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President: Mr. ESCHAUZIER (Netherlands)

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GENERAL DEBATE AND REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR 1963-64 (continued)
(GC(VIII)/270, 270/Corr.1, 270/Add.1, 2 and 3, 280)

1. Mr. SCHULTE-MEERMANN (Federal Republic of Germany) regretted that the Third International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, which had eclipsed the seventh anniversary of the Agency by attracting the attention and interest of a worldwide public to a greater extent than did the annual sessions of the General Conference, had not been organized by the Agency itself. The latter should have had the honour of adding that important event at the head of the impressive list of scientific meetings which it organized under its programme of exchange of knowledge in the field of nuclear sciences. However, that regret did not lessen his satisfaction at noting that the Geneva Conference had achieved valuable results in promoting the application of atomic energy to the service of mankind, and he was glad that the responsibility for the scientific aspects of the Conference had been entrusted to the Director General of the Agency.

2. Things had augured well for the Geneva Conference. Progress by the nuclear power stations towards the stage when they would be economically competitive had been particularly rapid during the past year. In its annual report to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, the Agency had been able to state that nuclear power now seemed competitive even in areas where conventional power sources were cheap. Thus, a new factor now existed which would be decisive in the future of the Agency.

3. The rapid, almost revolutionary, development of nuclear technology had also facilitated implementation of the plans drawn up under the Federal Republic of Germany's medium-term programme for the building of nuclear power stations. Once the construction of research reactors had provided the necessary foundations for training and research, efforts had been concentrated on building experimental nuclear stations. A boiling water reactor had been in operation at Kahl since 1960. A high-temperature gas-cooled pebble-bed reactor and a multi-purpose pressurized heavy-water research reactor would be put into operation in 1965 at Jülich and Karlsruhe respectively.

4. Meanwhile, a nuclear power station demonstration programme had been launched. A 237-MW boiling water reactor was being built at Gundremmingen, and would be completed by the end of 1965. A 250-MW boiling water reactor

with oil-fired superheat near Lingen, a 280-MW pressurized water reactor at Obrigheim and a 25-MW steam superheat experimental reactor at Kahl were planned for 1968. An experimental sodium-cooled reactor and a gas-cooled heavy water reactor, of 100 MW, were under consideration. Under the Federal Republic of Germany's long-term programme, there was provision for the development of a fast neutron breeder reactor at Karlsruhe and of a high-temperature thorium reactor at Jülich. Finally, in June 1964 the ore-carrying vessel "Otto Hahn" had been launched, which would be equipped with a pressurized water reactor of an advanced type and would begin its trials in 1967.

5. His delegation's particularly favourable assessment of the future activity of the Agency was not based only on the promising developments in the field of power. There were other reasons for an optimistic view. With the end of the term of office of its first Director General, Mr. Sterling Cole, the Agency's "shakedown" period had come to an end; and it had been necessary to adapt the Agency's work and its internal structure to the many changes which had taken place since its establishment in the areas of science, technology, economics and politics. All delegations had then agreed that a period of consolidation should follow. The documents submitted to the present session showed that the process of consolidation was now in its turn complete. The fact had of course to be faced that the resources of the operational budget would not exceed \$2 million, but the Programme for 1965-66^{1/} was well balanced, and, thanks to the judicious selection of priorities, considerable success seemed quite possible, even with extremely limited financial means. The German delegation hoped that the first practical test of the biennial programme would justify that expectation, and that the programme would ensure continuity while still permitting the modifications necessary to meet new developments.

6. The Agency's financial difficulties affected more particularly technical assistance to the developing countries, which rightly held a position of priority. However, the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany was convinced that better co-ordination of the three essential elements of technical assistance -- expert services, provision of equipment and training of fellows -- and the administrative measures taken in that respect by the Director General, namely the creation of the Department of Technical Assistance, would give satisfactory results.

^{1/} GC(VIII)/275.

7. In that field of activity, special mention should be made of a new experiment providing for the conclusion of aid-to-research contracts with the developing countries, enabling experts returning from training courses abroad to use on the spot the knowledge they had gained. Those contracts could form an important contribution to the faster modernization of the developing countries.

8. In a similar vein, his delegation had suggested at the seventh regular session that there should be co-operation on the basis of "pairing off" nuclear centres in advanced countries with corresponding centres in the developing ones.^{2/} It would now like to make a firm proposal in order to take that suggestion further. The Federal Republic intended to offer a number of fellowships at the Garching Research Centre, near Munich; the holders would be able to install experimental equipment there which would subsequently be transferred to a centre in their own country. Experts at Garching would be ready to give their full support to the fellows for their work at their national centres.

9. The annual report of the Board of Governors to the General Conference expressed the hope that the Agency would be able to submit a number of other reports on experience resulting from the design, construction and operation of nuclear power stations. The Federal Republic was prepared to draw up such a report on the experimental nuclear centre at Kahl-am-Main, in collaboration with the Agency.

10. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany had always been well disposed towards the research work conducted by the Agency itself. For that reason it welcomed the successful development of the Laboratory of Marine Radioactivity at Monaco. It was ready to agree to judicious continuation of the work of the Seibersdorf Laboratory, and to the proposals for expansion put forward in the long-term programme. It would also support the setting up of a safeguards laboratory if that seemed appropriate and necessary.

11. He was pleased to be able to conclude, on the present occasion also, by affirming his Government's confidence in the future of the Agency, and its readiness to give the Agency full support.

^{2/} GC(VII)/OR.78, para. 61.

12. Mr. TSHIMBALANGA (Congo (Leopoldville)) said that the Congolese delegation unreservedly approved the declaration made in the name of all the African States condemning the policy of apartheid practised by South Africa.^{3/}

13. At the close of the Third Geneva Conference it had been clearly apparent that the most urgent problems for the developing countries were the methods of applying nuclear science rather than the acquisition of theoretical knowledge.

14. Those countries had to set up without delay the planning bodies to evolve a scientific policy possessing the highest possible degree of autonomy. In that difficult task, which would enable them to reap all the benefits of discoveries in nuclear science, the technical and financial assistance of the advanced countries and of the Agency was destined to play an ever more important role. In that connection, one fact had to be recognized at the outset: a country's means of scientific production increasingly involved considerable investments as well as continuing items of expenditure for maintenance and depreciation. The scale of nuclear activity and the material resources it demanded made it a veritable industry of discovery, invention and practical application. To solve the financial problem which nuclear activities posed, the developing countries must necessarily move in the direction of regional co-ordination of effort.

15. The efforts of the United Arab Republic and those of the Congo (Leopoldville) were firmly based on a regional outlook. The Congolese Government was proud of the endorsement given to those efforts by the decision of the Board of Governors to transform the Trico nuclear centre at Leopoldville into a regional centre.

16. The shortage of experts, of qualified staff and of training facilities remained the main difficulty to be resolved. The aid given by the Agency, although valuable, was still on too modest a scale. It should be increased, and the regional centres should be given more substantial assistance. The present arrangements limiting the contribution of the Agency to a maximum of \$40 000 should be revised. In the absence of an immediate decision, a "fund for the exploitation of the nuclear power resources of the developing countries of Africa" should be created, and endowed on the one hand by voluntary contributions and on the other by the surplus from the Agency's regular budget,

^{3/} GC(VIII)/OR.84, para. 3.

which in the current year was \$50 000. The Director General could be authorized by the Board of Governors to set that sum aside for financing regional projects, instead of sharing it among Member States. As for the voluntary contributions, the special fund he had in mind would more easily be provided with resources if the aid given involved no restrictions on the receiving countries or the methods of use, and if it was supported on a more stable basis than that of the annual goodwill of governments.

17. The Agency's technical assistance tended to make too clear-cut a distinction between expert services and the supply of equipment. Freedom to make transfers between the two should be possible, and when savings could be effected on expenditure on experts, they should automatically be assigned to supplying equipment.

18. The Congo would like to have the Agency restrict to a minimum the number of research contracts of an over-specialized nature. Those contracts, which were of benefit only to the advanced countries, should be replaced by more modest projects. Contracts of that kind could be concluded with the developing countries, for they represented an excellent means of training scientific personnel.

19. The extension of the Agency's safeguards to reactors of more than 100 megawatts should not make the system unnecessarily interfering. The Congo did not support the extension of safeguards to the auxiliary equipment of power stations.

20. Mr. TÉTENYI (Hungary) said that the lessening in international tension brought about by the Moscow Partial Test Ban Treaty had had a favourable effect on the Agency's activity and on the consolidation of international co-operation. The agreement of the major atomic Powers not to send nuclear weapons into space and to reduce the production of fissionable materials for military purposes was a further achievement in that direction and contributed to the solution of the most important problem - the attainment of universal and complete disarmament. In that respect the Agency had by no means used all the means at its disposal to bring about a positive solution to that question.

21. On the programme of technical assistance, he said that the Secretariat was not doing its best to satisfy the demands of certain of the developing countries, which had long been asking the Agency for installations that could

be supplied them on the basis of the proposal made by the socialist countries^{4/}. It was one of the Agency's tasks to give aid to the developing countries. It should therefore help ensure that, as far as the use of atomic energy was concerned, the developing countries should not have to follow that long and costly road by which the rest of the world had arrived at its present level of knowledge.

22. The admission of another six countries to membership was evidence of the growing interest of the developing countries in the Agency's activities and underlined the increasingly important role of those countries in international organizations.

23. An analysis of the Agency's activities had led him to the conclusion that, of late, the solution of specific problems was becoming of major importance. The conferences, symposia, seminars and panels organized by the Agency had proved successful. In most cases those undertakings had produced valuable and useful results for a number of countries. He valued highly the work that had been done in connection with the analysis of the savings effected by the use of isotopes. The 1963 Salzburg Conference on the Application of Large Radiation Sources in Industry had produced very useful results. The choice of subject matter and the quality of the articles in the Agency's publications deserved high praise.

24. As far as its resources allowed, Hungary was prepared to participate in measures designed to solve problems relating to the peaceful uses of atomic energy, with special attention to work in the interest of the developing countries. The proposal put forward by the socialist countries at the September series of meetings of the Board of Governors would help greatly in implementing the programme of assistance to developing countries. By the terms of that proposal, the countries offering technical assistance under the programme would send experts to help assemble equipment and place it in operation, train local personnel and the like.

25. The Hungarian delegation, in accordance with a proposal it had made at the seventh regular session of the General Conference,^{5/} had prepared and made available to the Agency relevant information on the results of its scientific.

^{4/} GC(VI)/COM.1/67/Rev.1.

^{5/} GC(VII)/OR.78, para. 113.

research work. In his opinion, the Hungarian People's Republic could continue to play a useful part in the solution of the Agency's scientific and technical problems. Hungarian experts had achieved significant results in nuclear research and in the application of nuclear technology. The use of isotopes was widespread. In 1963 the Isotope Centre had dispatched about 4000 consignments; the number of users in the country itself was almost 200. Hungary had begun the production of hundreds of isotope preparations and labelled organic compounds. Radioisotopes were being used in agriculture, industry and scientific research. Scientific research work was being carried out in nuclear physics, chemistry and power production and also in applied fields. Detailed reports on the results of that work had been made to the Third Geneva Conference.

26. In conclusion, he wished to reiterate the readiness of the Hungarian People's Republic to take an active part in international co-operation in matters relating to the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

27. Mr. N'GUEMA N'DONG (Gabon) thanked the Director General for the assistance given to Gabon when it had requested admission to the Agency.

28. Gabon supported the declaration concerning South Africa.

29. Gabon now occupied an important position among the uranium-producing countries of Africa; the deposit at Mounana enabled it to make annual exports of ore equivalent to 400 tons of uranium metal, and prospecting was being continued. That was one of the reasons why it had applied for membership of the Agency. He expressed the gratitude of Gabon to the Board of Governors and to the delegates of Member States who had declared themselves unanimously in favour of its admission.

30. The essential objective of the Agency, which was to promote the peaceful uses of atomic energy, was in accord with the aspirations of all countries which desired progress and peace, and consequently of all the developing countries. The manpower, technical and financial potential of Gabon was still small, but it had large mining and industrial resources, and it intended to increase its contribution to total world resources as much as possible, on the understanding that those resources would be used exclusively for peaceful purposes.

31. As to the raw materials of energy, Gabon had sufficient quantities of natural gas and petroleum to meet its present electricity requirements. Its hydroelectric potential was also to be exploited in the near future, and it could therefore be expected that over the next ten years conventional energy sources would be sufficient to satisfy all the country's needs. Hence there was no need to envisage the construction of a nuclear plant in Gabon.

32. On the other hand, it seemed that every effort should be made to promote the use of radioisotopes, particularly in the timber and oil industries, in biology and in tropical medicine. Gabon would need equipment for that purpose and would, above all, have to train personnel, which would probably lead the Government to ask for training fellowships. Later on, the Gabon Polytechnical Institute, which was in the process of being set up, would be able to undertake the training of specialists, and might eventually form the nucleus of a scientific centre with a wider regional function.

33. The Government of Gabon considered that a thorough preliminary study should be made before any decision was taken on setting up regional training centres in Africa. It was also of the opinion that, in view of the diversity of conditions and requirements in the different countries, the Agency should arrange for some particular body to study the specifically African problems relating to the production and use of nuclear materials.

34. Mr. SEVCHENKO (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) supported the declaration by the representatives of African countries condemning the policy of apartheid and colonial oppression followed by the Governments of South Africa and Portugal.

35. The eighth regular session of the General Conference was taking place at a moment when international tension had somewhat diminished following the signature of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapons Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water. The Treaty had been welcomed by all progressive forces everywhere and had been signed by over 100 States. Peace-loving peoples had learnt with great satisfaction of the agreement reached between the Soviet Union and the United States not to place devices with nuclear warheads in orbit and of the decision of the three nuclear Powers - the Soviet Union, the United States and the United Kingdom - to limit the production of fissionable materials for military purposes and to extend their application to peaceful uses.

36. However, he stressed that the fundamental problems of disarmament were far from having been solved by the Moscow Treaty or the agreements reached on those matters. The prolonged negotiations on disarmament at Geneva, despite the great efforts of the socialist and neutral countries, had so far not yielded the desired positive result.

37. International co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy had already increased as a result of the improved international situation following the conclusion of the Moscow Partial Test Ban Treaty. That improvement had taken the form, in particular, of wider contacts between atomic scientists from different countries, exchange visits between experts and an agreement for meetings between Soviet and United States experts on the problem of the use of atomic energy for water desalination. The first meeting had already taken place in Washington and had proved most useful to both sides.

38. The Geneva Conference had once more demonstrated the importance of scientists exchanging ideas, information and experience on the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

39. As far as the achievements of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic in that field were concerned, a research reactor had come into operation in 1962 and was being used for experiments in different branches of physics, chemistry, biology and medicine. A research laboratory for zero-power reactors had recently started operations and would considerably augment the experimental facilities of the Byelorussian Atomic Centre. A radiochemical laboratory associated with the reactor and for the production of short-lived isotopes and labelled compounds would start operation at the end of the year and would permit of a considerable increase in the use of short-lived isotopes and labelled compounds in scientific research and, more especially, in industry and medicine. A universal gamma radiation installation for the irradiation of various substances was in the process of assembly.

40. Commenting on the Agency's work, he noted that during the past year some progress had been made in preparing a long-term plan. Greater attention was being given to scientific and technical problems and considerably more was being done to disseminate the experience of different countries in the construction and operation of nuclear power stations and in rendering them more economic,

as well as in the dissemination of scientific and technical information and the organization of conferences, symposia and seminars.

41. However, the Agency was still doing little to further agreement on disarmament and it was not accidental that the Board of Governors' annual report to the General Conference made no mention of the fact that the past year had seen the conclusion of the Moscow Partial Test Ban Treaty. Nor did it refer to the declaration by the Heads of Government of the Soviet Union and the United States on 21 April 1964 about curtailing the production of fissionable materials for military purposes, though that had a direct bearing on the Agency's work.

42. The Agency's activity during recent years showed an increasing tendency towards establishing an independent centre for undertaking scientific research. That was shown in particular by plans to expand the Agency's Laboratory, by the fact that the Board of Governors had the year before extended the Monaco laboratory agreement for five years, etc. The result of all that was a dissipation of funds and, in the long run, a reduction of the actual assistance that could be granted to countries needing it.

43. In his opinion, the Agency should not try to become a scientific research centre engaging in a wide range of work. Fundamentally, it should be an organ for co-ordination and the dissemination of information in the field of scientific research, and actual scientific research should be dealt with by Member States, which had much better facilities for doing so. The Secretariat, however, oblivious of the criticism of a number of delegations, was planning to enlarge the Agency's Laboratory and it was proposed to allocate another \$360 000 for that purpose. His delegation could not agree to that, nor to the fact that it was planned to cover up to 70% of the cost of maintaining the Laboratory from the assessed contributions of Member States, which was contrary to the Agency's Statute.

44. The same comments applied to the matter of safeguards. In violation of the Statute, the Agency was using its own budget to meet expenses involved in applying safeguards under bilateral agreements and in respect of four reactors voluntarily placed under Agency safeguards by the United States of America. Carrying out the latter operation alone would cost the Agency \$20 000 yearly. If that state of affairs continued, the Agency would have to pay several million dollars yearly just to cover expenses connected with safeguards,

45. Similarly, he did not agree that placing the reactors of some State under Agency safeguards could be regarded as a step towards nuclear disarmament. Such an approach would only create the illusion that the risk of nuclear war could be averted or reduced without disarmament and without the abolition of nuclear weapons.

46. By themselves, the Agency's safeguards would have no value as a means of preventing the spread of nuclear weapons throughout the world, if other channels for the distribution of nuclear weapons were not blocked. The very countries that were calling for an extended system of safeguards were intent on establishing multilateral nuclear forces, through which the Federal Republic of Germany would gain access to nuclear weapons. Such a situation was not logical and would not lead to disarmament.

47. At the same time, the Agency was not paying sufficient attention to its basic functions. The training programme was being reduced and the proportion of financial resources allocated for that purpose was decreasing. In 1963 the resources for activities financed under the Expanded Programme for Technical Assistance (EPTA) had dropped to 20% as compared with 36.2% in 1962 and from 40.8% to 37.5% in the case of activities financed from the Agency's own funds. The number of applications for fellowships in 1963 had been the same as in 1962. The Secretariat attributed the reduction in the training programme to insufficient funds. However, the funds allotted to technical assistance were not being fully used. Of \$5 364 000 provided for granting technical assistance in the years 1958-63 only \$3 818 000 had been used, i.e. 70% of the total allocated funds. And altogether only about one third of the allocation had been used for the 1963 programme.

48. His delegation drew attention to the principle governing the distribution of assistance amongst the various countries and areas. Thus, for example, ten African countries were obtaining assistance from the Agency (including assistance under EPTA) to a value of about \$200 000 yearly, while the puppet regimes of Taiwan, South Viet-Nam and South Korea had received \$160 000 in 1963.

49. In conclusion, he regretted to note that, despite the adoption of two resolutions supporting it^{6/}, the socialist countries' proposal for a programme of technical assistance had so far not been given effect, owing to the

^{6/} GC(VI)/RES/131 and GC(VII)/RES/152.

unwillingness of various countries to join in executing it. The Western Powers did not wish to co-operate with the socialist countries in expanding the Agency's technical assistance. In those circumstances, the socialist countries were compelled to seek other ways of implementing their proposal, in particular that part of the programme which they had undertaken to implement themselves. His delegation hoped the developing countries, which were interested in receiving Agency assistance in the form of equipment, fellowships and experts, would appreciate at its true worth the consistent attitude adopted by the socialist countries in that matter.

50. Mr. ABUBAKAR (Nigeria) welcomed those States which had just been admitted to the Agency.

51. A question that might arise in some inquiring minds was what useful role some of the developing countries could play in an international organization such as the Agency. Did they confine themselves to making requests, or had they also something to offer? The answer to that question was that those countries hoped that in the not too distant future they would be contributing substantially to man's scientific achievements. Delegations from the developing countries came to the General Conference well aware that co-operation was essential for the peaceful coexistence of nations. Although the world was roughly divided into the "haves" and the "have nots", neither group could disregard the existence and the welfare of the other.

52. Nigeria felt encouraged by the Agency's technical assistance programme. However, more of that assistance was needed by the developing countries, especially for purposes of applying atomic energy to their development problems. Their industries needed power, and they were faced with problems relating to the control of pests and diseases, plant breeding, combating soil sterility, and so on.

53. The Agency should endeavour to supply the developing countries with more experts to study their needs and resources in the nuclear field, to help them to acquire equipment and implement their programmes and to train their personnel.

54. The lack of trained personnel was one of the most serious problems facing the developing countries. Nigeria therefore wished to suggest that the Agency should launch a bold educational programme to include: (1) the training of technicians, laboratory assistants and reactor operators; (2) post-graduate

instruction for scientists, physicians and engineers in the application of nuclear science to their respective fields; (3) specialized training courses in preparation for specific new projects; (4) occasional short courses or symposia for non-technical personnel concerned with the broader aspects of the application of nuclear science and atomic energy.

55. The endorsement by the Agency of a request by the Government of the Congo (Leopoldville) for the establishment of a regional radioisotope centre intended for training and research was an eloquent expression of the Agency's goodwill towards the developing countries. He hoped that adequate resources - human, material and financial - would be made available to the centre and that more such centres would be set up. He observed that the Agency's budget for 1965 had been increased by 6%, and felt that the increase should be reflected in the allocations for technical assistance to the developing countries.

56. He suggested that a special committee should be constituted to make a thorough on-the-spot study of the developing countries' needs and to determine how atomic energy could best be adapted to meeting them.

57. The Nigerian delegation was opposed to the safeguards system as operated by the Agency because it was directed against the developing countries, and belittled their ability to fulfil their obligations under the Statute. He asked which country was more likely to divert its atomic energy to military uses, a developing country which was struggling with limited resources against disease, poverty and hunger, or an advanced country without any of those problems. The safeguards system imposed domination by the technically advanced countries on the developing ones, and discouraged the latter from acquiring nuclear plants because the safeguards violated their hard-won sovereignty. If safeguards had to be applied, they should be applied equally to all countries and to all atomic installations.

58. Supporting the declaration regarding South Africa made by the African countries, he said that his delegation took a serious view of the election of that country to the Board of Governors as representative of Africa and the Middle East. The fact that South Africa had been accepted as a Member of the Agency was bad enough, but its selection to represent Nigeria, among others, on the Board was most objectionable, and his delegation viewed the matter with

grave concern. If regional representation on the Board and on committees continued to mean that Nigeria was represented by a State which had not the slightest interest in the welfare of the African countries, then the Statute should be amended to remove such a gross anomaly inherent in geographical representation.

59. Nigeria was grateful that some of its requests to the Agency for assistance had been met, and hoped that others would be satisfied in the near future.

60. Mr. BRYNIELSSON (Sweden) said that Sweden had followed with great satisfaction the progress of the work of the Agency as reflected in the report of the Board of Governors to the General Conference for 1963-64, and approved the programme proposed for 1965-66. In particular, the drawing up of a two-year programme would help the Agency to plan its activities efficiently and would also assist the Director General to streamline the administration.

61. The Third Geneva Conference had shown how the Agency could help in promoting the exchange of technical information. His delegation congratulated the Director General and his staff on their highly efficient work in organizing the Conference. Sweden appreciated the high technical value of the more specialized conferences and symposia held under the auspices of the Agency and would be happy to act as host for such a meeting.

62. As regards fellowships, Sweden wished to repeat the offer it had made at the seventh regular session and his delegation would hold consultations with the Secretariat concerning various technical fields of interest to Member States, for the purpose of extending Sweden's special contribution in the form of fellowships.

63. The Ågesta nuclear power station had been brought to full power some six months previously and its performance had been very satisfactory. That had confirmed Sweden's belief in the good prospects for its heavy-water reactor concept, and the construction of the full-scale station at Marviken was well under way.

64. Sweden was anxious to extend its collaboration in the nuclear field and to share its experiences with other Member States. His country also intended to contribute to the facilities of the Agency's Laboratory in Seibersdorf.

65. With regard to safeguards, Sweden was a determined supporter of the principle of international control, and recognized the important role which the Agency could play in that respect.

66. The unanimous adoption at the seventh regular session of the resolution^{7/} on the extension of the Agency's safeguards system had been greeted with great satisfaction by Sweden. The rapid industrial development now taking place called for safeguards procedures which could be applied to large power reactor systems. Sweden considered it possible for simple and practical rules relating to an effective Agency control system to be worked out, and had submitted proposals in that respect. However, if such a control system was not rendered technically and politically acceptable it would not gain the wide support needed for it to fulfil its purpose. Sweden thus attached great importance to the efforts in that direction being made by the Board of Governors and hoped that all interested Member States would be given further opportunities to express their views before the Board took a final decision.

67. Mr. UCHIDA (Japan) said that there had been remarkable scientific and technological progress in the peaceful uses of atomic energy since the Agency had been established. The rapidity of that progress in recent years, particularly the technical development, construction and operation of power reactors, had been brought to light at the Third Geneva Conference. Many speakers at that Conference had expressed the view that power reactors would soon be producing electricity economically. Nations which had been among the developing countries when the Agency had been set up were now beginning to regard power reactors as an important source of energy for their future economic development programmes. That being so, he thought that the Agency should place greater emphasis on nuclear power in its future activities.

68. Interesting work had been done by a meeting of consultants on assessment of the technical and economic aspects of tenders for nuclear power projects, held in July at the request of the Government of Pakistan. Such technical evaluation might be made more frequently by the Agency with a view to helping developing countries in their reactor programmes.

69. With the increase in the number of power reactors, the disposal of radioactive waste would become an acute problem, and a basic code governing such waste disposal should be drawn up.

70. His delegation was glad to note that an increasing number of countries were asking for the Agency's safeguards system to be applied to their bilateral arrangements. It was the sincere hope of the Japanese people that the day would come when atomic energy would be used solely for peaceful purposes. The Agency's safeguards system, if properly applied, could be of great assistance in reaching that goal.

71. Referring to technical assistance activities, he felt that although the Agency had made a valuable contribution in that field, much still remained to be done and the available funds should be spent in as effective a manner as possible. The Agency should bear in mind the economic plans and future industrial prospects of the various developing countries and should give appropriate advice regarding fellowships, experts, training courses and equipment. Japan was ready to make an active contribution to such technical assistance activities of the Agency. He mentioned in that connection the regional training course on the application of radioisotopes which had been held in Tokyo in August 1964. He also mentioned that in regard to the use of isotopes for rice cultivation, Japan had sent experts to the rice-growing countries in Asia with useful results.

72. The demand for nuclear power in Japan was increasing greatly and it was expected that a nuclear power generation capacity of 1000 MW(e) would have to be developed by 1970.

73. As stated in a note by the Director General^{8/}, the Japanese Government had invited the Agency to hold the ninth regular session of the General Conference in Tokyo in September 1965, and he sincerely hoped that the invitation would be accepted.

74. Mr. LEE (China) recalled that at the seventh regular session of the General Conference the Chinese delegate had stressed the importance of disseminating scientific knowledge and promoting possible uses of atomic energy in the developing countries. It was encouraging to note in that connection that the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for the Benefit of the Less Developed Areas had recommended the development of a scientific infrastructure in the developing countries. The Director General of the Agency had also seen the need for research reactors

^{8/} GC(VIII)/269.

and the facilities associated with them to be used to help form the nucleus of a new generation of technicians and scientists. The problem was obvious to all concerned, and the Chinese delegation would like to see the Agency accord early attention to the matter.

75. The Agency was a scientific and technical body, with the main function of promoting the peaceful uses of atomic energy among its Member States, and it was up to the Members to ensure that the limited financial resources available continued to be devoted wholly to that end. The harmony demonstrated at the Third Geneva Conference should be maintained and enhanced, which would well accord with the age-old traditions and desires of the Chinese people.

76. In the memorandum on long-term planning^{9/} submitted jointly by the Board of Governors and the Director General to the seventh regular session of the General Conference, special mention had been made of the value of the Agency's rendering assistance in the utilization of research reactors. In paragraph 36 of the Agency's draft programme for 1965-66 it was also pointed out that "the Agency's work on research reactor utilization will, to a great extent, be pursued on a regional basis". That approach would be most welcome in those regions where research reactors were in operation. At the present time, in the South-East Asia and Pacific area, research reactors were operating in more than ten countries, and if the Agency were to make those States a specific offer of assistance in using the facilities in question, it was quite certain that the response would be immediate and positive. The main problem perhaps lay in selecting a team of qualified nuclear scientists to help organize and direct the research activities of the reactors. Another important problem, that of financing, could no doubt be solved under the Agency's long-term programme. It was at all events certain that the provision of assistance in research reactor utilization would ensure the fullest possible use of all such facilities in the region in question and would also contribute to the development of national nuclear power programmes.

77. The Agency's plans for research in physical sciences were also of great importance and would certainly contribute substantially towards the development of nuclear science in general. China was also interested in the Agency's programme of research contracts. The Institute of Nuclear Science at Hsin-Chu had

^{9/} GC(VII)/227.

been engaged in radioisotope production and in studies on radiation protection and waste disposal, radiochemistry and radiation chemistry, and reactor physics. The Agency's assistance in those studies would greatly stimulate further development in the fields concerned.

78. As had been said by both the Director General and the head of the United States delegation, seventeen countries receiving materials and equipment from the United States had agreed in principle to the application of Agency safeguards to the assistance provided. The Chinese Government had just agreed to enter into a trilateral agreement with the Agency and the United States Government on those lines.

79. In conclusion, he wished to say that the Chinese delegation welcomed the Director General's plan for the establishment of a post of regional officer for the South-East Asia and the Pacific and Far East areas.

80. Mr. SRISUKH (Thailand) said that the Thai atomic energy programme, implemented with the direct assistance of the Government of the United States of America, was making satisfactory progress. He wished to acknowledge the consideration which Thailand, as one of the developing countries obtaining technical assistance from the Agency, had received from the Board of Governors and from the Secretariat.

81. He stressed his country's support for the Agency's safeguards system and announced that safeguards under the United States-Thai bilateral agreement would be transferred to the Agency within a matter of days.

82. His delegation also wished to inform the Conference that the Atomic Energy Commissions of Israel and Thailand were collaborating very closely and that co-operation with the atomic energy authorities of Japan had never been more thorough and sincere.

83. His delegation wished to express its appreciation of the Agency's success in organizing the International Centre for Theoretical Physics and the various regional training projects. It also wished to express its approval of the Agency's appointment of a regional officer for Asia and the Far East, who had provisionally established his office at Bangkok during the present year. Although it was certain that other countries in the region endorsed, in principle,

the appointment, it was not yet definite whether the Agency would establish a permanent regional office, a decision on that point awaiting the outcome of the present experiment. In 1965 the regional expert on hospital physics would also make Bangkok his administrative centre.

84. Since it was still often difficult to obtain the services of various categories of experts, his delegation wished to propose that, if possible without ultimately incurring additional expenditure, the Agency should establish a small regional office at which a number of experts, in such special fields as reactor technology and radioisotope applications in agriculture and medicine, would be stationed and would be available to assist the countries in the region requiring their services.

85. With regard to power, Thailand was utilizing its hydroelectric potential, and nuclear power for the generation of electricity was not at present urgently needed. However, his delegation was gratified that the Agency was considering a fresh evaluation of the feasibility of nuclear power in Thailand, which would surely be of great value.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.