



International Atomic Energy Agency

# GENERAL CONFERENCE

GC(XIX)/OR.183  
26 February 1976\*

GENERAL Distr.  
ENGLISH

## NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION: 22–26 SEPTEMBER 1975

RECORD OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THIRD PLENARY MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna, on Friday, 26 September 1975, at 3.20 p.m.

President: Mr. FELICKI (Poland)

Item of the agenda**	Subject	Paragraphs
14	Election of Members to the Board of Governors (continued)	1 - 17
6	General debate and report for 1974-75 (continued)	18 - 50
	Statements by the delegates of:	
	Chile	18 - 25
	Indonesia	26 - 36
	Saudi Arabia	37 - 47
	Uruguay	48 - 50
5	Closing date of the session and opening date of the next session (continued)	51 - 52
-	The work of the Committee of the Whole	53
7	The Agency's accounts for 1974	54
8	The Agency's budget for 1975	55
9	The Agency's budget for 1976	56 - 57
10	Scale of assessment of Members' contributions for 1976	58
11	The Agency's relations with intergovernmental organizations	59 - 66
12	The Agency's relations with non-governmental organizations	67
15	Appointment of the External Auditor	68 - 70
16	Elections to the Agency's Staff Pension Committee	71 - 72
17	Voluntary contributions to the General Fund for 1976	73
-	Closing of the session	74 - 88

\* A provisional version of this document was issued on 6 October 1975.

\*\* GC(XIX)/559.

## THE RECORD

### ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS (continued)

1. The PRESIDENT said he would announce the results of the voting at the preceding meeting to elect Members to the Board of Governors[1].

● 2. The result of the election of two Members from the area of Latin America was as follows:

Invalid votes:	2
Abstentions:	22
Valid votes:	146
Required majority:	37
Votes obtained:	
Colombia	79
Chile	53
Mexico	14

● 3. Having obtained the required majority, Colombia and Chile were elected to the Board.

● 4. The result of the election of two Members from the area of Western Europe was as follows:

Abstentions:	4
Valid votes:	166
Required majority:	42
Votes obtained:	
Denmark	83
Netherlands	81
Belgium	1
Ireland	1

● 5. Having obtained the required majority, Denmark and the Netherlands were elected to the Board.

● 6. The result of the election of two Members from the area of Eastern Europe was as follows:

Invalid votes:	1
Abstentions:	8
Valid votes:	161
Required majority:	41
Votes obtained:	
Yugoslavia	81
Poland	80

● 7. Having obtained the required majority, Yugoslavia and Poland were elected to the Board.

● 8. The result of the election of two Members from the area of Africa was as follows:

Invalid votes:	3
Abstentions:	6
Valid votes:	161
Required majority:	41
Votes obtained:	
Senegal	81
Libyan Arab Republic	80

● 9. Having obtained the required majority, Senegal and the Libyan Arab Republic were elected to the Board.

● 10. The result of the election of one Member from the area of the Middle East and South Asia was as follows:

Invalid votes:	2
Abstentions:	3
Valid votes:	80
Required majority:	41
Votes obtained:	
Bangladesh	80

● 11. Having obtained the required majority, Bangladesh was elected to the Board.

● 12. The result of the election of one Member from the area of the Far East was as follows:

Invalid votes:	1
Abstentions:	2
Valid votes:	82
Required majority:	42
Votes obtained:	
Philippines	45
Republic of South Viet-Nam	37

● 13. Having obtained the required majority, the Philippines was elected to the Board.

● 14. The result of the election of one Member from the area of the Middle East and South Asia, or South East Asia and the Pacific, or the Far East was as follows:

Abstentions:	5
Valid votes:	80
Required majority:	41
Votes obtained:	
Indonesia	43
Pakistan	36
Bangladesh	1

● 15. Having obtained the required majority, Indonesia was elected to the Board.

16. The PRESIDENT, after congratulating the 11 Members so elected, recalled that under Article VI, D of the Statute they would hold office from the end of the current session until the end of the second regular session of the Conference thereafter, in other words for a period of two years.

17. He thanked the Austrian and Swedish delegations which have provided tellers, the two tellers themselves and their Secretariat assistants.

### GENERAL DEBATE AND REPORT FOR 1974-75 (GC(XIX)/544, 544/Corr.1, 554) (continued[2])

18. Mr. VALDES (Chile) said he was pleased to be able to report the results achieved by his

[1] See document GC(XIX)/OR.182, paras 40-43.

[2] GC(XIX)/OR.182, paras 44-87.

country during the past year in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

19. On 13 October 1974 the 5-MW research reactor at the "La Reina" Centre had become critical, thus marking the beginning of a new stage in Chile's nuclear development. In accordance with the plan of work, the reactor had reached its rated output of 5 MW in mid-June 1975. There had also been an associated programme of personnel training and of applications, including the production of radioisotopes most commonly used in medicine. Chile had set a number of priority objectives in an effort to improve the country's capacity in all scientific and technical fields and in the different areas of nuclear technology. To that end, the Chilean Atomic Energy Commission had, during 1975, worked out a personnel training programme in Chile and abroad. That programme covered the following subjects: elements of nuclear engineering; prospecting for radioactive minerals; activation analysis; rudiments of nuclear science in secondary education; agronomic and veterinary applications; applications of nuclear energy; applications in hydrology; industrial applications; dosimetry in radiotherapy; techniques used in nuclear medicine; elementary radio-protection; radiotherapy physics techniques; and basic radiotherapy techniques.

20. The national plan for radioactive resources had been prepared in 1974 so as to permit, under the exclusive direction of the Chilean Atomic Energy Commission, aerial and ground prospecting and laboratory testing of seven of 21 previously selected sectors of the national territory, which covered a total area of 300 000 km<sup>2</sup>. The Chilean delegation wished to thank the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Agency for their co-operation in that programme under the agreement signed in Santiago on 18 February 1975. In an effort to speed up prospecting for and mining of radioactive minerals, the Chilean Government was preparing special legislation to enable participation by national and foreign firms.

21. With the co-operation of the Agency, the Chilean Atomic Energy Commission and the Empresa Nacional de Electricidad S.A. (ENDESA) had successfully carried out a preliminary study connected with decision-taking on the matter of putting nuclear power stations into service. That project was in response to the need to supplement hydroelectric power production by the introduction of nuclear power stations; that course had been advocated by the Agency in 1972 and today it was of extraordinary importance for Chile because of the oil market situation. The study aimed at putting a first nuclear power station of approximately 500 MW into service as from 1985. The Chilean Government would take a decision some time in 1975.

22. The Commission had decided to concentrate on the technologies of certain applications of nuclear energy which were of particular interest to the country and suited to its technical and economic capabilities. As a result, work relating to copper mining had been undertaken, isotope

techniques were beginning to be used for water prospecting in the north of the country and considerable progress had been made in the irradiation of potatoes so as to improve their shelf life. The construction of a multipurpose irradiation facility which would enable those techniques to be applied on a semi-industrial scale was planned for 1976.

23. The Institute of Nuclear Medicine, organized by the Commission under the sponsorship of the Ministry of Health, had been instrumental in bringing about an appreciable improvement in the quality and effectiveness of radiotherapy and nuclear medicine, for which pilot centres had been set up so as to introduce advanced techniques and standardize their application and control. In addition, a whole-body counter designed and installed by the Commission with the Agency's collaboration was in service at the hospital of the Chilean Catholic University.

24. At the preceding session he had forecast his Government's ratification of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America[3]; the instrument of ratification had been deposited with the Mexican Government on 19 October 1974. The Chilean delegation once again thanked the international organizations, UNDP and the Agency in particular and friendly countries, for their co-operation. It was particularly grateful to the Agency for having provided a large number of experts, fellowships and items of equipment for different projects and for attaching great importance to a feasibility study on a nuclear power station.

25. He had pleasure in confirming that Chile would maintain its contribution to the Agency's General Fund. In another connection, he was particularly pleased to welcome the accession of Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and the United Republic of Tanzania to the Agency.[4] With regard to the Cuban delegate's statement, his delegation was likewise of the view that the benefits the Helsinki Conference was bringing to the peoples of the old continent should be extended to the peoples of other continents which were still suffering from colonialism and from aggressive and inhuman manifestations of imperialism. It was clear that in holding that view his delegation considered that those benefits should be extended to those peoples who were suffering from the aggressive, inhuman and tyrannical actions of neo-imperialism and neo-colonialism. In that connection, the Agency's co-operation was based neither on ideologies nor on political philosophies that were completely foreign to its Statute. The united Chilean people had been liberated two years before from oppression and terror and had been able to resume their traditional habits of orderliness, tranquillity, work and social peace, free

[3] See document GC(XVIII)/OR.175, para. 31. The Treaty is reproduced in the United Nations Treaty Series, Vol. 634, No. 9068.

[4] See document GC(XIX)/OR.176, paras 14-16.

from destructive hatred and from the personalized totalitarianism which was crushing other less fortunate people.

26. Mr. KAMIL (Indonesia) congratulated the President on his election. He also wished to congratulate Miss Lim, leader of the Malaysian delegation, whose election as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole was most fitting in International Women's Year. His delegation welcomed the admission to the Agency of Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and the United Republic of Tanzania.

27. In recent months more countries than ever before had expressed a desire to install nuclear power plants. Indonesia planned to put one into service in 1985 and had already commenced preparatory studies with the Agency's assistance. The National Atomic Energy Agency had carried out surveys on the siting of the plant and a feasibility study would be conducted in 1976. In addition it was continuing its search for nuclear materials commenced several years ago in Sumatra and was also carrying out prospection work in Kalimantan in co-operation with the French Atomic Energy Commission. Attention was also being paid to matters of health and safety and it was planned to open a training school for health physicists and technicians, set up a production unit for radiation meters and establish a calibration laboratory. Indonesian laboratories were working on the application of isotopes and radiation in agriculture and industry, and nuclear techniques were being used on a wide scale in the petroleum industry and in hydrology for irrigation and harbour dredging projects.

28. The Indonesian delegation congratulated the Director General and his staff on all the work they had done during the period 1974-75 and on the standard of presentation of the Agency's annual report (GC(XIX)/544 and Corr.1); it noted with satisfaction that that document would henceforth be issued on a calendar year basis, making it more up to date and, consequently, more useful.

29. The Indonesian delegation had taken note of the increase in the Agency's budget for 1976[5]. It strongly urged that the Agency, which was of course also affected by inflation, should maintain stringent economies, particularly in regard to recruitment. His delegation wondered whether expansions in the Agency's activities could not be covered with existing manpower, at any rate until the world economy showed signs of definite improvement.

30. The allocation in the Regular Budget for safeguards activities and the amount allocated for technical assistance from sources outside the Regular Budget had been the subject of lengthy discussion in the past and many Members of the Agency, including Indonesia, had advocated a healthy and reasonable balance between those two types of expenditure. However, the budget for

1976 showed a greater increase for safeguards than for technical assistance. From 1971 to 1976 the increase would be 260% for safeguards and only 120% for technical assistance and that in a period when the number of developing countries joining the Agency and in need of its assistance had increased considerably.

31. A sum of \$5.5 million had been proposed as the target for voluntary contributions to the General Fund. While his delegation was very grateful to those who contributed generously to that Fund, it wondered whether that sum would be sufficient to meet the technical assistance requirements of an increasing number of Member States. The need for assistance had grown, as the requests made to the Agency in recent years showed. If it was too late to increase the target of \$5.5 million, his delegation hoped that the donor countries would make a greater effort in the years to come. The Indonesian Government would continue to make a financial contribution to the General Fund within its very limited means.

32. He expressed satisfaction at the research and assistance activities the Agency was conducting which were of direct interest to the developing countries, especially in the matter of food and agriculture. He recalled that the seventh special session of the General Assembly of the United Nations had adopted a number of decisions relating to the establishment of the New International Economic Order. A chapter of the final document of that session dealt with food and agriculture, with special reference to the acceleration of food production, the preservation of grain and the maintenance of national and world grain reserves. His delegation was convinced that the Agency would have an ever increasing role to play in those areas and it looked forward to the time when the Agency would work out a programme designed to make the New International Economic Order a reality.

33. He stressed the need to maintain impartiality in the selection of countries to receive technical assistance. His delegation had no doubts regarding the technical considerations on which decisions were based but it sincerely hoped that all Member States in need of and requesting technical assistance would be eligible to receive it without discrimination.

34. It fully approved the inauguration of co-operation between the Agency and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. It was through such co-operation, on which the developing countries set great store, that the peaceful applications of nuclear energy would be advanced. He hoped that it would not be very long before such co-operation was established with kindred organizations of developing countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

35. The delegate of the Philippines had presented facts and figures showing the very high cost of constructing nuclear power stations.[6] It would

[5] See document GC(XIX)/550.

[6] See document GC(XIX)/OR.178, para. 93.

be very interesting to know the reasons why the cost of introducing nuclear power to the less prosperous countries had increased so much. Was it due to inflation, which was now showing signs of abating? Could the increase in prices in 1975 still be blamed on the increase in oil prices in 1973? Or, was it just a case of the developing countries like Indonesia having to pay for the scientific knowledge and technological know-how possessed by a very few countries?

36. In conclusion, his delegation expressed the hope that in the years to come the Agency would continue to play its vital role in maintaining world peace and providing assistance to the developing countries. While the application of nuclear energy in those countries might have been merely fashionable in the fifties and sixties, it had become a necessity in the seventies. The Agency must not be found wanting in fulfilling its assigned role in the nuclear era.

37. Mr. KABBANI (Saudi Arabia), after congratulating the President and the officers of the Conference on their election, welcomed the representatives of Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and the United Republic of Tanzania, whose joining the Agency was evidence of the interest of the developing countries in the organization's activities.

38. The focus of their interest in the Agency's programme was technical assistance, which offered them tangible advantages from which they could benefit for many years. For that reason Saudi Arabia welcomed the recent decision of the Board of Governors to recommend to the General Conference that the target for voluntary contributions should be increased.

39. He believed, however, that unless the Agency reconsidered the entire question of financing technical assistance it could not accomplish the target objectives. With regard to the financing of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics at Trieste, the Director General had drawn attention to a review in November 1974 by a group of eminent scientists which had advocated that the budget should be stabilized, as it was at present too dependent on occasional contributions.[7] Saudi Arabia shared that view, as it considered that many of the Trieste Centre's activities might be financed under the heading of technical assistance.

40. The same argument was applicable to the technical assistance programme as a whole. Saudi Arabia had informed the Secretariat that for 1976 it was pledging as a voluntary contribution to the General Fund twenty times the amount it should pay as its assessed contribution to the Regular Budget. Indeed, Saudi Arabia's contributions had for many years exceeded the normal share calculated on that basis.

41. It was also participating in other international aid programmes. For example, it had undertaken

to provide assistance worth more than \$1000 million on a bilateral basis or through international banks and organizations, taking due account of the recipients' wishes.

42. While meeting its international obligations, Saudi Arabia also had to consider its own development. In its next five-year plan Saudi Arabia would have to allocate over \$7000 million to a desalination programme designed to satisfy its most urgent needs. It was paying several times more for a litre of imported mineral water than a litre of oil would cost at current prices.

43. In that context, there was another Agency activity of great interest, namely, the study of dual-purpose nuclear plants for electricity production and water desalination. For an arid country like Saudi Arabia, the establishment of agro-industrial complexes might well be economically feasible.

44. Saudi Arabia's immediate plans in the matter of nuclear energy were nevertheless very modest. Studies would be undertaken shortly on the feasibility of a nuclear research centre. At present a large number of radioactive sources were in use for various purposes, but mainly by the oil industry for well logging and pipeline monitoring.

45. The Ministry of Agriculture was using radio-isotope techniques for various hydrological studies and was conducting experiments designed to bring about improvements in certain local crops, such as rice, by radiation-induced mutations.

46. A new nuclear medicine centre, which would be one of the best in the Middle East, would shortly be opened in Riyadh. It would have a 10-MeV linear accelerator, a cyclotron for short-lived isotope production, cobalt-60 and radioactive caesium sources and a full range of radioisotopes for diagnosis and therapy.

47. In implementing those programmes, Saudi Arabia looked forward to fruitful co-operation with the Agency and other Member States.

48. Mr. DI LANDRO (Uruguay) said that, being mindful of the time in which final decisions had to be taken, he would keep his statement short. He congratulated the President on his nomination, the new States on their admission to the Agency, and the Director General on his eloquent statement on the Agency's activities[8].

49. As far as peaceful nuclear activities were concerned, Uruguay, within the limits of its capabilities and as its own offset to the technical assistance provided by the Agency, was engaged in a variety of activities, such as uranium prospecting, food irradiation, nuclear medicine, and the application of radioisotopes in agriculture; it was likewise completing the establishment of a nuclear research centre and studying a plan for the introduction of nuclear power. The present statement

[7] GC(XIX)/OR. 176, para. 52.

[8] Ibid., paras 21-59.

was an appropriate occasion for his country to express particular gratitude to the Argentine National Atomic Energy Commission, the Brazilian Nuclear Energy Commission, the Spanish Nuclear Energy Board and the French Atomic Energy Commission for the assistance they have given in the form of scientific missions, visits by experts, equipment, and so forth.

50. Following a policy of supporting any action that might contribute to an overall improvement of Uruguay's economy and intellectual heritage, and to the building of a new Uruguay, his Government associated itself with the success which the present Conference was bound to achieve and which would embody the joint efforts of all Member States in furthering the progress of nuclear science in all scientific and technological areas in the best interests of mankind.

CLOSING DATE OF THE SESSION AND OPENING DATE OF THE NEXT SESSION (GC(XIX)/558)  
(continued[9])

51. The PRESIDENT informed the Conference that the General Committee recommended that it should accept with gratitude the invitation of the Brazilian Government to hold the next regular session in Rio de Janeiro (GC(XIX)/558); the Committee further recommended that the session should begin on 21 September 1976. He accordingly proposed that the Conference:

- (a) Accept the invitation of the Brazilian Government to hold its twentieth regular session in Rio de Janeiro and to fix the opening date as Tuesday, 21 September 1976; and
- (b) Request the Director General to inform the Brazilian authorities accordingly, to conclude with the Government the necessary agreement on behalf of the Agency and to convey to it the Conference's appreciation of its offer to act as host to the Conference.

- 52. It was so decided.

THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

53. Miss LIM (Malaysia), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, reported on her committee's consideration of the agenda items that had been referred to it: item 7 - The Agency's accounts for 1974, item 8 - The Agency's budget for 1975, item 9 - The Agency's budget for 1976, item 10 - Scale of assessment of Members' contributions for 1976, item 11 - The Agency's relations with intergovernmental organizations and item 12 - The Agency's relations with non-governmental organizations.

THE AGENCY'S ACCOUNTS FOR 1974  
(GC(XIX)/549)

- 54. The draft resolution in document GC(XIX)/549 on the Agency's accounts for 1974 was adopted.

THE AGENCY'S BUDGET FOR 1975 (GC(XIX)/548)

- 55. The draft resolution in document GC(XIX)/548 on a supplementary Regular Budget appropriation for 1975 was adopted.

THE AGENCY'S BUDGET FOR 1976 (GC(XIX)/550 and 560)

- 56. Draft resolution A (Regular Budget appropriations for 1976), draft resolution B (Operational Budget allocations for 1976) and draft resolution C (The Working Capital Fund in 1976) set forth in document GC(XIX)/550, Annex V, were adopted.

- 57. The draft resolution in document GC(XIX)/560 on the physical protection of nuclear material was adopted.

SCALE OF ASSESSMENT OF MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1976 (GC(XIX)/551)

- 58. The draft resolution in document GC(XIX)/551 on the scale of assessment of Members' contributions for 1976 was adopted.

THE AGENCY'S RELATIONS WITH INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (GC(XIX)/545 and 556)

- 59. The draft resolution in document GC(XIX)/545 on the co-operation agreement between the Agency and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance was adopted.

60. Mr. FADDEEV (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance), thanking the President for affording him the opportunity to speak, said he was gratified to learn that Governors on the Board of Governors and delegates to the Conference thought highly of the agreement which was thus to be concluded between the Agency and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA). The agreement was part of the general effort towards détente and embodied some of the recommendations of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. His organization, which was already co-operating with more than 20 international organizations, greatly appreciated the Agency's work, in which it had been taking part for the past ten years. CMEA shared the interests of the Agency and its Member States and had, incidentally, been among the first to ratify NPT.

61. CMEA was implementing a programme aimed at step-by-step socialist integration in all fields over the next 15 or 20 years. At its 29th session,

[9] GC(XIX)/OR.180, paras 87-89.

in June 1975, CMEA had approved a joint plan by which it would be possible to carry out socialist integration between 1976 and 1980. The bulk of the planned activities related to the development of fuel and energy resources. Member States of CMEA were already making efficient use of all types of energy and were therefore beyond the reach of the energy crisis. CMEA projects now under way or planned for the future included construction of a gas pipeline 2750 km long between Orenburg and the border of the Soviet Union, a 750-kV power transmission line and a consolidated power network, and co-operation in matters of nuclear energy. CMEA attributed vital importance to nuclear matters. Nuclear power plants had already been built or were under construction in Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland and Romania, and another would shortly be completed in Cuba. The total installed capacity of CMEA countries would attain 30 000 MW(e) by 1980. In order to promote nuclear power in industry, CMEA had set up two bodies known as Interatominstrument and Interatomenergo. It was interested in the applications of isotopes and ionizing radiation in numerous fields, and more especially in environmental protection.

62. As regards relations with the Agency, CMEA had participated in the International Nuclear Information System (INIS) since 1974, and in the work of the power plant safety group. In 1976, a symposium organized by CMEA and the Agency on stable isotopes would be held in the German Democratic Republic.

63. He trusted that the collaboration between the two organizations would be successful. He wished to thank the Director General and the Board for having facilitated the drafting of the agreement, which had been concluded in an atmosphere of frankness and friendly contact. The agreement would help to consolidate peace and to attain the goals set in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

● 64. The draft resolution on the co-operation agreement between the Agency and the European Atomic Energy Community in document GC(XIX)/556 was adopted.

65. Mr. AMORY (Commission of the European Communities) said that the Communities were highly satisfied with the co-operation agreement with the Agency. The agreement would not only open up new prospects for very fruitful co-operation but also provide a legal basis for joint activities which had been going on since the establishment of the two organizations. The Agency and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) were already collaborating in numerous areas, particularly in reactor research, nuclear fuel technology, dissemination of known-how, reactor safety, biology, radiation protection, radioisotopes, food irradiation, training of personnel and nuclear information. As regards co-operation in safeguards, an agreement had been concluded between EURATOM, the seven non-nuclear-weapon States Members of

EURATOM and the Agency in connection with NPT.[10] EURATOM would also sign in the near future a tripartite safeguards agreement with the Agency and the United Kingdom.

66. In conclusion, he said that the two organizations could look to the future of their co-operation with confidence and optimism.

#### THE AGENCY'S RELATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (GC(XIX)/546)

● 67. The draft resolution in document GC(XIX)/546 on the representation of certain non-governmental organizations at the Conference's regular sessions was adopted.

#### APPOINTMENT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

68. The PRESIDENT reminded the Conference that the Agency's External Auditor had been appointed to audit the Agency's accounts for the years 1974 and 1975.[11] It was therefore necessary to appoint an External Auditor to audit the accounts for subsequent years. Under Financial Regulation 12.01[12] the External Auditor was to be appointed from among the Auditors General of Member States, and it was customary for the President to put before the Conference a specific proposal for such an appointment. In the light of the consultations which had been held, he accordingly proposed that the Auditor General of the Netherlands be appointed to audit the Agency's accounts for the years 1976 and 1977.

● 69. The President's proposal was accepted.

70. The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Conference would wish him to convey its gratitude to the Czechoslovak Government, which had since 1968 placed at the Agency's disposal the services of its Auditor General. The fact that the latter had been re-appointed three times bore evidence to the high esteem in which he was held by the Conference.

#### ELECTIONS TO THE AGENCY'S STAFF PENSION COMMITTEE

71. The PRESIDENT recalled that the Agency's Staff Pension Committee included two members and two alternates elected by the Conference. The members were at present Mr. Beláček (Czechoslovakia) and Mr. von Schenck (Switzerland), the alternates being Mr. Adén (Argentina) and Mr. Fell (United Kingdom). Since

[10] The text of the agreement is reproduced in document INFCIRC/193.

[11] By the decision set forth in the booklet GC(XVII)/RESOLUTIONS(1973), Other Decisions, decision number GC(XVII)/DEC/8.

[12] INFCIRC/8/Rev.1.

Mr. Fell was unable to continue serving on the Committee, the Conference had to elect one new alternate member. He suggested that Mr. Jenkins (United Kingdom) be elected as an alternate member.

- 72. Mr. Jenkins (United Kingdom) was elected an alternate member of the Agency's Staff Pension Committee.

#### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND FOR 1976 (GC(XIX)/555/Rev.4)

73. The PRESIDENT referred the Conference to document GC(XIX)/555/Rev.4, in which the Director General had stated that, by 6 p.m. on 25 September, pledges of voluntary contributions to the General Fund for 1976 had been made by 60 Members in an amount equivalent to approximately \$3 320 000. In the meantime, two more Members, Algeria and Bangladesh, had informed the Director General that they undertook to make contributions of \$4400 and \$5500 respectively. Sixty-two Member States were therefore pledged to contribute a total amount of around \$3.3 million, which was well short of the target of \$5.5 million the Conference had just set[13]. However, it was to be noted that several Members which had made generous contributions to the General Fund in previous years were not yet able to make known their contributions for 1976, so there was good reason to believe that the amount pledged would soon be significantly increased. Nevertheless, contributions were still likely to fall short of the target by \$500 000 to \$750 000 or 9 to 14%. He personally felt it was the duty of every Member State to make an effort towards remedying that situation. He therefore asked every delegate to urge his Government to increase its contribution to the General Fund so that in 1976 the Agency might have at its disposal enough funds to respond to the requests for technical assistance that would be made by its developing Member States.

#### CLOSING OF THE SESSION

74. Mr. DEMENTHON (France) congratulated the President on behalf of the group of Western European Members for the understanding and efficiency with which he had conducted the work of the Conference. Thanks to his competence, the Conference had been able to consider the numerous questions on its agenda and finish its work within the prescribed time limits. He also wanted to thank the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole for the mastery and charm she had shown in conducting the work of that Committee.

75. Mr. SITZLACK (German Democratic Republic), speaking on behalf of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the

Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Poland, the Republic of South Viet-Nam, Romania, the Ukrainian SSR, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and his own delegation, thanked the President for the way in which he had conducted the work of the Conference. The results achieved were of decisive importance for the future work of the Agency.

76. He also thanked the Director General and the Agency's Secretariat for the excellent preparatory work for the Conference, and the host country for its traditional hospitality.

77. Mr. CHERIF (Algeria) paid a tribute to the President for the outstanding manner in which he had conducted the work. It was gratifying to confirm that the unanimous expressions of confidence in the President voiced at the time of his election had been justified.

78. In a statement drawn up by a number of countries, which was to be distributed to Member States, an urgent appeal had been made to the principal organ of the Agency that the criteria for regional representation should be adjusted in the light of present developments. He hoped that that appeal would be listened to, since it was in the interests of universality and, consequently, of the effectiveness of the Agency.

79. He also thanked the Director General and his collaborators who had so successfully organized the work of the Conference.

80. Mr. DI LANDRO (Uruguay), speaking on behalf of the group of Latin-American countries, thanked the authorities of the host country for the excellent arrangements made for the Conference. He also thanked the Director General, the administrative and technical staff and all those who had contributed to the success of the nineteenth session of the Conference.

81. Miss LIM (Malaysia), speaking on behalf of the countries of the Pacific and Far East region, said she wished to join those who had preceded her in congratulating the President. The task of the Chair had been brilliantly performed at a critical moment for the Agency - i.e. the twentieth anniversary of the first Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy - when the rapidly developing use of nuclear energy made research and achievements relating to peaceful and practical applications more important than ever.

82. She was happy to have had the privilege of presiding over the Committee of the Whole and, as a result, to have been able to collaborate with the President in the success of the Conference.

83. The PRESIDENT expressed his gratitude to all the delegates who, on behalf of their countries or regions, had thanked him; his function as President had enabled him to reflect at length on all the problems which had been dealt with and on the excellent documents prepared by the Secretariat.

[13] By para. 1 of the resolution on Operational Budget allocations for 1976 which is the subject of para. 56 above.



84. The Conference enabled all delegates from Member States to deal with the problems concerning the peaceful uses of atomic energy. At present, the energy crisis, linked with the shortage of oil, had accelerated the rhythm of development of nuclear power. As a result, several problems arose with regard to the standards of safety to be created, the physical protection of nuclear materials, the storage of those materials, environmental protection and so forth. The solution of those problems called for new forms of international co-operation. The Agency must therefore play an important role in the coming years and it was only when that was recognized that it would have the feeling that it was fulfilling its obligations.

85. Once again, he thanked all the delegates for their attention.

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

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

88. The PRESIDENT declared the nineteenth regular session of the General Conference closed.

● The meeting rose at 5.35 p.m.

