



**INTERNATIONAL  
ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

**General Conference**

Distr.  
GENERAL

GC(II)/INF/11  
19 November 1957

Original: ENGLISH

---

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS COVERING THE PERIOD UP  
TO 31 OCTOBER 1957

Pursuant to the authorization which the General Conference gave to the Board of Governors in its resolution of 23 October 1957 (GC.1(S)/RES/16), the Board has prepared and submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations the following report on the activities of the Agency during the period up to 31 October 1957.

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY TO THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS COVERING THE PERIOD  
UP TO 31 OCTOBER 1957

INTRODUCTION

1. The relationship agreement between the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations provides in Article III that "the Agency shall keep the United Nations informed of its activities. Accordingly it shall (a) submit reports covering its activities to the General Assembly at each regular session ...".

While the relationship agreement had not yet been approved by the General Assembly when the first session of the General Conference of the Agency came to an end, the Board of Governors and the General Conference considered that it would be desirable to present a brief initial report to the General Assembly during its twelfth session. Since such a report could not be prepared before the closing of the General Conference, the latter, after having approved the draft relationship agreement, authorized the Board of Governors by a resolution adopted on 23 October 1957, to prepare and submit such a report as soon as possible after the entry into force of the relationship agreement.

2. The first session of the General Conference of the Agency ended on 23 October 1957. This report is, therefore, necessarily confined to a brief historical account, in particular of the developments since the eleventh session of the General Assembly, and to a record of the actions taken during the first session of the General Conference.

I. HISTORICAL NOTE

3. On 8 December 1953 the President of the United States of America proposed to the General Assembly the establishment, under the aegis of the United Nations, of an international agency which would devote its activities exclusively to the peaceful uses of atomic energy. On 4 December 1954 the General Assembly during its ninth session unanimously endorsed this proposal and expressed

the hope that the Agency would be established without delay. In the meantime, the drafting of the Statute of the Agency had been undertaken in Washington by a group of eight States, which was subsequently expanded to twelve. On 23 September 1956 an international conference was convened at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to consider the draft Statute proposed by the negotiating group of States. After a final revision the Statute was unanimously approved by the Conference on 26 October 1956 and, during the following three months, it was signed by the representatives of eighty States.

4. The Statute Conference appointed a Preparatory Commission of eighteen States<sup>1/</sup> to make arrangements for the first session of the General Conference and for the first meetings of the Board of Governors of the Agency and to carry out the preliminary work needed to bring the Agency into operation. In particular the Preparatory Commission was given a mandate to recommend an initial programme of activities for the Agency, its initial staff structure and budget, and the location of the permanent Headquarters of the Agency. It was also required to enter into negotiations with the United Nations with a view to the preparation of a draft agreement between the Agency and the United Nations and to make recommendations concerning the relationship of the Agency to other international organizations.

5. The Preparatory Commission elected Minister Carlos Bernardes (Brazil) as its President, and Ambassador Pavel Winkler (Czechoslovakia) as Vice-President, and appointed Dr. Paul Jolles as Executive Secretary. It met at the United Nations Headquarters

---

<sup>1/</sup>

Argentina	Indonesia
Australia	Japan
Belgium	Pakistan
Brazil	Peru
Canada	Portugal
Czechoslovakia	Union of South Africa
Egypt	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
France	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
India	United States of America

in New York until 20 August 1957, when it transferred its seat to Vienna to supervise preparations for the first session of the General Conference and the first meetings of the Board of Governors. During the meetings in New York it completed most of its substantive work, including the preparation of an initial programme for the Agency, the formulation of a draft relationship agreement with the United Nations, and the designation of thirteen members of the first Board of Governors according to functional and geographical criteria. All the decisions and recommendations of the Commission were unanimously agreed to, without formal vote, by the Member States of the Commission.

6. On 29 July 1957 the Statute of the Agency entered into force after twenty-six countries had deposited instruments of ratification.<sup>2/</sup>

7. The first session of the General Conference of the Agency, consisting of all Member States, met in Vienna from 1 to 23 October 1957. The membership of the Agency at the conclusion of the first session of the General Conference and the membership of the first Board of Governors of the Agency are given in the Annex.

## II. THE WORK OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

### FIRST REGULAR SESSION (1 - 3 OCTOBER 1957)

8. The statutory relationship between the Board of Governors and the General Conference of the Agency requires the Board to submit recommendations concerning many aspects of the work of the Agency to the Conference as a basis for its decisions. Since the Board of Governors could not constitutionally come into existence until the end of the first regular session, the substantive purpose of

---

<sup>2/</sup> Article XXI of the Statute requires that eighteen States including at least three of the following five: Canada, France, Soviet Union, United Kingdom and the United States of America, must deposit instruments of ratification before the Statute comes into force. This minimum requirement was met when the United States, as the third of the above-mentioned States, deposited its instrument of ratification.

the latter was to complete the constitution of the Board of Governors by electing ten further members with due regard to equitable representation on the Board as a whole, as provided in the Statute of the Agency. The main work of the Conference was accordingly undertaken during a special session convened immediately after the end of the First Regular Session.

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION (4 - 23 OCTOBER 1957)

Programme and Budget of the Agency during its first year

9. In proposing initial programmes for the Agency the report of the Preparatory Commission<sup>3/</sup> distinguished between activities which could be undertaken from the start, with relatively modest resources, and those which will require more extensive preparation and planning. The first group included assistance to Member States in acquiring knowledge and skills needed to make full use of radioisotopes and radiation sources; measures to promote the interchange of technical and scientific information, including the convening of scientific conferences; projects for the exchange and training of scientists and experts; and the formulation of standards for health and safety for the Agency's operations as well as the international co-ordination of activities in this field. In the initial phase, the Preparatory Commission also proposed that the Agency would assist its Member States in laying the ground-work for reactor programmes. At the same time, the Agency would undertake planning and preparations for its longer-term programmes, such as the encouragement of nuclear research; more extensive activities in the reactor field; arrangements for the provision of nuclear materials and the development of safeguards procedures. The budget proposed by the Preparatory Commission for the first year amounted to \$4,089,000 for the administrative expenses of the Agency. Of this sum \$624,000 would be to meet the expenses of the Commission itself and of the first session of the General Conference. In addition the Commission proposed that Member States be invited to make voluntary contributions to the Agency and that an amount, not exceeding \$250,000 of such contributions should be used to start an Agency Fellowship programme.

---

<sup>3/</sup> GC.1/1.

10. In the course of the discussions at the first session of the General Conference, a number of Member States indicated their willingness to make available to the Agency fissionable and source materials, facilities for training and other forms of assistance, for instance in the fields of isotopes and of technical information, which would help it to implement its programmes. In many cases, these indications were of a general nature and embraced a variety of forms of assistance. Offers of a more specific character included 5,140 kilograms of fissionable materials, approximately 200 tons of source materials and offers of fellowships for 110 students for 1958.<sup>4/</sup>

11. During the discussions at the first session emphasis was also placed on the world-wide shortage of specialists in nuclear technology and the consequent need to give priority, during the first years of the Agency's activity, to exchange and training programmes.

12. On the recommendation of the Board of Governors, the General Conference unanimously approved on 22 October 1957 the programme and the budget proposed by the Preparatory Commission. At the same time, it noted that the programme recommendations were largely of a general character and it recommended that, in planning the work of the Agency, the Board of Governors should give high priority to activities which would be of the greatest benefit in raising the standards of living of peoples in the under-developed areas of the world. It also recommended that the Board of Governors should study the desirability of making application on behalf of the Agency for membership in the United Nations Technical Assistance Board.

13. Representatives of the United Nations and of eight of the specialized agencies participated in the first session of the

---

<sup>4/</sup> A number of these offers have since been officially communicated to the Agency in accordance with Article IX.F of the Statute which provides for notifications by Member States of the materials which they are prepared to make available to the Agency. Initial notifications are to be made "within three months of the entry into force of the Statute with respect to the Member concerned". In the case of several Member States this period has not yet expired.

General Conference and made statements on behalf of their organizations welcoming the establishment of the Agency and offering their close co-operation in promoting the successful development and co-ordination of international activities in the field of peaceful uses of atomic energy. Furthermore, with a view to promoting familiarity with the work of the organizations concerned, arrangements were made for the representation at the General Conference of four inter-governmental organizations and several non-governmental organizations concerned with various aspects of the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

#### Admission of New Members

14. On the recommendation of the Board of Governors, the General Conference unanimously approved on 8 October 1957, the application of Finland for membership in the Agency. The membership of Finland will become effective upon deposit of an instrument of acceptance of the Statute.

#### Relationship Agreement with the United Nations

15. On the recommendation of the Board of Governors, the General Conference unanimously approved the draft relationship agreement between the Agency and the United Nations which had been negotiated by the Preparatory Commission<sup>5/</sup> with the United Nations Advisory Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy on the basis of the study of the relationship between the two organizations undertaken in March and April 1956 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in consultation with the Advisory Committee<sup>6/</sup>. It also took note of the exchange of correspondence between the President of the Preparatory Commission and the Secretary-General of the United Nations concerning the wording of Article 1, paragraph 1 of the Agreement<sup>7/</sup>, and expressed its appreciation of the assistance given by the United Nations to the work of the Preparatory Commission and to the preparations for the first session of the General Conference.

---

<sup>5/</sup> GC.1/3.

<sup>6/</sup> United Nations document A/3122.

<sup>7/</sup> GC.1/3/Add.1.

### Relationship of the Agency to other Organizations

16. The Preparatory Commission submitted to the Board of Governors and the General Conference a recommendation concerning the guiding principles for relationship agreements between the Agency and the specialized agencies<sup>8/</sup>. The General Conference authorized the Board, taking into account these guiding principles, to negotiate relationship agreements with the specialized agencies and to submit the texts of such agreements to subsequent sessions of the General Conference. The Board of Governors was further requested to submit to the General Conference at its second session rules for the granting of consultative status to non-governmental organizations. Pending the approval of these rules and of relationship agreements with inter-governmental organizations the Board was authorized to invite appropriate non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations to be represented by observers at the second regular session.

### Permanent Headquarters of the Agency

17. On the recommendation of the Preparatory Commission and of the Board of Governors the General Conference decided unanimously on 9 October 1957 that the permanent Headquarters of the Agency should be established in Vienna. In making this decision the General Conference expressed its appreciation to the Government of Austria for the offer of suitable facilities in Vienna for the Headquarters of the Agency and for the help it had given in providing facilities for the first session of the General Conference. Pursuant to this decision the Director General was also authorized by the General Conference and the Board of Governors to conclude the Headquarters agreement with the Republic of Austria.

### Appointment of the Director General

18. On 4 October 1957 the General Conference approved the appointment by the Board of Governors of Mr. W. Sterling Cole as Director General of the Agency for a term of four years from 1 December 1957.

---

<sup>8/</sup> GC.1/4.

### Financing of the Agency

19. On 22 October the General Conference fixed a provisional scale of contributions to the budget of the Agency in 1957-1958 on the basis of the scale of contributions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations for the financial year 1957. This provisional scale will be reviewed by the General Conference at its second regular session in the light, inter alia, of the expected increase in membership of the Agency between the two sessions.

20. The General Conference also established a Working Capital Fund of \$2 million. A loan of the equivalent of \$1 million to meet the initial expenses of the Agency has been made by the Government of Austria and accepted with appreciation by the Board of Governors.

21. The budget and Working Capital Fund of the Agency referred to in the preceding paragraphs relate only to the administrative expenses of the Agency as defined in its Statute. Means of financing the operational expenditures of the Agency have still to be explored.

### III. THE WORK OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

22. The Board of Governors of the Agency came into existence on 3 October 1957 with the conclusion of the first regular session of the General Conference. It elected Ambassador Pavel Winkler (Czechoslovakia) as Chairman and Ambassador Furuuchi (Japan) and Mr. Wershof (Canada) as Vice-Chairmen. Its first task was to consider and make recommendations to the General Conference on the reports and recommendations of the Preparatory Commission (see paras. 9 - 17 and 19 of this Report) and to appoint the Director General of the Agency (see para. 18). Since the end of the first special session of the General Conference the Board has taken action on various recommendations of the Preparatory Commission and of the General Conference and on other matters concerning the organization and administration of the Agency and has adopted measures to enable all Member States of the Agency to follow its work.

### IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME

23. The first task of the Agency will be to establish its organizational framework and to begin the recruitment of its staff,

including scientific and technical personnel. It will also be necessary to assign priorities to the various elements of the programme approved by the General Conference and to prepare detailed plans for its activities in each field. This will require, in many cases, a more specific indication of the needs of Member States and of the resources which will be made available to the Agency. For this purpose, it will be necessary to obtain more detailed information about the nature and terms of offers made by Member States during and since the end of the first session of the General Conference to make materials and services available to the Agency<sup>9/</sup>. It is proposed that specific information of this type will be incorporated in subsequent reports of the Agency to the General Assembly.

24. It is therefore not possible at this stage to foresee the scope of the Agency's activities under each of its statutory functions. In the light of the recommendations of the General Conference and the Preparatory Commission it seems probable, however, that especial emphasis will be given to the training and exchange of specialists in nuclear technology, to programmes for promoting the interchange of information, particularly in regard to the use of radioisotopes and to co-ordination in the field of health and safety. On the basis of the experience which the Agency acquires in implementing its initial programmes, it is proposed that a long-term operational plan for providing assistance to Member States in under-developed areas will be submitted for the consideration of the General Conference in 1959.

25. In conclusion it may be appropriate to quote from the introduction to the Preparatory Commission's report.

"Although its beginnings may be modest, the Agency's potential as an investment in the orderly future development of the greatest natural force known to man is incalculable. The founding of an Agency, devoted to such aims, is a landmark in the development of human institutions..... The recommended programme in no way exhausts the potential scope of Agency action under its Statute, but any larger scale operations should be preceded by careful planning.... The Preparatory Commission believes that the proposed programme provides a realistic basis for the initial activities of the Agency and will provide a sound framework for future development as the Agency acquires experience and adds to its resources."

---

<sup>9/</sup> See paragraph 10 above.

ANNEX

STATES MEMBERS OF THE AGENCY AT THE CLOSING DATE OF THE FIRST  
SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE (23 OCTOBER 1957)

Afghanistan	Germany, Federal	Peru
Albania	Republic of	Poland
Argentina	Greece	Portugal
Australia	Guatemala	Romania
Austria	Haiti	Spain
Brazil	Honduras	Sweden
Bulgaria	Hungary	Switzerland
Burma	Iceland	Thailand
Byelorussian	India	Tunisia
Soviet	Indonesia	Turkey
Socialist	Israel	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist
Republic	Italy	Republic
Canada	Japan	Union of South Africa
Ceylon	Korea, Republic of	Union of Soviet Socialist
China	Monaco	Republics
Cuba	Morocco	United Kingdom of Great Britain
Czechoslovakia	Netherlands	and Northern Ireland
Denmark	New Zealand	United States of America
Dominican	Nicaragua	Vatican City
Republic	Norway	Venezuela
Egypt	Pakistan	Viet Nam
Ethiopia	Paraguay	Yugoslavia
France		

STATES MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS WHICH TOOK OFFICE ON  
4 OCTOBER 1957

*Argentina	*Korea, Republic of
Australia	*Pakistan
Brazil	*Peru
Canada	Portugal
Czechoslovakia	*Romania
*Egypt	Sweden
France	*Turkey
*Guatemala	Union of South Africa
India	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
*Indonesia	United Kingdom of Great Britain
*Italy	and Northern Ireland
Japan	United States of America

\* Elected by the General Conference at its first regular session.

