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THIRD REGULAR SESSION

Agenda item 6
(GC(III)/88)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS TO COMMITTEES

Proposal by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the addition of an item to the agenda

Text of a letter addressed to the President
of the General Conference by the Delegate from
the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

"No. 644/SP

"24 September 1959

"The delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics requests under Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference that the question of granting consultative status with the Agency to the World Federation of Trade Unions be placed on the agenda of the General Conference as an item of an important and urgent character.

"As required by Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, the item is accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution."

Explanatory Memorandum

1. The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) is the largest international association of trade unions, and numbers in its ranks more than 95 million trade unionists in 48 countries.
2. The WFTU devotes a considerable part of its activities to the protection of labour and to methods of ensuring the safety of workers, especially those employed in the atomic energy industry. It takes great interest in the work performed by the International Atomic Energy Agency in this sphere, and has repeatedly declared itself ready to co-operate with the Agency in the drafting and application of standards and rules for protection against radiations.
3. The aims and objectives of the WFTU conform to the spirit, purposes and principles of the Agency. It has repeatedly declared its support for the efforts of the Agency to secure a speedier and more widespread use of atomic energy in the interest of the peace and prosperity of all peoples.
4. The WFTU is a recognized international non-governmental organization, enjoying consultative status with the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Labour Organisation.
5. Although the WFTU satisfies the rules governing the grant of consultative status to non-governmental organizations with the Agency, the Board of Governors has rejected without any reason its application for the grant of that status, but at the same time has granted consultative status to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the International Confederation of Christian Trade Unions.
6. That decision of the Board of Governors is discriminatory and wrong. The Soviet Union delegation considers it a serious breach of the principle of that broad international co-operation which is one of the main conditions for the success of the Agency's work, and proposes that the General Conference, in accordance with Article V.D of the Statute, should recommend to the Board of Governors that it reconsider the question of granting to the WFTU consultative status with the Agency.

Draft resolution

GRANT OF CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE AGENCY
TO THE WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

The General Conference,

- (a) Noting that the World Federation of Trade Unions has consultative status with the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Labour Organisation; and
- (b) Considering that the World Federation of Trade Unions recognizes the objectives and functions of the International Atomic Energy Agency and declares its support for the practical work of the Agency;

Recommends the Board of Governors in accordance with Article V.D of the Statute to reconsider the question of granting to the World Federation of Trade Unions consultative status with the Agency.

