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### AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE VI.A.2 OF THE STATUTE

#### Note by the Director General

Pursuant to a decision taken by the Board at a meeting on 30 November last, the part of the summary record of that meeting dealing with the item "Amendment of Article VI.A.2 of the Statute" is hereby made available to the General Conference.

### AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE VI.A.2 OF THE STATUTE

The CHAIRMAN invited the Board to resume discussion of the amendment of Article VI.A.2 of the Statute, which item it had considered, in accordance with Resolution GC(XXII)/RES/361, at its meetings held in the preceding February and June.

Mr. SINGH (India) observed that the question of amending Article VI.A.2 of the Statute with a view to increasing the representation of Africa and the Middle East and South Asia on the Board had been under discussion since February 1977, and that India had consistently supported the principle of equitable geographical representation on the Board.

Africa, with a total Agency membership of 25 States, had only 21.3% representation on the Board, and the Middle East and South Asia, with a membership of 16 States, had only 22.9% representation on the Board, whereas the average for all the regions together was 31%. Africa was a major supplier of nuclear source materials, and the area of the Middle East and South Asia was not only an important source of world energy supply but was stepping up its nuclear programmes as well.

The disparity in the Board's membership was likely to grow with the addition of new Members from those regions. If the matter of amending Article VI.A.2 of the Statute could not be resolved at the current series of meetings, it should be kept open for discussion at a later date.

Mr. OSMAN (Egypt) said that his country had in the past emphasized the many reasons why it was necessary to increase the representation of African States on the Board, and continued to support the original proposal presented in 1977 - of which it had been a co-sponsor - and calling for three additional seats on the Board for the area of Africa. If no decision could be reached at present, he agreed with the Governor from India that the question should remain open for further negotiation.

Mr. SILVA ARANDA (Peru) likewise concurred in the view of the Governors from India and Egypt that the subject should remain open for further discussion, as clearly not all possibilities had been taken into consideration on the present occasion.

He suggested the establishment of a special committee entrusted with the task of formulating a definitive solution to the problem.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the record of the Board's discussion of the item should be transmitted to the General Conference, as had been done on earlier occasions.

It was so decided.