



International Atomic Energy Agency

# GENERAL CONFERENCE

GC

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## FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION: 21–27 SEPTEMBER 1971

RECORD OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-THIRD PLENARY MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna, on Tuesday, 21 September 1971, at 3.15 p. m.

Temporary President: Mr. SARABHAI (India)  
President: Mr. OTERO NAVASCUES (Spain)

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\* A provisional version of this document was issued on 24 September 1971.

\*\* GC(XV)/454 and Mod. 1.

THE RECORD

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT declared the fifteenth regular session of the General Conference open.

2. In accordance with Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure, he invited the delegates to observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation.

● All present rose and stood in silence for one minute.

3. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT welcomed the delegates from Member States, the representatives of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and of non-governmental organizations who had come to take part in the work of the session, and also the State Secretary representing the Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria.

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

4. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT invited nominations for the office of President.

5. Mr. GOLDSCHMIDT (France) nominated Mr. Otero Navascues, the delegate of Spain and Chairman since 1958 of the Spanish Nuclear Energy Board. Mr. Otero Navascues, who had held the highest posts in various Spanish and international bodies, was especially qualified by reason of his experience and ability to guide the General Conference through its work.

6. Mr. QUIHILLALT (Argentina) and Mr. TRIVEDI (India) supported the nomination.

● 7. Mr. Otero Navascues (Spain) was elected President of the General Conference for its fifteenth regular session by acclamation.

● Mr. Otero Navascues (Spain) took the chair.

8. The PRESIDENT thanked the General Conference for the great honour it had done his country in electing him to the high office of President; he regarded his election as a tribute to the efforts being made by Spain to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

9. Since the time of the establishment of the Agency there had been a considerable evolution of such applications, particularly as a result of collaboration among men of science throughout the whole world. The Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, which had just been held in Geneva, had enabled an exact assessment of the achievements and prospects to be made, particularly with regard to the production of

nuclear electric power, the varied applications of radioisotopes, the "green revolution" and nuclear desalination. The Conference had moreover shown that one of the most valuable of the Agency's activities had been to act as a catalyst in the establishment of an international scientific community above and beyond divergencies of any kind. In so doing, the Agency had benefited from the co-operation of other institutions of the United Nations family, and he would express to them the Agency's gratitude.

10. The increase in the number of nuclear installations and the entry into force of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[1] would bring new responsibilities for the Agency to assume as the safeguards agreements to be concluded in the next few years were brought into force.

11. In conclusion, he stressed the need for an increase in the provision of technical assistance by the Agency, while at the same time recognizing the problems which that would entail. To provide technical assistance was in fact the Agency's most important task, though admittedly its ability to furnish it was limited by the inadequacy of the financial resources at its disposal. In any event, the Director General and the staff of the Secretariat were to be congratulated on the particularly effective way in which those resources were being utilized.

APPOINTMENT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

12. The PRESIDENT proposed, in accordance with Rule 28 of the Rules of Procedure, that a Credentials Committee should be appointed consisting of the following nine Members: Argentina, Brazil, Gabon, Japan, Poland, Spain, Thailand, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.

● 13. The proposal was accepted.

ELECTION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

14. The PRESIDENT recalled that, under Rule 34 of the Rules of Procedure, the Conference was required to elect its Vice-Presidents after the election of the Chairmen of the two Main Committees. He therefore proposed to suspend the plenary meeting for a short time to enable the two Committees to elect their Chairmen.

● The meeting was suspended at 3.35 p. m. and resumed at 3.45 p. m.

15. The PRESIDENT invited nominations for the eight posts of Vice-President.

[1] Reproduced in document INFCIRC/140.

16. Mr. BEN MENA (Tunisia) nominated the delegates of Australia, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, Nigeria, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America and Uruguay.

17. Mr. ANDRZEJEWSKI (Poland) seconded the nominations.

● 18. The delegates of the Members nominated were declared elected to the eight Vice-Presidencies.

#### APPOINTMENT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

19. The PRESIDENT recalled that, under Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure, the

General Conference was required to elect four additional members to the General Committee. He invited nominations.

20. U VUM KO HAU (Burma) nominated the delegates of France, Hungary, India and Pakistan.

21. Mr. APUNTE CABALLERO (Ecuador) seconded the nominations.

● 22. The delegates of the Members nominated were declared elected to the General Committee, which was thus duly appointed in compliance with the provisions of Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure.

● The meeting rose at 4.5 p.m.

