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General Conference

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FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

GENERAL COMMITTEE

OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE EIGHTH MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna, on Tuesday,
20 September 1960, at 3.10 p.m.

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* GC(IV)/109 and Add.1, Add.1/Corr.1, and Add.2.

Present

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. NADJAKOV	President of the General Conference
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. QUIHILLALT	Argentina
	Mr. WERSHOF	Canada
	Mr. FINKELSTEIN	France
	Mr. LALL	India
	Mr. DIAH	Indonesia
	Mr. MARINUCCI	Italy
	Mr. FURUUCHI	Japan
	Mr. ARAOZ	Mexico
	Mr. CHEFCHAOUNI	Morocco
	Mr. RANDERS	Norway
	Mr. MICHAELS	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Mr. EMEL'YANOV	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
	Mr. FOSTER	United States of America
<u>Also present:</u>	Mr. SOLE	Chairman of the Board of Governors
	Mr. MELLER-CONRAD	Poland
<u>Secretariat:</u>	Mr. COLE	Director General
	Mr. JOLLES	Secretary of the General Committee

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING (GC(IV)/GEN/16)

1. The agenda for the meeting was adopted.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS FOR INITIAL DISCUSSION
(GC(IV)/109, 109/Add.1, 109/Add.1/Corr.1, 109/Add.2; GC(IV)/GEN/17)

2. The CHAIRMAN began by drawing the Committee's attention to document GC(IV)/GEN/17 containing a Polish request for the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda of the General Conference. Pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure he proposed that the delegate of Poland should be invited to participate without vote in the Committee's discussion of that request.

3. It was so decided.

4. The delegate of Poland joined in the Committee's deliberations.

Supplementary items requested for inclusion in the agenda (GC(IV)/109/Add.1, Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.2)

5. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the Board had asked^{1/} for the inclusion of item A concerning the use of funds provided to defray the Agency's administrative and operational services costs in 1960 under the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. He suggested that the Committee should recommend the Conference to accede to the Board's request.

6. The request for item B, concerning studies on radioactive waste disposal into the sea, to be placed on the agenda had been made by the Italian Government. However, as appeared from document GC(IV)/109/Add.2, that Government had subsequently withdrawn its request, so there seemed to be no reason for the Committee to recommend the inclusion of that item in the agenda.

7. The Chairman's two suggestions were approved.

Proposal by Poland for an additional item (GC(IV)/GEN/17)

8. Mr. MELLER-CONRAD (Poland) said that, under Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure, the Polish Government had asked for the inclusion in the agenda of the General Conference of an additional item concerning the grant of consultative status with the Agency to the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU).

9. Without seeking to reopen the discussion on the substance of that question, which had already been discussed at the third regular session of the General

^{1/} GC(IV)/119, paragraph 6.

Conference^{2/}, he felt he must point out that the WFTU was a very important trade union organization comprising more than 85 million workers, many of them employed in the atomic industry and therefore entitled to make their views heard on the protection of their health and safety. Moreover, many trade unions, not only in the socialist countries but also in other countries which had recently become Members of the United Nations, were represented only by the WFTU.

10. The Polish Government therefore considered that the proposed item was of an important and urgent character within the meaning of Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure. He asked the Committee to agree to his Government's request in order that the General Conference, an independent and sovereign body, should have an opportunity to decide the question.

11. Mr. LALL (India) said he fully supported the request by Poland. He did not see why the WFTU should not be given the consultative status which other trade union organizations already possessed. The Agency could derive only advantage from collaboration with the WFTU; indeed, it was astonishing that the question had to be brought before the General Conference again, for it should have been settled long ago.

12. Mr. ARAOZ (Mexico) supported the request for the inclusion of the item in the agenda, but reserved his position on the merits.

13. Mr. FOSTER (United States of America) said that the United States delegation had already stated its views on the matter many times. Although its views on the merits had not changed, it did not object to inclusion of the item in the agenda.

14. The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Conference that it include in its agenda the item proposed by Poland.

Provisional agenda (GC(IV)/109 and Add.1)

15. The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Conference that it include in its agenda all the items in document GC(IV)/109 together with the two items whose inclusion it had just recommended.

^{2/} GC(III)/OR.35, paragraphs 34, 35.

Allocation of items for initial discussion (GC(IV)/109 and Add.1; GC(IV)/GEN/17

16. The CHAIRMAN said that the manner in which it was proposed to allocate supplementary item A in document GC(IV)/109/Add.1, and the other items in document GC(IV)/109, seemed logical and practical.

17. The matter of the grant of consultative status with the Agency to the World Federation of Trade Unions could conveniently be taken in plenary meeting.

18. Mr. MICHAELS (United Kingdom) considered it advisable to decide when the item proposed by Poland should come up for discussion. He thought the best time would be towards the end of the session.

19. Mr. WERSHOF (Canada) also thought that time was required to enable delegations to obtain instructions from their Governments.

20. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that, under Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure an additional item could not be considered until seven days after it had been placed on the agenda; the present item could not be discussed before Wednesday 28 September 1960.

21. The General Committee decided to recommend that the General Conference approve the allocation of agenda items suggested in document GC(IV)/109 and GC(IV)/109/Add.1, and consider the matter of the grant of consultative status to the World Federation of Trade Unions in plenary meeting on expiry of the time-limit laid down in Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure.

22. The CHAIRMAN suggested that he prepare, with the Secretariat's assistance, a report to the General Conference embodying the General Committee's recommendations.

23. It was so decided.

24. The Polish delegate then withdrew.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE SESSION (GC(IV)/109)

25. The CHAIRMAN considered that, provided the general debate were concluded by Thursday evening and the main committees were conveniently able to begin their work on Friday morning, it should be possible to close the session by the evening of Saturday 1 October. However, since the committees would probably need rather more time to complete their work than in the preceding year, the adoption by the General Conference of 1 October as the closing date should perhaps be provisional and subject to alteration, if necessary, during

the following week. He suggested that the General Committee authorize him to suggest that course verbally to the General Conference when it discussed the item in plenary.

26. Mr. FOSTER (United States of America) agreed with the Chairman's suggestion, on the understanding that the closing date could be put forward if the General Conference's work progressed more rapidly than was anticipated.

27. The Chairman's suggestion was adopted.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS (GC(IV)/GEN/15)

28. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the draft report to the General Conference annexed to the Director General's memorandum (GC(IV)/GEN/15).

29. The Committee adopted the draft report.

OPENING DATE OF THE FIFTH REGULAR SESSION

30. The DIRECTOR GENERAL said that he had been informed by the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs that the Austrian Government had invited the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to hold their annual sessions in Vienna in 1961. Those meetings would be held simultaneously and last for one week. He understood that, at their current annual sessions which had opened on 19 September, the three organizations were likely to accept the Austrian Government's invitation and decide to meet in the Neue Hofburg from 18 to 23 September 1961.

31. The Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs had expressed the hope that holding those meetings in Vienna at that time of year would not raise major difficulties for the Agency. To avoid any overlap the General Conference could fix 26 September 1961 as the opening date for its fifth regular session.

32. Although the holding of two major international conferences in succession would raise some organizational problems, the Secretariat should be able to solve them with the assistance of the Austrian authorities.

33. Mr. FOSTER (United States of America) asked whether the proposed meetings at the Neue Hofburg from 18 to 23 September 1961 would raise difficulties

for the customary Board meetings in the week preceding the opening of the General Conference. In principle he approved the suggested change to permit the IBRD, IMF and IFC to meet in Vienna.

34. The DIRECTOR GENERAL said that the accommodation to be placed at those organizations' disposal would not include the Boardroom, and that the Secretariat would be able to provide the customary facilities for Board meetings.

35. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the General Conference be recommended to appoint Tuesday 26 September 1961 as the opening date for the fifth regular session. When the item was discussed in plenary, he would state briefly the General Committee's reasons for making that recommendation.

36. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 3.55 p.m.

