



International Atomic Energy Agency

General Conference

GC(VI)/GEN/OR.10

6 December 1962

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ENGLISH

SIXTH REGULAR SESSION

GENERAL COMMITTEE

OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE TENTH MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna,
on Tuesday, 18 September 1962, at 3.25 p.m.

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* GC(VI)/GEN/20.

Present*

Chairman:

Mr. BAFFOUR (Ghana), President of the General Conference

Members:

Mr. WALDHEIM (Austria), Vice-President of the General Conference

Miss LEAGHER (Canada), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. FINKELSTEIN, representing Mr. COUTURE (France), Additional Member

Mr. DAS GUPTA, representing Mr. BHABHA (India), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. UCHIDA (Japan), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. AMMOUN (Lebanon), Chairman of the Programme, Technical and Budget Committee

Mr. de ARAOZ, representing Mr. ORTIZ TIRADO (Mexico), Additional Member

Mr. HULUBEI (Romania), Chairman of the Administrative and Legal Committee

Mr. VEJYANT-RANGSRISHT (Thailand), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. LEBELYANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. MICHAELS, representing Sir Roger MAKINS (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. SMYTH, representing Mr. SEABORG (United States of America), Additional Member

Mr. VUJOVIĆ, representing Mr. NAKIČENOVIC (Yugoslavia), Additional Member

Also Present:

Mr. HASANI, Chairman of the Board of Governors and delegate of Iraq

Secretariat:

Mr. EKLUND, Director General

Mr. BOLTON, Secretary of the Committee

* The structure of the General Committee is laid down in Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure. The composition of the Committee at the sixth regular session is given in document GC(VI)/INF/56/Rev.2.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING (GC(VI)/GEN/20)

1. The agenda for the meeting was adopted.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS FOR INITIAL DISCUSSION
(GC(VI)/190, 202)

2. The CHAIRMAN, citing Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure, invited the delegate of Iraq to participate in the discussion on the inclusion in the agenda of the additional item proposed by that State (GC(VI)/202).

The delegate of Iraq joined in the Committee's deliberations.

3. Mr. EMELYANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, in principle, his delegation was not opposed to the adoption of the provisional agenda. Regarding item 21, Amendment of Article XIV of the Statute, however, it had already expressed to the Board the view that, as the relevant document^{1/} showed, the changes proposed by the United Kingdom constituted much more than a mere amendment to the Agency's Statute and would alter the established procedures for the financing of the Agency's activities. They would in effect involve a general review of the Statute, as provided for in Article XVIII of that instrument.

4. The question of a general review of the Statute had been considered during the fifth session of the General Conference, in accordance with Article XVIII, and it had been decided that no such review should take place at the sixth session. Consequently, the General Conference should not examine any item which would involve a general review of the Statute; in particular, it should take no decision on the United Kingdom proposal.

5. However, since the majority of the Agency's Members had not as yet had an opportunity to express their views on the United Kingdom proposal to amend Article XIV of the Statute, his delegation would not object to the inclusion of that item in the agenda of the Conference. That did not in any way signify a change in its attitude to the United Kingdom proposal; it remained convinced that the proposal constituted much more than an amendment and would involve a general review of the Statute.

^{1/} GC(VI)/205.

6. Mr. MICHAELS (United Kingdom) said he was glad to note that the Soviet delegate was not opposed to the inclusion of item 21 in the agenda; all Members of the General Conference would thus have an opportunity of stating their views on the amendment proposed by the United Kingdom. It was not for the General Committee to anticipate the action that the Conference might take on that proposal, but he wished to make it clear from the outset that his delegation could not accept the view that the amendment submitted by the United Kingdom, or any other similar amendment that might be submitted at subsequent sessions, constituted a general review of the Statute.

7. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Conference that it include in its agenda all the items in document GC(VI)/190, together with the additional item proposed by Iraq.

8. The CHAIRMAN said that in the past the Committee had gone no further than to make recommendations in its report on the agenda with regard to the allocation of items for initial discussion, leaving the President of the Conference to decide; in consultation with the Secretariat, the best order in which to take the items so as to meet the wishes of the largest possible number of delegates. With a view to finishing the session at the earliest possible date, it would seem advisable for the Committee again to leave the President a similar degree of latitude. However, he invited Members to put forward their views, which would be taken into account to the maximum extent possible.

9. The Chairman made the following suggestions concerning three items of the agenda:

- (a) That item 3 (b) - Report of the Credentials Committee - and item 12 - Election of Members to the Board of Governors - be taken at the end of the session. The reason for the second suggestion was that the amended text of Article VI.A.3 of the Statute might enter into force before the end of the session;^{2/} and
- (b) That the new item - Amendment of the Rules of Procedure - be considered immediately before or immediately after the election of Members to the Board.

^{2/} See document GC(VI)/INF/46/Rev.6.

10. Mr. DAS GUPTA (India) suggested that item 21 - Amendment of Article XIV of the Statute - should not be referred to the Administrative and Legal Committee. The committees were not as representative in character as the Conference in plenary meeting, and the item in question, which was of primary importance, had already been considered by the Board in accordance with Article XVIII.C(i) of the Statute, but no decision had been reached.
11. Mr. MICHAELS (United Kingdom) wondered whether it would not be preferable to refer the question first to the Administrative and Legal Committee, which would subsequently submit its recommendations to the Conference in plenary meeting. He pointed out that, since all delegations were represented, the committees were just as representative in character as the Conference in plenary meeting.
12. The CHAIRMAN said that most of the Members of the Committee seemed to be agreed that the item should first be considered by the Administrative and Legal Committee.
13. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Conference the allocation of items for initial discussion suggested in document GC(VI)/190, and also to recommend the allocation of the new item - Amendment of the Rules of Procedure - to the Administrative and Legal Committee.
14. In reply to a question by Mr. HASANI (Iraq), the CHAIRMAN said it was intended that the new item - Amendment of the Rules of Procedure - should be considered before item 12 - Election of Members to the Board of Governors - towards the end of the session.
15. The Committee might decide that the report to the General Conference containing its recommendations on the agenda and the allocation of items for initial discussion should be drawn up by the Chairman with the help of the Secretariat.^{3/}
16. It was so agreed.

The delegate of Iraq withdrew from the Committee's deliberations.

^{3/} Subsequently issued as document GC(VI)/206.

CLOSING DATE OF THE SESSION (GC(VI)/GEN/22)

17. The CHAIRMAN recalled that under Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure the Committee had to recommend a closing date for the session. The Australian and Swedish delegations had jointly suggested that that date should be no later than Wednesday, 26 September (GC(VI)/GEN/22).
18. After an informal exchange of views with various delegates, he had formed the impression that there was considerable support for the idea that the Conference should try to conclude its work by the middle of the second week. The Committee could therefore recommend that the closing date be fixed provisionally for Wednesday, 26 September 1962, it being understood that the session could be prolonged if the work of the Conference should not have been completed by that date.
19. Mr. AMMOUN (Lebanon), Chairman of the Programme, Technical and Budget Committee, said he was not personally in favour of such an early closing date. Shortening the duration of sessions would tend to bring about a system of biennial sessions, as had happened in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Furthermore, it would be regrettable if the Secretariat, for which he had the greatest esteem, were to give the impression of wishing to reduce the time devoted to discussion and thus to limit the power of control and the authority vested in the General Conference.
20. Mr. de ARAOZ (Mexico) said that full consideration should be given to the suggestion put forward by the delegations of Australia and Sweden; they had consistently taken a most active interest in the work of the General Conference and there could be no doubt as to the soundness of the reasons that had prompted their suggestion. He felt that the Director General should inform the Committee of the Secretariat's point of view.
21. The DIRECTOR GENERAL replied that the Secretariat had studied the question very carefully and thought it likely that the General Conference could successfully conclude its work by the date suggested.
22. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the General Conference be recommended to fix 26 September 1962 provisionally as the closing date of the session.
23. It was so agreed.

OPENING DATE OF THE SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION (GC(VI)/190, annotation to item 11)

24. The CHAIRMAN recalled that under Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure, the General Conference met each year, generally within the month of September, at a date which it fixed during the preceding annual session. Hitherto it had usually chosen the third Tuesday in September.

25. In some years the Conference would have to choose the fourth Tuesday in the month if it wished to avoid beginning its work too early. Such could be the case in 1963. As the Director General had told him, the authorities of the host country, and the Secretariat, would prefer the session to begin a little later. He therefore suggested that the Committee recommend the General Conference to fix Tuesday, 24 September 1963, as the opening date of the seventh regular session.

26. It was so agreed.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS (GC(VI)/193; GC(VI)/GEN/21)

27. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the Director General's memorandum (GC(VI)/GEN/21), which clearly outlined the situation. The Committee had doubtless taken note of the fact that the number of elective places to be filled would depend on whether the amendment to Article VI.A.3 of the Statute^{4/} had come into force before the session ended. The Committee should therefore, as the Director General suggested, put forward recommendations to cover both possibilities.

28. He proposed that the Committee approve the draft report annexed to the Director General's memorandum.

29. It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 4.15 p.m.

^{4/} See Resolution GC(V)/RES/92.

