



International Atomic Energy Agency

# General Conference

GC(XIII)/GEN/OR.17  
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## RECORDS OF THE THIRTEENTH REGULAR SESSION (23-29 SEPTEMBER 1969)

### GENERAL COMMITTEE SEVENTEENTH MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna,  
on Tuesday, 23 September 1969, at 5.5 p.m.

#### CONTENTS

<i>Item of the provisional agenda*</i>		<i>Paragraphs</i>
—	Adoption of the agenda for the meeting	1
8	Adoption of the agenda and allocation of items for initial discussion	2—14
10	Closing date of the session	15—17
11	Opening date of the fourteenth (1970) regular session	18—20
12	Election of Members to the Board of Governors	21—22

\* GC(XIII)/400.

PRESENT\*

*Chairman*

Mr. TORKI (Tunisia), President of the General Conference

*Members*

Sir Philip BAXTER (Australia), Vice-President of the General Conference  
Mr. VASSILEV (Bulgaria), Vice-President of the General Conference  
Mr. SERRANO (Chile), Vice-President of the General Conference  
Mr. GOLDSCHMIDT, representing Mr. HIRSCH (France), Vice-President of the General Conference  
Mr. DUCCI, representing Mr. PEDINI (Italy), Vice-President of the General Conference  
Mr. NIISEKI (Japan), Vice-President of the General Conference  
Mr. ARKADIEV, representing Mr. MOROKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Vice-President of the General Conference  
Mr. SMYTH, representing Mr. SEABORG (United States of America), Vice-President of the General Conference  
Mr. BITTENCOURT (Brazil), Chairman of the Administrative and Legal Committee  
Mr. TRIVEDI (India), Chairman of the Programme, Technical and Budget Committee  
Mr. BEATTIE, representing Mr. McCORDICK, (Canada), Additional Member  
Mr. STRAUB (Hungary), Additional Member  
Mr. BEECROFT, representing Mr. KOLO (Nigeria), Additional Member  
Mr. McADAM CLARK, representing Sir John HILL (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Additional Member

*Also present*

Mr. McCORDICK (Canada), Vice-Chairman (Acting Chairman) of the Board of Governors

*Secretariat*

Mr. HALL, Deputy Director General for Administration  
Mr. BOLTON, Secretary of the Committee

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\* The structure of the General Committee is laid down in Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure. The composition of the Committee at the thirteenth regular session will be found in document GC(XIII)/INF/114/Rev.2.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING (GC(XIII)/GEN/36)

1. *The agenda proposed for the meeting (GC(XIII)/GEN/36) was adopted.*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS FOR INITIAL DISCUSSION (GC(XIII)/400)

2. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), speaking to the provisional agenda in document GC(XIII)/400, recalled that the Director General had advised the Board of Governors that questions of concern to the Agency which had been raised at the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States<sup>1)</sup> could be brought up during the general debate, i.e. under item 9<sup>2)</sup>. That being so, he wondered why it was proposed that one such question — Fund of special fissionable materials — be made a separate item of the agenda, i.e. item 19.

3. The CHAIRMAN replied that questions of a general nature which had been the subject of resolutions adopted by the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States could indeed be considered during the general debate, but that it had been considered appropriate to make the question of a fund of special fissionable materials a separate item in the agenda, in view of the specific nature of that question.

4. With that clarification he took it that the Committee was ready to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt an agenda comprising all the items on the provisional agenda.

5. *It was so decided.*

6. The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of the Committee to the suggestions made in document GC(XIII)/400 relating to the allocation of items for initial discussion. As regards the order in which items should be taken, he recalled that in the past the Committee had left it to 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. It would seem advisable for the Committee again to give the President a similar degree of latitude. He suggested, however, that item 3 (b) — Report of the Credentials Committee — be taken after the close of the general debate, but before the Conference proceeded to adopt resolutions and take other decisions.

7. Mr. TRIVEDI (India) wondered whether it would not be preferable for the Conference to begin

with item 20 — Appointment of the Director General, as that procedure would be a token of courtesy to him and furthermore would enable delegates to refer to the appointment in their statements in the general debate.

8. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that in the past the Conference had taken the corresponding item after the general debate and consideration of the report of the Credentials Committee.

9. Mr. BEATTIE (Canada) asked the Secretariat whether any difficulties would arise if item 20 were nevertheless taken first.

10. Mr. HALL (Deputy Director General for Administration) said that the only problem was that the report of the Credentials Committee was not likely, in view of the suggestion just made by the Chairman, to be considered by the Conference before the following Monday.

11. Mr. DUCCI (Italy) said he would prefer the Conference to keep to the customary procedure, if only because the Director General's appointment would receive more publicity if approved at the end of the session when representatives of the mass media would be present and in a position to report it.

12. Sir Philip BAXTER (Australia) shared that viewpoint. In any case he thought it would be preferable to wait until the Credentials Committee had submitted its report before item 20 was discussed.

13. *The Committee decided to recommend the Conference to approve the allocation of agenda items for initial discussion suggested in document GC(XIII)/400.*

14. *The Committee authorized the Chairman to draw up its report to the General Conference.*

CLOSING DATE OF THE SESSION

15. The CHAIRMAN observed that, according to Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure, the General Committee had to submit a recommendation on a closing date for the session.

16. It was reasonable to assume from the agenda which the Committee had decided to recommend to the Conference that most of the time would be spent on item 9 — General debate and report of the Board of Governors for 1968-69, and it was improbable that the discussion of that item would be concluded before the end of the week. In view of all the other items on the agenda the session could not close before 29 or 30 September. He therefore suggested that the Committee authorize him, once the general debate had begun, when it would be easier to gauge the amount of time needed

1) Held in Geneva from 29 August to 28 September 1968.  
2) See the Annotation to that item.

for it, to recommend orally on its behalf to the Conference that either 29 or 30 September be fixed as the closing date for the session.

17. *It was so decided.*

#### OPENING DATE OF THE FOURTEENTH (1970) REGULAR SESSION

18. The CHAIRMAN recalled that it was customary for the General Committee to submit to the General Conference a recommendation on the opening date of the following regular session, which was usually on a Tuesday in the second fortnight in September. In 1970 that could be either 22 or 29 September. He and the Director General thought the earlier date preferable, and he therefore asked the Committee to authorize him to recommend to the Conference that it fix Tuesday, 22 September 1970 as the opening date of the fourteenth regular session.

19. Mr. GOLDSCHMIDT (France) supported the recommendation. The work of national atomic energy commissions was always somewhat disrupted at that

time of year owing to the attendance of several of their members at the General Conference, and it would be preferable to hold the session as soon as possible after the holiday season so that the commissions could then resume their work without interruption. He also pointed out that since 1958 the Conference had consistently begun its annual session on some date between 18 and 23 September.

20. *The Committee decided to authorize the Chairman to recommend orally to the Conference on its behalf that it fix Tuesday, 22 September 1970, as the opening date of the fourteenth regular session.*

#### ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS (GC(XIII)/GEN/35)

21. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the Director General's memorandum on the election of Members to the Board of Governors (GC(XIII)/GEN/35). The Annex to that document contained a draft of the report which the Committee could present to the Conference.

22. *The draft report was approved.*

*The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.*