



International Atomic Energy Agency

GENERAL CONFERENCE

GC(XXI)/INF/168
1 July 1977

GENERAL Distr.

Original: ENGLISH

Twenty-first regular session

ADVANCE INFORMATION

GENERAL

1. The purpose of this paper is to bring information relating to the twenty-first (1977) regular session of the General Conference to the notice of Governments and official bodies concerned.

THE AGENCY'S TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

2. Special arrangements are being made to mark the twentieth anniversary of the Agency during this year's regular session of the General Conference which will be held in the Kongresszentrum, Neue Hofburg, Heldenplatz, in the centre of Vienna. The Federal President of Austria is expected to address the opening meeting of the session which will begin at 11 a. m. on Monday, 26 September 1977 (delegates are requested to be in their places by 10.45 a. m.). Delegations are advised that at the opening meeting each delegation will be allotted one seat only at a table and one seat for an adviser immediately behind. Other members of delegations will be accommodated in unmarked seats in the body of the Festsaal. As further information becomes available on the arrangements for the session it will be communicated to Governments in addenda to this document.

COMPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS

3. Rule 23 of the Conference's Rules of Procedure [1] provides for each Member of the Agency to be represented by one delegate, who may be accompanied by as many assistants (alternates, advisers, etc.) as may be needed. The first list of members of delegations will be issued one week before the session opens; it will contain information communicated to the Secretariat up to noon on Friday, 16 September. Governments are particularly asked to communicate at least the provisional composition of their delegations in good time so that this first edition of the list may be as complete as possible.

CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATES

4. Each delegate (but not other members of a delegation) will require credentials specifically for the session, even if he is already accredited to the Agency in some other capacity - for example, as a Resident Representative. In the past a large number of credentials have been delivered late, in many cases even after the session has begun; this caused difficulties, particularly to the General Committee. It is accordingly emphasized that, under Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure, credentials should reach the Director General not later than 19 September; they must be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Member concerned.

[1] GC(XIX)/INF/152.

REGISTRATION OF DELEGATIONS

5. It is necessary for each delegation to be registered with the Secretariat. This can be done by a single member on behalf of the whole of his delegation. In their own interest delegations are urged to register by Friday, 23 September at the Protocol Office in room 485 at the Agency's Headquarters at 11 Kaerntnerring. If that proves to be impracticable, a delegation will be able to register on the following Monday morning at the Protocol Office in the Kongresszentrum.

PLEDGES OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND FOR 1978

6. The Board of Governors has set a target of \$7 million, subject to the Conference's approval, for Members' voluntary contributions to the General Fund for 1978 and has made a special appeal for a further \$500 000. Before the session opens a document will be circulated for the purpose of notifying delegates of the contributions that Members have pledged themselves to make [2]. It will be greatly appreciated if Governments will facilitate the timely preparation of this document by communicating their pledges to the Director General as soon as they are in a position to do so.

DOCUMENTS

7. The provisional agenda for the session is in document GC(XXI)/577. Working documents relating to the various items, as well as information papers for the Conference, will be distributed to Governments in the usual way as they come off the press.

8. In order to ensure that the distribution of documents during the session meets individual needs, each delegation is urged to visit Documents Distribution in room B. 27 at 11 Kaerntnerring not later than Friday, 23 September and specify its requirements on a form which will be provided. If this is not possible delegations should make such written application at the Documents Station at the Kongresszentrum on the following Monday morning.

9. Before the opening of the session one complete set of Conference documents already issued will be available to each delegation together with other information concerning arrangements for the Conference. All documents produced during the session, the Conference Journal containing the daily programme, and other notices will also be issued through the Documents Station.

SPEAKERS IN THE GENERAL DEBATE

10. Requests for inscription on the list of speakers in the general debate may be made directly to the Secretariat of the Policy-making Organs from 26 July 1977. The names of delegates will be entered on this list strictly in the order in which requests are received.

FACILITIES FOR TRANSLATING, TYPING AND REPRODUCING PAPERS

11. The Secretariat will translate and reproduce papers (memoranda, draft resolutions, etc.) that are formally introduced as Conference documents. For the translation, typing and reproduction of papers other than official documents, delegations are advised to make advance arrangements; the Secretariat will be glad to help as far as it can.

[2] Compare the corresponding document of last year - GC(XX)/571.

ACCOMMODATION FOR DELEGATIONS

12. Hotels in Vienna are usually fully booked during the month of September, and it is therefore important to reserve accommodation as far in advance as possible. Direct booking has proved to be more satisfactory in the past. The most satisfactory method of booking has normally been found to be direct with the hotel but some permanent missions and embassies in Vienna are also able to assist if need arises.

CURRENCY

13. Bank notes, travellers' cheques and letters of credit may be brought into Austria without restriction, but since not all currencies are in equal demand, a few may not be easily saleable. Departing visitors may take with them 15 000 Austrian schillings in cash plus foreign currencies and/or travellers' cheques up to the equivalent of 26 000 Austrian schillings.

THE WEATHER

14. The weather in Vienna during the month of September can be changeable with very warm sunny days alternating with cooler and rainy periods. The average day temperature is 14°C (57°F) and average night temperature around 9°C (48°F).

