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### A COMMUNICATION FROM THE DELEGATE OF POLAND

#### Note by the President

In response to the request made by the Delegate of Poland in the second paragraph of a letter which he addressed to the President on 25 September, the text of this letter and of the statement attached to it are reproduced below.

"I have the honour to enclose herein a statement of the Government of the German Democratic Republic on the agenda item 'General debate and report of the Board of Governors for 1968-69' of the thirteenth session of the General Conference of the Agency.

"I should like to ask you to have this statement circulated as an official document and to bring it to the notice of all delegations attending the thirteenth session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

"Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration."

(signed) "Prof. S. Andrzejewski  
Delegate of Poland"

STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC  
REPUBLIC TO THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE  
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

"In view of the important tasks which the thirteenth session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency is going to deal with, the Government of the German Democratic Republic deems it useful to notify also this year's General Conference of its point of view on some major aspects of peaceful and unrestricted international co-operation on equal terms within the Agency:

"The Government of the German Democratic Republic follows attentively the activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency, that organization of the United Nations system whose aims and purposes consist in a world-wide contribution to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. It believes that these aims and purposes can only be fulfilled if all States whose policies conform with the purposes and principles laid down in the United Nations Charter are equal members of and co-operate on an equal footing in the Agency.

"Its policy being consistently aimed at maintaining and safeguarding peace and at peaceful international co-operation, the German Democratic Republic has always enhanced the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in all fields. In the twentieth year of its existence the GDR can look back to fifteen years of successful development in this domain. Its Atomic Energy Law passed in 1962 has ruled the exclusively peaceful use of nuclear energy and its socialist Constitution of 8 April 1968 has banned any misuse of science against peace, international understanding and man's life and dignity.

"Strictly adhering to this constitutional principle, the German Democratic Republic on 1 July 1968 was one of the first States to sign the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Research and engineering in the GDR are examples and evidence that strict observance of the provisions of that Treaty does not imply any restriction of the peaceful uses of nuclear power.

"After a purposive programme for building nuclear research and engineering establishments in the GDR was started in 1955, these facilities have by now gained international recognition. Their success is largely due to the generous assistance by the USSR in terms of personnel and material.

"The GDR has mapped its way to produce electric power from nuclear energy - a trend which is very important for all countries with highly developed industries. A major step to that end was the construction of the GDR's first nuclear power station at Rheinsberg near Berlin. It has a pressurized water reactor with an electric output of over 70 megawatts. Remarkable and significant for the future production of electric power from nuclear energy is that this power station has proved an extremely high degree of operational reliability. Being a pilot plant, one of its purposes is to train personnel for future atomic power stations. A high-capacity nuclear power station is at present building with USSR assistance in the northern region of the GDR. It will produce electric power at costs competitive with those of conventional power stations working on lignite.

"The planned orientation of the GDR's power industry to nuclear resources poses major engineering problems, such as the storage and reprocessing of nuclear fuels. In this context controls under the Non-Proliferation Treaty would be no handicap. In line with this trend is the offer of the Government of the German Democratic Republic submitted to the tenth session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency to place the country's nuclear power plants under the Agency's Safeguards System once the GDR is admitted to membership in the Agency (document GC(X)/INF/91).

"Radioactive and stable isotopes are widely used in the GDR's economy, research and public health. The application of isotope and radiation techniques yielded economies of over 500 million marks from 1960 to 1967. As far as the making of radioactive preparations and the

production of stable isotopes are concerned, the GDR is one of the leading countries of the world. In conformity with the Government's policy the only isotopes enriched are those which cannot be used for military purposes. Outstanding results have been achieved in the GDR in research with isotopes in the field of animal and plant metabolism. They help to increase agricultural productivity and are therefore of great importance, not least for the developing countries. Accordingly there exist already various kinds of direct scientific relations with a number of these countries which make it possible to use the results there and to train their scientists in the subjects referred to.

"Large funds are spent in the GDR on public health and affiliated research, and nuclear medicine is coming to the fore. The experience gained in nuclear diagnostics and therapeutics is already used by many countries.

"The GDR exports radioactive and stable isotopes, labelled compounds, a wide range of nuclear pharmaceuticals, and radiation sources for use in medicine and engineering. The assortment comprises over 500 items. The GDR's apparatus industry offers nuclear and dosimetric instruments and complete laboratory equipment.

"Besides the wide practical use of nuclear and isotope techniques in the national economy and the health services, the GDR is doing research in nuclear physics. The results achieved by GDR nuclear physicists, of which only the finding of the omega exclusion principle, the systematic properties of deformed nuclei and the discovery of a number of isomers be mentioned here, have met with international recognition.

"In view of this development in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in the country, the Government of the German Democratic Republic is firmly convinced that the world-wide and unrestricted application of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons would release tremendous funds and resources for the peaceful uses of this source of energy. With their signatures over 90 States have demonstrated that the Treaty concurs with their economic, political and security interests. The Government of the

German Democratic Republic hence appeals to the thirteenth session of the General Conference of the Agency to urge all States to accede to the Treaty without delay or restrictions and put it into effect immediately so as to enhance the aims and purposes of the Agency throughout the world.

"The Government of the German Democratic Republic with great concern calls the attention of the Agency's thirteenth session of the General Conference to the fact that the other German State, the West German Federal Republic, has still not signed the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

"While not signing the Treaty or delaying its signing the Government of the West German Federal Republic, whatever it may say to the contrary, seeks to get access to nuclear weapons. That policy of the West German Government runs counter to the efforts to strengthen peace and security in Europe and throughout the world, and offends against the principles of peaceful international co-operation as laid down in the United Nations Charter and in the Statute of the Agency.

"The Government of the German Democratic Republic underlines once again that the conclusion of the Non-Proliferation Treaty has heightened the Agency's responsibility. So much the more urgent is it therefore to ensure the full universality of the Agency. The GDR Government reiterates its willingness expressed in its Statement to the twelfth session of the General Conference (document GC(XII)/INF/105) to fulfil the obligations it has undertaken by signing the Treaty: to conclude with the International Atomic Energy Agency the envisaged safeguards agreements and to formulate its relations with the Agency on an equal footing. A sovereign and peace-loving state, the German Democratic Republic has proved in the twenty years of its existence that it is able and willing to co-operate on equal terms in the International Atomic Energy Agency and to make a constructive contribution to the Agency's activities.

"Berlin, 22 September 1969"

