approve or ratify the convention. Czechoslovakia likewise accorded great importance to the efforts made by the Agency and certain Member States with a view to the protection of peaceful nuclear installations against armed attacks.

52. Czechoslovakia's long-term economic and social development programme assigned an important place to nuclear power. Thus the share of nuclear power in the overall consumption of primary energy resources, at present approximately 3.5%, would be quintupled to reach 18% in the year 2000. The contribution of nuclear power plants to electricity generation would be 29.6% in 1990 and 52.4% in 2000, as compared with about 20% at present. That trend would make it possible not only to cover the necessary increase in energy resources but also progressively to close down coal-fired thermal power

stations, which would go far to solving ecological problems, since the releases of sulphur dioxide would be reduced by one third in the year 2000 as compared with the present level. It was also intended to use nuclear power stations for district heating. The present year would see the commissioning of a heat pipeline 23 kilometres long linking the town of Trnava to the Bohunice power plant.

53. Czechoslovakia had at present six WWER reactors in service, four at Bohunice and two at Dukovany, where a third reactor was scheduled to go into service by the end of 1986 and a fourth in 1987. The first units of the Mochovce (4 x 440 MW(th)) and Temelin (4 x 1000 MW(th)) power plants should be commissioned at the end of 1989 and of 1992 respectively. In recent years Czechoslovakia had acquired great experience in the production of nuclear material and in the construction and operation of nuclear power stations, and had created all the technical and legal preconditions for ensuring their safety. The accelerated development of nuclear power constituted one of the priority areas for multilateral co-operation among the countries of the CMEA up to the end of the century, as was indicated by the programme of scientific and technical development in the CMEA countries until the year 2000, adopted by the heads of government of those countries in December 1985. Czechoslovakia continued also to ascribe great importance to the use of atomic energy for purposes other than electricity generation. The supply of radioactive preparations for medical use had increased by 25%, particularly as regards products for radioimmunoassay, the range of which had been extended to such fields as endocrinology, gynaecology and oncology. The detection of hypothyreosis of the newborn had been organized at national level. In the field of irradiation, research was continuing on the preservation of dried fruit and the irradiation treatment of rhizobium substrate. Czechoslovakia was ready to participate in the Agency's research programmes and to offer effective assistance to the developing countries, with a view to their utilization of radionuclide methods in various branches of the economy.

54. The document on the Agency's programme and budget for 1987 and 1988 indicated a balanced distribution of resources. A substantial role should continue to be assigned to guidance on nuclear power plant projects, particularly their economic aspects, for experience showed that the optimal

development of nuclear power in a number of countries was dependent thereon. The Czechoslovak delegation supported the draft programme and budget in the form in which it was submitted to the General Conference.

55. The Agency's activities in the field of technical assistance and co-operation were essential for purposes of expanding the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in the developing countries. For that reason Czechoslovakia approved of the target of \$34 million for the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund in 1987. It hoped that the principle of financing by voluntary contributions would be respected. In 1987 it would contribute its share of the target and, as in previous years, would offer fellowships for further training of specialists from developing countries at higher educational establishments and scientific research centres in Czechoslovakia.

56. The Czechoslovak delegation appreciated the Agency's efforts to secure implementation of the resolution on South Africa's nuclear capabilities, adopted at the previous session of the General Conference, but was concerned at the negative attitude of South Africa. In accordance with the basic principles of Czechoslovak foreign policy and in the interests of solidarity with the peoples of Africa, the Czechoslovak delegation called upon the international community urgently to adopt effective multilateral sanctions against South Africa.

Mr. Cherif (Algeria), Vice-President, took the Chair.

57. Mr. SITZLACK (German Democratic Republic) said that in 1985 the Agency had made great advances, especially in the area of technical co-operation. Its technical assistance and co-operation programme had been expanding continuously at a considerable rate, and the continuation of that trend was ensured by the agreement reached at the preceding session of the General Conference on indicative planning figures for the following years. There were some developments in technical co-operation which were worth emphasizing, for example, the degree of involvement of the Agency's technical divisions in programme implementation, the comparatively strong growth of activities in the field of nuclear power and nuclear safety and the increasingly active role played by developing countries. In supporting the Agency's technical co-operation activities, his country duly contributed its

share of the target of voluntary contributions to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund and, in addition to supplying equipment and materials, endeavoured to provide instruction for scientists from developing countries in the form of training courses, study tours and fellowships and by making available services of experts.

58. As far as concerned the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, reaffirming his Government's position, he stressed that international co-operation was an essential prerequisite for the successful application of sophisticated technologies such as nuclear technology, an area in which co-operation was of particular importance owing to the inevitably associated problems of nuclear safety, radiation protection and safeguards.

59. An example of fruitful co-operation on the regional scale was the implementation of nuclear power programmes in member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. The latter's programme for scientific and technological development up to the year 2000 took account of the potential represented by international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

60. As regards nuclear safety and radiation protection, his Government fully endorsed the results of the General Conference's special session and the measures which the Agency had initiated in that context.

61. Safeguards were inseparably associated with the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The credible assurance provided by Agency safeguards that States were complying with their non-proliferation commitments played a fundamental role in fostering confidence among States and in strengthening their collective security. For that reason his country noted with satisfaction that in 1985 nuclear material under Agency safeguards had remained in peaceful nuclear activities or had otherwise been adequately accounted for and that there were no exceptions to the safeguards statement for 1985. Because of the importance of safeguards for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, the German Democratic Republic would continue to assist the Agency in performing its tasks in that area. During the preceding year two training courses for newly recruited inspectors and one course for safeguards trainees from developing countries had been conducted in the German Democratic Republic.

62. Considering that physical protection was closely linked to safeguards, he welcomed the progress made in the ratification of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and hoped that it would soon come into force.

63. He wished to reiterate that endeavours should be made to eliminate all nuclear weapons and to rid mankind of the nuclear threat. Mr. Erich Honecker, the Head of State of the German Democratic Republic, had stressed time and again that the preservation of peace on earth and in space was vital for human survival. That was why the people in his country had responded enthusiastically to the programme proposed by the General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, Mikhail Gorbachev, for elimination of all weapons of mass destruction by the year 2000. The stepwise implementation of that overall disarmament programme could result in a comprehensive system of international security. A halt to all nuclear weapon tests would be a first step towards the termination of the nuclear arms race.

64. In conclusion, he wished to emphasize that his country would continue to support the Agency to the best of its ability.

65. Mr. SOWINSKI (Poland) noted with satisfaction that the special session of the General Conference had concluded with the signing of two important conventions and the adoption of two resolutions. The signing of the conventions by more than 50 States showed that the international community had drawn the right conclusions from the experience of recent months, creating thereby a climate of greater mutual confidence. He hoped that it would be possible to establish genuine nuclear safety, to implement a programme for safe nuclear power development and to rid mankind of the atomic menace. Implementation of the resolutions adopted by the special session of the Conference would require further improvement of the mechanisms of international co-operation. His delegation shared the view expressed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and by the Agency's Director General that nuclear energy continued to be an important factor for development for the well-being of the inhabitants of the planet.

66. His delegation highly appreciated the work of the Secretariat in 1985 and noted that its activities concentrated increasingly on real problems. The

draft programme and budget for 1987-1988 deserved particular attention since it concerned the Agency's future activities. As to the supplementary programme on nuclear safety and radiation protection, which was a good example of co-operation between the Secretariat and Member States, he wished to underline its four distinctive features, namely maximum utilization of the experience gained as a result of past accidents in nuclear power reactors and other nuclear facilities in order to prevent further such accidents, development of technical measures limiting the release of radioactive substances into the environment as a consequence of accidents, improvement of emergency preparedness and establishment of closer co-operation with other competent international organizations.

67. He considered that the General Conference should give its general approval to that draft programme, as the Board had recommended, although it was necessary to make a more detailed analysis of the balance between the different aspects of the programme. Problems could thus be better related to the requirements mentioned, in particular, in the resolutions adopted at the special session, and account could also be taken of the results of the meeting of nuclear safety experts to be held in November.

68. He welcomed the Agency's growing interest in nuclear energy uses other than power generation, in particular the protection of the environment, which was an important sphere of international co-operation. Poland, for its part, had a special interest in the use of nuclear techniques for removal of oxides of nitrogen and sulphur from flue gases. Those techniques had already been proven at the experimental level. He hoped that it would be possible under regional co-operation programmes to reduce the content of toxic substances in the atmosphere in Europe and in other regions of the world which were experiencing similar problems. Environmental protection concerned all countries because its effectiveness depended on the use of the most efficient techniques at the regional and even at the world level. In that connection it might be recalled that at the fortieth session of the United Nations General Assembly the Polish delegation had urged free exchange of technologies in that area. On its side, Poland would make every effort to lower the level of atmospheric pollution by developing nuclear power and by greater recourse to flue gas purification facilities.

69. At the twenty-ninth regular session of the General Conference, Poland had suggested active co-operation between the Agency and its Member States in a number of other areas, including radiation preservation of foodstuffs. That technique might be very useful from the economic and public health points of view. His country was participating actively in the establishment of a regional programme under the aegis of the Agency, and was willing to share its experience with interested developing countries by training specialists from those countries. It had therefore supported the establishment of a biotechnology laboratory by the Agency, which would be used mainly for training personnel from developing countries. Moreover, Poland was offering training in the operation of research reactors as part of its co-operation with the Agency and interested Member States. It was also willing to help interested countries in setting up a system for monitoring radioactive contamination of the environment and foodstuffs and for background monitoring. The existing system in Poland had proved its usefulness after the Chernobyl accident.

70. He noted with satisfaction the information, contained in the Safeguards Implementation Report for 1985, that there had been an increase in the number of facilities at which inspection goals had been fully attained. That was the result of the growing efficiency of the Secretariat. However, there were many problems which the Secretariat was not always in a position to solve. One such problem was the designation of inspectors: the report indicated that only 25% of countries impose no conditions other than that they should be maintaining diplomatic relations with the inspector's country of origin. He hoped that general realization of the fact that non-proliferation of nuclear weapons was also an element of nuclear safety would lead to greater co-operation among the Agency's Member States in the implementation of safeguards.

71. Lastly, Poland fully endorsed the principles of financing technical co-operation and assistance and the 12% annual increase in the indicative planning figures for 1987-1989, which had been approved at the twenty-ninth session of the General Conference. In 1987 the Polish Government would pay, in national currency, its full share of the target, namely US \$214 200.

72. Mr. TOERNUDD (Finland) wished first of all to welcome the delegation of Zimbabwe, which was participating for the first time in a regular session of the General Conference. The circle of States which worked for the fulfilment of the Agency's objectives had thus again widened. His Government believed that Member States could effectively pursue their common goals only by drawing all States of the world into the Agency without discrimination and, at the same time, into the system of commitments associated with the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

73. The thirtieth session of the Conference represented a milestone in the evolution of the Agency. The latter had reached maturity that very year, which had seen a dramatic exacerbation of the problem of safety in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The first special session of the General Conference had concluded by entrusting the Agency with new tasks requiring consideration by the Conference, in addition to the other matters which were before it in accordance with normal practice. The special session had decided to refer all its discussions, proposals and statements to the Board of Governors. An analysis of all that material would undoubtedly show certain main streams of thought which would indicate the areas where rapid action was desired and where progress should be relatively easy to achieve. Although the work ahead would be laborious, there was a strong will to achieve substantive results quickly, even if that would require concessions from all. The will to co-operate and the need for international co-operation in nuclear safety were stronger than ever.

74. The ideas put forward at the special session were, of course, of a varied spectrum. However, one could note that there was a general wish for concerted efforts, at both the bilateral and the multilateral level, and at the same time respecting national sovereignty, in order to strengthen and extend the nuclear third-party liability regime, to develop high standards of safety for universal adoption, to increase the openness of national regulatory practices relating to the design, construction and operation of nuclear installations, and to improve the modalities for disseminating safety-related information, especially keeping in mind the needs of developing countries.

75. One of the obstacles to confidence in the use of nuclear energy arose from the very complex issue of waste management. In particular, the management of high-level wastes needed to be widely discussed. Appropriate principles concerning handling and disposal should be agreed upon internationally. From the safety point of view, a solution which left it to each State to make its own arrangements for ultimate disposal was far from the best. In some States, including Finland, advance arrangements had been made so that future generations would not have to bear the costs of waste disposal. It might be useful to promote further exchanges of experience in those matters within the framework of the Agency.

76. In addition to the manifold questions of nuclear safety and radiological protection, there were other problems of international co-operation to which the Members of the Agency were seeking solutions. One of the mechanisms which the Agency had created with a view to harmonizing views on matters of vital importance for Member States was the Committee on Assurances of Supply (CAS). The work of that body had been slow, but especially during the recent sessions a certain convergence of opinions had emerged. It was to be hoped that that constructive atmosphere would continue to prevail.

77. Another forum where widely accepted common goals were set was the Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). The final document of the most recent of those conferences contained a large number of observations and recommendations concerning action to be taken by the Agency, or within its framework. The safeguards applied on the basis of agreements concluded with the Agency played an important role in maintaining the credibility of the non-proliferation regime. Finland continued to urge all non-nuclear-weapon States which were not parties to NPT to make an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and to accept Agency safeguards on all their peaceful nuclear activities, both current and future, with a view to verification of that commitment. While the simplest way of achieving that objective was, of course, accession to the Treaty, any steps in the same direction would be welcomed by the international community.

78. The last NPT Review Conference had ended on a hopeful note regarding the possibilities of progress in nuclear disarmament. After the Conference, further indications of a change for the better in international relations had emerged. The preceding year's meeting between the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States had paved the way for a bilateral dialogue on a broad range of disarmament issues. His delegation was looking forward to an intensive and productive continuation of that dialogue at all levels. The outcome expected from the bilateral negotiations could do much to reduce the risks of war and to create more favourable conditions for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

79. In the context of multilateral efforts for disarmament, the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva was charged with important responsibilities. One issue on its agenda had particular relevance to the Agency's activities. The Committee had for some years been engaged in negotiating a treaty prohibiting radiological weapons and attacks against nuclear facilities. It was regrettable that considerable differences of substance and approach continued to exist with regard to both those subjects. Finland considered that even limited disarmament measures were worth while. It would consequently welcome agreements on the banning of radiological weapons and attacks against nuclear installations, whether negotiated together or separately.

80. The existence of military applications had from the outset complicated the international efforts to create mechanisms which would protect people from the dangers of the uses of nuclear energy. For reasons of national security it had not always been possible to incorporate in treaties comprehensive commitments reflecting international responsibility for the health and safety of the peoples of other countries. That was evident in the negotiations leading to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. Similar problems had arisen in the case of the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident. While his delegation regretted that tendency, it welcomed the declarations made by the nuclear-weapon States under Article 3 of that Convention as a step in the right direction.

81. Recent experience had shown that a high level of safety was one of the prerequisites for public acceptance of nuclear energy. A serious blow had now

been dealt at that acceptance in many countries. Another prerequisite for the use of nuclear energy was the assurance that it would not be diverted for the fabrication of weapons, openly or under the guise of producing peaceful explosives. The Agency's safeguards system had been created to verify that that was not happening. That second pillar of public acceptance must not be allowed to give way or even to be slowly eroded.

82. It was comforting to note in the Safeguards Implementation Report for 1985 that in carrying out the safeguards obligations of the Agency the Secretariat had not detected any anomaly which would indicate the diversion of a significant amount of safeguarded nuclear material for proscribed purposes. However, it was not difficult to imagine the consequences for the use of nuclear energy if the Agency were not able to give such an assurance. In that context, it was regrettable that parts of Article XII of the Agency's Statute were not fully operative. That applied in particular to the question of international plutonium storage, which was at a standstill.

83. The Director General's task was to ensure that the Agency's safeguards staff was competent, reliable and vigilant and that the safeguards procedures and equipment kept pace with a technology that was constantly developing. At the same time, it was the common responsibility of Member States to ensure that the Director General had the necessary means at his disposal to carry out that task. By "common responsibility" he meant that all Member States should participate in the financing of safeguards in a way which demonstrated full commitment to the objectives of safeguards. Also, it appeared from the Safeguards Implementation Report that the solution of too many problems encountered in the implementation of safeguards depended on the individual States. He appealed to all States to do their utmost to help the Agency ensure the credibility of its safeguards activities.

84. Safe use of nuclear energy required a firm scientific and technical basis. One of the important missions of the Agency was to render technical assistance to Member States in creating and maintaining that basis. The Agency's technical assistance and co-operation activities had been growing over the years, when more and more resources had been made available for the purpose. However, the mechanisms and procedures established to permit

supervision by the Board of that important activity no longer corresponded to the growth which had taken place. It was high time to streamline further the procedure for adopting the programme and to leave it to the Director General to implement the programme on the basis of general guidelines approved by the Board of Governors.

85. The preparations for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy (UNCPICPUNE) had reached their final stage. He sincerely hoped that it would fulfil its purpose by putting forward new ideas concerning international co-operation. It was clear, moreover that the Agency continued to be the appropriate instrument for further development of those ideas. Fully realizing that there was increased public awareness of all international activities in the nuclear field and that particular attention was being focused on safety, the Finnish Government would continue to co-operate closely with the Agency and with all other Member States in order to meet the new challenges that would appear.

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.

