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THIRD REGULAR SESSION

OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE THIRTY-FIRST PLENARY MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna,
on Friday, 25 September 1959 at 3.20 p.m.

President:

Mr. FURUUCHI (Japan)

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* GC(III)/88/Rev.2.

N.B. The list of delegations attending the third regular session of the
General Conference was issued as document GC(III)/INF/25/Rev.2.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS (GC(III)/77,87)

1. The PRESIDENT informed the General Conference that, in accordance with Rule 86 of the Rules of Procedure, the General Committee had determined that five elective places had to be filled on the Board of Governors in order to ensure that, after the end of the session, the Board should include ten Members elected by the General Conference. In its report (GC(III)/87) the General Committee had also duly specified each geographical area in respect of which an election was required, so as to ensure that after the end of the session the Board should include a member elected by the General Conference from each geographical area except North America, as provided for under Rule 83. In accordance with that rule, elections were now required in respect of Eastern Europe, South Asia, the Far East and for two other vacancies.

2. At the invitation of the President Mr. Svab (Czechoslovakia) and Mr. Storhaug (Norway) agreed to act as tellers.

3. The PRESIDENT invited the General Conference to elect a Member for Eastern Europe.

4. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The result of the vote was as follows:

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	63
<u>Invalid ballots:</u>	10
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	53
<u>Number of abstentions:</u>	None
<u>Number of Members voting:</u>	53
<u>Required majority:</u>	27
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Bulgaria	49
Greece	2
Yugoslavia	2

Having obtained the required majority, Bulgaria was elected to membership of the Board of Governors.

5. The PRESIDENT then invited the General Conference to elect a Member for South Asia.

6. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The result of the vote was as follows:

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	63
<u>Invalid ballots:</u>	1
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	62
<u>Number of abstentions:</u>	None
<u>Number of Members voting:</u>	62
<u>Required majority:</u>	32
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Ceylon	47
Thailand	13
Philippines	2

Having obtained the required majority, Ceylon was elected to membership of the Board of Governors.

7. The PRESIDENT then invited the General Conference to elect a Member for the Far East.

8. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The result of the vote was as follows:

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	64
<u>Invalid ballots:</u>	4
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	60
<u>Number of abstentions:</u>	None
<u>Number of Members voting:</u>	60
<u>Required majority:</u>	31
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Philippines	48
Thailand	12

Having obtained the required majority, the Philippines was elected to membership of the Board of Governors.

9. The PRESIDENT invited the General Conference to fill the remaining two vacancies on the Board.

10. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The result of the vote was as follows:

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	66
<u>Invalid ballots:</u>	2
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	64
<u>Number of abstentions:</u>	None
<u>Number of Members voting:</u>	64
<u>Required majority:</u>	33
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Mexico	60
Spain	48
Yugoslavia	5
Greece	4
Iraq	2
Dominican Republic	1
Israel	1
Monaco	1
Pakistan	1
Thailand	1
Vatican City	1
Viet-Nam	1

Having obtained the required majority, Mexico and Spain were elected to membership of the Board of Governors.

11. The PRESIDENT declared the elections concluded. The newly elected Members would, under Rule 84 of the Rules of Procedure, hold office on the Board from the end of the third regular session of the General Conference until the end of the fifth regular session. He felt sure they would bear in mind their high responsibilities and would serve the interests of all Members of the Agency during the next two years.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS TO COMMITTEES (GC(III)/94, 95)
(continued^{1/})

12. The PRESIDENT recalled that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had made a proposal for the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda on

^{1/} GC(III)/OR.26, paragraphs 1-4.

the question of granting consultative status with the Agency to the World Federation of Trade Unions, and had accompanied its proposal by an explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution (GC(III)/94).

13. The General Committee had met to consider the proposal and in its report (GC(III)/95) had unanimously recommended that the question be included as an item in the agenda and that it be allocated to a plenary meeting. The General Committee had also requested him, when presenting its report, to inform the General Conference that members of the Committee had unanimously expressed the view that the draft resolution should be adopted by the General Conference, without debate.

14. He suggested therefore that the item be placed on the agenda and that it be discussed in plenary meeting.

15. It was so decided.^{2/}

GENERAL DEBATE AND REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR THE YEAR 1958-59
(GC(III)/73, 85, 89 and Add.1, 92) (continued)

16. Mr. HAMMAD (United Arab Republic) said that the Government of the United Arab Republic regarded the Agency as a living organism, whose members were obviously affected by happenings and developments occurring outside it, especially when those developments, by their nature, touched directly or indirectly on the purpose for which the Agency had been created. Bearing in mind that the aims and objectives of the Agency were to "accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world", his Government thought that the Conference should express its views on a topic of primary importance which was in the thoughts of all the peoples of the world, namely the intention of the Government of France to explode an atomic weapon in the Sahara Desert. That intention was not of concern to the African Continent alone; the far-reaching effects of such an explosion would extend to other parts of the world as well. It would, moreover, be in complete contradiction with the spirit and purpose of the Agency's General Conference. That France should insist on such a course of action at a time when the three big Powers in possession of atomic weapons were trying to reach an agreement on the cessation of atomic tests was indeed surprising.

^{2/} The revised agenda was issued as document GC(III)/88/Rev.2.

17. The concern of the Government and people of the United Arab Republic and the alarm evinced by the peoples of Africa in general were no figment of the imagination, nor were they inspired by the mere desire to make propaganda against any particular Government. The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation had issued a warning against under-estimating the effects of atomic radiation and had stated its conclusion that even the smallest amounts of radiation were liable to cause deleterious genetic and perhaps somatic effects. The attitude of his Government on the question of atomic explosions was familiar to all present; it had consistently deplored them. It was accordingly logical that it should now deplore the latest move by France, which had been denounced by many countries and organizations, including the Council of the Arab League and the World Health Organization's Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean. The issue had been brought to the attention of the United Nations General Assembly at its current session by the Government of Morocco, with the support of its sister States, and his object, in bringing up the matter in the Conference, was to arouse the conscience of France and all mankind to the seriousness of the proposed step.

18. He accordingly urged the Conference to join in denouncing France's unfortunate intention and unanimously to adopt the amendment submitted by Morocco (GC(III)/92) to the Czechoslovak draft resolution (GC(III)/89 and Add.1).

19. The future of the Agency and its programme would undoubtedly depend on various unforeseen political and scientific developments. His delegation, adopting the opposite approach from that of the South African delegation,^{3/} believed that the Agency's main role during the first five years of its existence was to render technical assistance to the less advanced countries and, to a certain degree, to some atomically advanced countries if they so desired. That did not mean that the Agency should abandon research, although such work would necessarily be limited by the scanty financial resources at the Agency's disposal at the present time. Since it was a fact that the Agency could not compete for the time being with research carried out nationally, its research activities should be restricted to what was needed to enable the Agency to discharge its basic obligations, the main emphasis being placed on the programme of technical assistance.

^{3/} GC(III)/OR.26, paragraphs 73 and 74.

20. On the major issue of Agency safeguards, it was well known that the Government of the United Arab Republic would have preferred to have no specific provision in the Statute entrusting the task of drawing up safeguards to the Board of Governors. Since one had been included, however, it was incumbent on Members to make their views on the matter known. From the outset, the Governor from the United Arab Republic had urged in the Board that the regulations concerning health and safety be kept separate from the regulations to guard against the diversion of materials supplied by the Agency to military purposes. Despite earlier reluctance on the part of some members, the feeling in the Board now was that it was practically and technically sound and politically wise not to make the one set of regulations dependent on the other. The United Arab Republic also appreciated the efforts of the Board to draw up flexible rules. That was a realistic approach. The Conference, as the Agency's supreme organ, should, of course, have the final say.

21. He felt bound to express his dissatisfaction with the way in which the question of assisting the less developed countries to build medium and small power reactors had been handled in the Board of Governors - a basic problem of particular importance with which the Agency should be most concerned in the future. The demand for power in the less developed countries was undoubtedly on the increase. Annual power consumption in the Egyptian province of the United Arab Republic, for instance, had doubled between 1952 and 1958, and it was estimated that it would continue to grow at an average rate of about 9.4 per cent per annum for the next 20 years. The welcome innovation of a public discussion on the future of atomic energy, held on the first day of the Conference, had served to clarify ideas regarding the economics of power reactors in less developed countries; and it had been encouraging to hear one of the participants, Professor Bhabha, affirm that the cost of power derived from nuclear stations in India would be comparable to, and sometimes less than, the cost of power derived from conventional sources. The Board of Governors should therefore give more attention to the need of the less developed countries for small and medium power reactors.

22. Reference had been made in the 1959 programme to the Agency's regional activities. The United Arab Republic attached some importance to such collective approaches to common problems by neighbouring countries as a means

of spreading the benefits of their individual efforts and experience. Accordingly the Government of the United Arab Republic had requested the Agency for assistance in establishing a regional isotopes centre in Cairo to serve the Arab countries. To speak frankly, his Government had been struck by the political manoeuvres and unprecedented efforts that had been made to prevent the Agency from meeting that legitimate request. The Board of Governors, in dealing with such requests for technical assistance, was in duty bound to confine itself to the merits of each case, provided that the request was technically sound and submitted and supported by a group of Governments linked by various ties.

23. Coming to activities in his own country, he reported that the Radioisotope Centre in Cairo was now fully equipped to carry out an extensive programme of research and training, whose scope would be broadened through the valuable help of the Agency. That assistance, the Conference could be assured, would serve a very useful purpose. The United Arab Republic was looking forward to the time when the Agency would be able to utilize the fellowships offered by its Government and he was authorized to state that the number had been increased to ten. The nuclear physics laboratory at Inshas would be functioning by the end of the year. It was fully equipped with up-to-date apparatus and was regarded as a self-contained laboratory for training and research. A special research programme was planned, using a 2.5-MeV Van de Graaff generator which had now been completely assembled.

24. The research reactor was expected to be in operation by the end of 1960, local problems connected with its construction having been satisfactorily solved.

25. In view of the Republic's need for a radiochemical laboratory, it had been decided to establish a semi-hot unit, equipped with up-to-date apparatus for the analysis of ores, target materials, etc. The programme of nuclear-chemical industrialization contemplated for the near future included the manufacture of heavy water as a by-product, and the production of thorium, uranium and rare earths through a pilot plant for monazite processing.

26. The results so far obtained from the extensive geological survey undertaken throughout the United Arab Republic were encouraging.

27. The United Arab Republic had repeatedly manifested its interest in, and support for, the Agency. As a mark of that support, his delegation was authorized to pledge an increased contribution.

28. The Government of the United Arab Republic welcomed international scientific co-operation, either through the Agency or by bilateral agreement, provided it was proffered in good faith. Bilateral agreements were a useful complement to the Agency's function of promoting and developing the use of atomic energy for the benefit of mankind.

29. The United Arab Republic wished again to stress its support and faith in the Agency and its hope that the Agency would continue to give valuable assistance to Member States.

30. Mr. NOVACU (Romania) considered that to appreciate the Agency's activities at their proper value it was necessary to make due allowance for the difficulties it was encountering during its early stages. The choice confronting humanity was, essentially, between using atomic energy in the interests of progress and civilization and using it for destructive purposes. To pay attention only to its peaceful uses and ignore its military uses would be to live in a fool's paradise; indeed, it could be stated with certainty that until nuclear tests and the production of nuclear armaments had been prohibited, the Agency would be unable successfully to achieve the objectives set forth in its Statute. It was therefore the duty of the Agency to participate actively in measures to prohibit nuclear weapons and it was to be regretted that so far it had failed to do so.

31. During the past year the Agency had achieved results which were worthy of mention. The fellowships programme, for instance, was greatly appreciated by many States, as could be seen from the fact that the number of requests for fellowships received by the Agency had, in fact, more than doubled by comparison with 1958. Convinced that the Agency's fellowship programme played a positive role in training staff and in promoting the exchange of experience in the peaceful uses of atomic energy, the Romanian Government, as early as 1958, had offered a number of fellowships to the Agency for the training of specialists at the Physics Faculty of the University of Bucharest, the Nuclear Technology Department of the Bucharest Polytechnics Institute and the Atomic Physics Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Romanian People's Republic. His

Government was also anxious that young Romanian technicians should receive specialized training in nuclear research institutes abroad, with the aid of fellowships granted by the Agency.

32. Another successful achievement that was worthy of mention was the successful, though somewhat tardy, conclusion of the first official agreements relating to the supply of special fissionable materials.^{4/} It was, however, regrettable that those materials had not yet been put at the disposal of the countries which most needed them.

33. His Government also appreciated the value of the programme of conferences and symposia. That programme had met with a wide response among specialists. In his delegation's view, it should be continued in future in the form of small meetings on well-defined subjects.

34. An important service provided by the Agency which should be widely developed in future was the supply of technical information and documentary material. The directories of isotopes and reactors it had published had proved useful to specialists in Romania.

35. Other programmes could also be quoted to show that the Agency had been quite active. Unfortunately, such successes were marred by the tendency - already pointed out in 1958, but which had recently become more marked - to encourage a dangerous policy of discrimination which jeopardized the universality of the organization.

36. Constantly growing as the membership of the Agency undoubtedly was, its activities could not attain their full effect so long as certain States, and among them one of the great Powers of the world, the People's Republic of China, were still prevented by Western obstructionism from taking part in the Agency's work.

37. The same discriminatory policy was followed in according consultative status to non-governmental organizations. Such status had, for instance, been granted to two international trade union organizations, but refused to another, the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), which had the largest membership of the three, on the ground that WFTU was campaigning for the prohibition of atomic weapons. As if such action were contrary to the objectives of the Agency!

^{4/} INFCIRC/5.

38. Furthermore, notwithstanding the objections raised in 1958 by the delegations of many States, an attempt was being made to admit to consultative status organizations such as the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM), which was closely linked to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization bloc and whose essential objective was to further the development of atomic energy for military purposes.

39. Another hotly debated issue which had now become of even more topical importance was the question of safeguards. Under Article XII of the Statute the Agency was called upon to take steps to ensure that fissionable material made available to beneficiary States was not used for purposes other than those set forth in the Statute and, in particular, that it should be used only for peaceful purposes.

40. The recommended control measures would rather have the effect of transforming the Agency from a body providing assistance into a control organ, which would be a perversion of its proper statutory functions. The application of inspection and control measures to States in receipt of assistance, namely the less developed countries, could only lead to infringement of the sovereign rights of such States. Moreover, such measures could not but retard the rate of development of the peaceful nuclear industries in the less developed countries.

41. An attempt was being made to rush the adoption of the safeguards and control system through the Board of Governors, although it would be more natural and more in conformity with the Statute for a question of such importance to be submitted to the General Conference for its approval.

42. So far, not a single gramme of the more than 5 tons of fissionable material at the Agency's disposal had been allocated, despite the creation of an exaggeratedly large safeguards service within the Secretariat, and pressure was now being applied to ensure that an insufficiently prepared system of safeguards should be hastily adopted. It could be asked in whose interest that policy was being followed. There could be no doubt that it did not benefit the less developed countries, which constituted the majority of Member States.

43. It had been demonstrated in practice that a State receiving assistance could not genuinely develop its nuclear industries unless the relevant contracts were concluded on the basis of equality and mutual respect. In that regard it might be instructive to recall the agreement on technical and scientific co-operation

concluded in 1955 between the Romanian People's Republic and the USSR, which had permitted Romania to establish its own centre, devoted to practical and research work on nuclear energy.

44. During recent months Romania had had a number of successes in developing research and the practical applications of atomic energy. For example, the capacity of the reactor operating at the Atomic Physics Institute had been raised from 2 000 to 3 000 kW and in August 1959 a 30 MeV betatron accelerator, entirely designed and built in Romania, had been put into service at the same institute. Recently, various types of nuclear research apparatus, such as neutron crystal spectrometers, beta ray spectrographs, para-magnetic resonance spectrographs, electronic calculating machines, hodoscopes, output-measuring instruments, application counters and so on, had also been constructed under the same conditions for use, in conjunction with the reactor, in neutron physics, the physics of atomic nuclei and work on the applications of radioisotopes.

45. The reactor produced radioactive isotopes to meet the requirements of the Institute and for industrial purposes, and the construction of a specialized laboratory for the preparation of radioisotopes was under way. The application of radioisotopes to the petroleum industry and in metallurgy, agriculture, medicine, etc. was continuing to develop. A number of new radioisotope laboratories had been set up and the results of the research undertaken at the Atomic Physics Institute had been published by specialist reviews in Romania and abroad and had been presented at international congresses. The relations between the Institute and similar institutes abroad were expanding and recently an international symposium on cosmic rays had been organized.

46. At the present session of the General Conference an appeal had been made to Member States to offer their assistance to the Agency in the form of cash contributions, special fissionable materials, specialized equipment and apparatus, fellowships, etc. As far as its resources allowed Romania had already offered such assistance to the Agency at the time of the first session of the General Conference but regrettably that offer had not yet been taken advantage of. Romania was prepared to make every effort to increase assistance to the Agency, provided that it could have some assurance that its offers would be put to proper use.

47. In strict logic, the Agency's statutory responsibilities with regard to safeguards entailed the conclusion of an international agreement prohibiting nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons tests, thus ensuring that all special fissionable materials, the bulk of which were at present diverted to military programmes, would be used instead for peaceful purposes.

48. There could be ample scope for international co-operation in the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes if, but only if, practical measures were taken to reduce armaments and to prohibit atomic weapons, and if an atmosphere of growing international confidence was created.

49. The Romanian delegation therefore believed that the total prohibition of nuclear armaments continued to be the greatest and most urgent necessity of the present age. The conclusion of an agreement on the prohibition of all types of nuclear weapons and their elimination from national armaments would remove all obstacles to the utilization of atomic energy for peaceful purposes by diverting enormous resources from arms production to the production of material goods.

50. For those reasons the Romanian delegation warmly supported the draft resolution submitted by the Czechoslovak delegation, which reflected the ardent hopes of peoples throughout the world.

51. The Romanian delegation wished to assure the General Conference that it would never cease to approach the Agency's problems in a spirit of co-operation and that, for its part, Romania would do everything in its power to ensure that humanity's faith in the achievements of atomic energy would not be in vain.

52. Mr. SUDJARWO (Indonesia) congratulated the President on his election; his able guidance would undoubtedly lead the Conference to success in its work.

53. Albeit still in the early stages of its existence, the Agency, it was plain, had made a good start in its work. The high expectations evinced by Member States at its inception had laid a heavy responsibility on the Board of Governors and the senior members of the Secretariat, which they had discharged most commendably. Despite the inevitable difficulties attending the first year of the Agency's existence, he was unable to accept the view of the South African delegate that there had been something in the nature of a crisis of

confidence at that time.^{5/} The Preparatory Commission had provided a sound basis for the immediate tasks, which had enabled the Agency to make rapid progress in its second year in both its administrative and operational sectors.

54. In the past year requests for technical assistance had flowed in, especially from the less developed areas. The technical assistance mission which had visited his country early in the year had done useful work in advising on many aspects of Indonesia's programme for the peaceful utilization of atomic energy. As a result of that visit, Indonesia had submitted specific requests for technical assistance, starting in 1960, many of which had already received the Board's approval. He trusted that the remainder would eventually be given similar favourable treatment.

55. The number of fellowships made available directly by or through the Agency had increased, and that practical and fruitful form of assistance to countries which were lagging so far behind in the utilization of atomic energy deserved grateful recognition.

56. It was not his intention to review in detail the achievements of the Agency in the past year; as described in the reports before the Conference, those achievements were not unimpressive. The Board of Governors had shown initiative and vision in discharging its functional responsibilities and his delegation was happy to have contributed to its work.

57. Indonesia believed that the future success of the Agency in its world-wide mission would depend greatly on how much the common people understood and knew of the benefits to be derived from the utilization of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. It accordingly welcomed the Board's proposal that a world-wide campaign should be instituted, in conjunction with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to give information and instruction on those matters. The two agencies were to publish a textbook for the purpose, designed for use in secondary schools throughout the world. It was to be hoped that as many Member States as possible would support the campaign and that the two agencies might find it possible to give material assistance towards having the textbook translated, adapted for use in individual countries and further distributed.

^{5/} GC(III)/OR.26, paragraph 64.

58. The Indonesian delegation was also convinced of the usefulness of the Agency's publications programme, including the non-technical bulletin. The spreading of information in that way was indeed essential for the achievement of the Agency's objectives. A useful purpose was also served by the organizing of conferences, seminars and symposia on specific aspects of atomic energy. In such work, special attention should be paid to efforts for promoting the speedy development of programmes in the less advanced countries, not only in the national interest but for the sake of fruitful co-operation with the more advanced countries as well. In addition, every effort should be made to assist the less advanced countries in spreading the use of radioisotopes in medicine and agriculture. It was apparent, too, that those countries would greatly benefit from small or medium-sized reactors; the study which the Agency was therefore undertaking in pursuance of resolution GC(II)/27 was therefore most commendable.

59. It was vital for the Agency to find the best means of meeting the needs of the less developed countries in order that they might share in the benefits to be derived from the exploitation of atomic energy. He entirely agreed with the Director General that a dangerous situation might arise if the development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy led to a broadening, rather than a narrowing, of the gap between the advanced and the less developed countries.^{6/} That was a danger that must be obvious to all, in view of the enormous scientific and technical advances made in the last few years by the advanced countries and the practical difficulties encountered by the Agency in discharging its functions. The fundamental difficulty seemed to lie in the statutory organization of the Agency itself, in the fact that its operational activities had to be financed from the General Fund, which was fed by voluntary contributions. That arrangement had not worked well. He was in full agreement with the South African delegate that the system of financing would become increasingly unsatisfactory as the operational programme expanded.^{7/} The basic problem was that contributions were not forthcoming to meet the demands, as was amply illustrated by the fact that out of US \$1.5 million pledged for 1959, only about \$1.1 million had been received by 30 June 1959. The prospects for 1960 were no more encouraging. According to an estimate made by the Secretariat, the Agency would in 1960 require budgetary appropriations of \$1 450 000 for fellowships and training and \$1 110 000 for economic, technical and research

^{6/} GC(III)/OR.26, paragraph 15.

^{7/} Ibid., paragraph 71.

assistance, if the requests received from Member States were to be met. Those figures represented an increase of more than 100 per cent as compared with the 1959 estimated programme for the two items, thus reflecting the greatly increased interest of Member States. Unfortunately, there seemed no likelihood that the Agency would be able to meet those encouraging requests and the Board of Governors had had no choice but to reduce the estimate to \$2 million, including the expected contribution of \$600 000 from the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

60. Unless some way could be found to resolve the problem of the General Fund, the Agency would face greater difficulties in the future and its proper functioning would be seriously endangered. Obviously, much would depend on the attitude of the advanced and rich Powers.

61. His delegation had greatly appreciated the importance laid by the United States on the Agency's operational programme, with particular reference to the needs of the less developed countries, including small and medium-sized power reactors. It particularly welcomed the United States stand regarding the need for providing the less developed countries with adequate equipment to advance their national programmes.^{8/}

62. His delegation looked forward to the time when a programme commensurate with needs would be implemented and hoped that the present situation, which unavoidably entailed limitations on the provision of necessary equipment to accompany technical assistance, could be alleviated as soon as possible. For that purpose, combined efforts would be needed and the Indonesian delegation welcomed the joint statement issued by the Chairman of the United States Atomic Energy Commission and the Head of the Central Atomic Energy Utilization Board of the USSR on 15 September 1959, as likely to inaugurate closer and more fruitful co-operation between the two big atomic Powers in utilizing the Agency more effectively. It was undeniable that the success of the Agency depended greatly on co-operation and understanding between the United States and the USSR.

63. The complaint had been made that there were not enough scientists available for the Agency's increasing work. In his view the real difficulty

^{8/} GC(III)/OR.28, paragraphs 9, 15 and 16.

was that many scientists were engaged in work on atomic energy which was still beyond the scope of the Agency. As the United States delegate had said, there existed a wealth of scientific and technical ability on which the Agency could draw for the benefit of all Members. It would indeed be sad if the Agency were unable to advance its work for peace because of lack of scientific staff.

64. Another matter that had unfortunately become a problem was the question of safeguards against diversion to military purposes of materials supplied by the Agency. His delegation accepted that it was reasonable in principle to establish safeguards, in conformity with Article XIII of the Statute. The assistance provided by the Agency was designed exclusively for peaceful purposes. No diversion to military uses could be tolerated and accordingly there must be some control. The point at issue was how and to what extent the Agency should exercise that control. Article XIII stated that control was justified only to the extent relevant to the project or arrangement. It was undeniable that undue and rigid control would serve no useful purpose. The Member States requesting the Agency's assistance were capable only of using atomic energy for peaceful programmes. There was no urgent need for the type of rigid control advocated by some Members of the Agency. Furthermore, any country intending to produce atomic or hydrogen bombs would not turn to the Agency for help..

65. If the Agency applied rigid controls on materials it supplied for peaceful programmes, an anomalous situation would result: countries operating atomic energy programmes for peaceful purposes would be strictly controlled, whereas bomb-producing countries were entirely free of control. For that reason he could not support the Director General's contention that the proposed system of safeguards would cause no difficulty to a country having only peaceful intentions, and that it would be troublesome only to a country which wished to cheat.^{9/}

66. Taking a realistic view, the Indonesian delegation would maintain its stand that control should be applied only as a matter of principle and only to the extent relevant to the project. It should not be overlooked that, as the delegate of France had pointed out,^{10/} the question of control was not a technical matter alone, it had psychological and political angles as well. Once mutual confidence among Members of the Agency had improved, the problem of control would solve itself in a satisfactory way.

^{9/} GC(III)/OR.26, paragraph 25.

^{10/} GC(III)/OR.28, paragraph 31.

67. Working relationships and close contacts between the Agency and its Members, in particular those from less developed areas, should be encouraged and stimulated. The countries far distant from the Agency's Headquarters were at a disadvantage in those respects and steps should be taken to mitigate that disadvantage.

68. In conclusion, he reiterated the faith of his Government in the principles and purposes of the Agency. Every effort should be made to encourage co-operation in carrying out the Agency's great and noble task. Advantage should be taken of the present opportunity for relaxing international tensions in order to work for the Agency's harmonious growth. A ban on nuclear tests - which now seemed a possibility - would open new prospects for achieving the Agency's goals.

69. Mr. El ANNABI (Tunisia) remarked that significant progress had been made by the Agency since its inception. The publications issued, including the Directory of Radioisotopes, the Manual on the Safe Handling of Radioisotopes and the Directory of Nuclear Reactors, were of considerable scientific importance; the non-technical bulletin had appeared and regulations were being drawn up in connexion with the handling of radioisotopes, waste disposal and civil and State responsibility for nuclear hazards.

70. He had been very glad to note that three suggestions made by Tunisia had been followed up. The Conference on the Disposal of Radioactive Waste which would be held in Monaco would offer a good example of collaboration with other international organizations. Again, the Secretariat was now carrying out an investigation into the economics of small reactors. And lastly, the Agency's laboratory would lay down standards for the measurement of radioactivity.

71. He agreed with a number of suggestions which had been made by the United States delegate.^{11/} In particular, he felt that greater use could be made of the mobile radioisotope laboratories if the transport and other costs could be reduced. The Agency had not yet set up a service which could advise on radioisotopes and reactors - a service which could be of the greatest assistance to the smaller countries. An arrangement should be made to publish results

^{11/} Ibid., paragraphs 1-28.

obtained by national research laboratories in order to keep Member States informed and avoid unnecessary duplication. It would also be helpful to have quarterly reports on new developments in connexion with reactors and radioisotopes. Many countries were installing their first reactors and the Agency should circulate suitable information to enable them to guard against the dangers involved.

72. Reference had already been made to the lack of applicants for the fissionable materials the Agency had at its disposal. Tunisia intended to install one French and one United States reactor and would be applying for ten kilograms of enriched uranium. He hoped that the regulations attaching to the provision of that uranium would be flexible and not unnecessarily complicated.

73. Tunisia had intended to experiment with the production of electricity from nuclear sources, but meanwhile new supplies of gas and petrol from the Sahara had modified the supply position. It had been decided not to do anything further until more information was available from the Agency about the economics of small reactors. There were many industrial processes also in which the heat from reactors might be employed, and information about the economics of such processes would be very welcome.

74. Some reference had been made to the fact that the Agency had not succeeded in enlisting the services of outstanding scientists. He would suggest in that respect that it might follow the example of commercial firms and arrange contracts by which the services of such scientists could be obtained on a consultative basis.

75. He felt quite sure that the proposed regional radioisotope centre for the Middle East would be of the greatest benefit to the area in question. Unfortunately, because of unsatisfactory communications, that centre could not serve North Africa and the Agency should seriously consider providing a similar centre for North Africa.

76. He also wished to suggest that it might be necessary to increase the membership of the Board of Governors. At present one seat was allocated to Africa and the Middle East; South Africa as a producer of uranium had a separate seat. Since the Agency had been set up, a number of countries had achieved independence and there would be others shortly. He did not wish to introduce a formal resolution but suggested that consideration should now be given to the idea of providing separate seats for North Africa and the Middle East.

77. The elimination of radioactive waste was a problem which was not confined to nuclear reactors. Since 1945 there had been hundreds of atomic explosions. No procedures had been laid down for the elimination of wastes deriving from those explosions and nothing exact was known about the possible dangers involved. The intention of the French authorities to explode an atomic bomb in the Sahara had caused considerable emotion in the North African countries. He could understand the technical reasons which prompted the French authorities to plan that explosion but felt they might be more than offset by the psychological effects on countries which were friendly to France, especially now that there was a prospect of a lessening of political tension in North Africa as a whole. After all the explosions which had taken place, there was little to be learned about atomic explosions in the atmosphere. Great interest had been expressed, however, at the 1958 Geneva Conference in the possibility of utilizing underground explosions for such purposes as the preparation of the beds of canals. He would suggest to the French delegation that they put forward to their own authorities the possibility of exploding the French atomic bomb underground rather than in the atmosphere above the Sahara desert.

78. Mr. de ERICE (Spain) congratulated the President on his election and said that Spain would continue to collaborate wholeheartedly with the Agency. The Agency was far from perfect but most of its defects were those which had to be expected in any new and growing organization. He wished to express his gratitude to all who had voted for the election of Spain to membership of the Board of Governors.

79. Spain placed the greatest hopes in the development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. In spite of a great increase in hydroelectric output in recent years, its needs were far from satisfied, and atomic energy might provide the solution. There were uranium ore deposits in Cordoba and Salamanca, and processing plants were being set up to deal with them. The sale of uranium ore was completely free, and the national atomic energy authority was in the same position as any other prospective buyers in that respect. A pilot plant had been set up at the Moncloa centre for the preparation of uranium concentrates, salts and metal, and various processes had been tried out for the production of nuclear-pure uranium. In October 1959 a new plant would go into operation in Andujer for the preparation of uranium concentrates. In the initial stages

it would treat 200 tons of ore daily and have an annual production of 70 tons of contained uranium. Uranium oxide was being produced on a small scale in laboratories and fuel elements containing enriched uranium were also being produced.

80. In October 1958, a 3 000 kW swimming-pool reactor at Moncloa had reached criticality. Since February 1959 it had been functioning at its full output. The building of a double-purpose reactor was also being studied. It would have an output of 30 McV and also serve for neutron flux experiments. Preliminary work had been done in co-operation with three companies selected from among fourteen European and American companies and it had been decided that the most suitable type would be a reactor moderated with heavy water and cooled by organic liquids, using natural uranium oxide fuel together with some 20 per cent enriched uranium elements.

81. Spain was co-operating in atomic energy matters with the appropriate organ of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation.

82. Spain had offered fellowships to the Agency, a number of which had been taken up by Latin American citizens. In addition to the benefits of the fellowship programme as a whole, it was worth remembering that the exchange of students and experts was helping to create a body of scientists who know and could collaborate with each other in practically all countries throughout the world. The programme was thus contributing to international collaboration in the very broadest sense.

83. His Government believed that more could be done in connexion with technical assistance, in spite of the obvious budgetary difficulties. He suggested that the Agency might create technical assistance funds under which technical assistance would, as at present, be made available to the less developed countries but, in addition, assistance could be given to countries which were more advanced but still unable to finance particular development programmes. If the Agency were not itself able to provide the necessary funds, it might help the countries in question to obtain loans from third parties.

84. He was fully in agreement with the suggestions which had been made by the delegate of the Union of South Africa in connexion with the proposed

modification of the Statute;^{12/} he also supported the suggestion just made by the delegate of Tunisia with regard to modification of the Board's membership. He was not, however, in a position to make a specific proposal himself at that time.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.

^{12/} GC(III)/OR.26, paragraph 72.