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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RECORD OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING

Held at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi,
on Friday, 7 December 1979, at 6.15 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. COSTA ALONSO (Mexico)

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* A provisional version of this document was issued on 16 January 1980.

** GC(XXIII)/620.

The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document GC(XXIII)/INF/188/Rev.5.

THE AGENCY'S BUDGET FOR 1980 (continued)

1. Mr. SILVA ARANDA (Peru) said that he wished on behalf of the Group of 77 to thank the Chairman for his indulgence in granting time for informal discussions. Some agreement had been reached but he believed that other delegations would be presenting amendments to the draft resolution which the Group of 77 had submitted.

2. Mr. LOOSCH (Federal Republic of Germany), noting that various formulas for agreement had been discussed during the informal consultations, presented amendments to the last preambular paragraph and the operative paragraph of the draft resolution submitted by the Group of 77, so that the amended resolution would read:

"The General Conference,

"Recalling the mandate given by the General Conference to the Board of Governors in its Resolution GC(XVIII)/RES/318 on the financing of technical assistance,

"Bearing in mind the importance of technical assistance for the development of nuclear programmes for peaceful purposes in developing countries,

"Recognizing the importance of technical assistance to all Member States and the necessity to give to it the same attention as the other main functions of the Agency, and

"Noting the need to assure a satisfactory and effective source of financing to implement adequate and effective technical assistance programmes,

"Requests the Board of Governors to study the matter and to submit a comprehensive report to the General Conference at its twenty-fourth regular session on all possible effective means of financing technical assistance."

3. Mr. DE PEYSTER (France), expressing a general reservation about the draft resolution just read out, said that there had been no time to examine it properly and that a French version was not yet available. Accordingly, he was not in a position to state the view of his authorities, whom he would first have to consult.

4. Mr. O'SULLIVAN (Ireland) said he was speaking on behalf of the Member States of the European Community, though all those States were of course free to speak for themselves. The interpretation placed by the majority of the Community countries on the amendments proposed by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, insofar as the phrase "all possible effective means of financing technical assistance" was concerned, was that that phrase did not exclude any of the means of financing which had been discussed in the Committee of the Whole. It was to be hoped that on the basis of that interpretation, the amendments proposed by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany would be acceptable to all and would enable the Committee and the Conference to reach a happy solution to a problem which had proved surprisingly difficult at the current session.

5. Mr. GOOCH (Canada), speaking on behalf of the North American region, said he would like to confirm that the interpretation given to the final paragraph of the resolution by the countries of that region was identical to that expressed by the representative of Ireland.

6. Mr. SILVA ARANDA (Peru), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, expressed his recognition of the spirit of dialogue and understanding in which the discussions had taken place.

7. It was the understanding of the Group of 77 that, since there were to be no exclusions as regards the methods of financing technical assistance which would be considered by the Board, those considerations would also include the possibility of funding technical assistance from the Regular Budget.

8. Mr. KHESTOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he understood from the statement by the delegate of Peru that the Group of 77 had agreed to the alterations proposed by the Federal Republic of Germany. The Soviet delegation was prepared, in a spirit of compromise, to agree to the amended resolution but wished to point out that it did not withdraw any of the reservations it had expressed earlier in the debate.

9. Mr. KENYERES (Hungary) said that in the interests of reaching a consensus his delegation would not oppose the resolution. However, the questions involved were important and the problem had not been proposed by the Board for discussion at the General Conference. His delegation had not had time to receive instructions and therefore reserved the right to express its opinion during any future discussion in the Board or at subsequent sessions of the General Conference.

10. Mr. THOMAS (German Democratic Republic) said his delegation was prepared to join the consensus but had doubts similar to those expressed by the delegate of Hungary.
11. Mr. GRINBERG (Bulgaria) stated that his delegation was happy to join the consensus but still held the reservations it had expressed earlier in the debate.
12. The CHAIRMAN said that in the absence of any objections he would take it that the Committee recommended for approval draft resolution A contained in document GC(XXIII)/612/Mod.1 and draft resolutions B and C contained in Annex VII to document GC(XXIII)/612 and wished to transmit them to the plenary session of the Conference. He also took it, in the absence of any objections, that the Committee recommended the adoption of the draft resolution^{1/} relating to the financing of technical assistance and wished to transmit it to the plenary session of the Conference.
13. It was so decided.

SCALE OF ASSESSMENT OF MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1980 (GC(XXIII)/613 and Mod.1)

14. The CHAIRMAN took it, in the absence of objections, that the Committee wished to recommend the draft resolution on page 2 of document GC(XXIII)/613, as modified by document GC(XXIII)/613/Mod.1, for adoption by the General Conference.
15. It was so decided.

AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE VI.A.2 OF THE STATUTE (GC(XXIII)/616, 616/Add.1, GC(XXIII)/COM.5/10)

16. The CHAIRMAN observed that at its twenty-second regular session the General Conference had requested the Board, in Resolution GC(XXII)/RES/361, to give further consideration to the matter of amendment of Article VI.A.2 of the Statute and that the Board's discussions had been reproduced in document GC(XXIII)/616 and Add.1. A draft resolution on the subject was set out in document GC(XXIII)/COM.5/10.
17. Mr. KHAN (Pakistan) pointing out a typographic error in document GC(XXIII)/COM.5/10, said that the word "Resolution" in the second line of the operative paragraph should be plural.^{2/}

^{1/} Subsequently reproduced in document GC(XXIII)/624.

^{2/} See Resolution GC(XXIII)/RES/370.

18. Mr. SILVA ARANDA (Peru) was gratified to note that a friendly agreement had been reached among the delegations on the text of the draft resolution and suggested that it would be fitting to mark the Committee's unanimity in recommending that resolution to the General Conference for approval.
19. Mr. LOPEZ-MENCHERO ORDÓÑEZ (Spain), supporting the draft resolution, said that his country understood the desire of some Member States to be represented on the Board with greater frequency: Spain, too, was dissatisfied with the frequency of its membership on the Board, as the Spanish delegate had mentioned in his statement during the general debate. His country would therefore evaluate with interest any proposal to alter the composition of the Board or any other procedure which might lead to satisfying Spain's wishes and the wishes of other Member States which were in a similar situation. He trusted that the record of the meeting would reflect Spain's views on the subject.
20. Mr. ERICSSON (Sweden) agreed with the views expressed by the Spanish delegate.
21. Mr. KENYERES (Hungary), endorsing the draft resolution, said that the stand his country had taken on the issue of amending Article VI.A.2 of the Statute at the preceding session of the Conference remained unchanged.
22. Mr. KHLESTOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) noted with pleasure that agreement had been reached on the wording of the draft resolution. His country's position was the same as that of Hungary.
23. Mr. ABOU ALI (Qatar) also supported the draft resolution, which reflected the substance of his country's views.
24. The CHAIRMAN took it to be the Committee's unanimous view that the draft resolution in document GC(XXIII)/COM.5/10 should be recommended to the General Conference for adoption. The views expressed by the various delegates would of course be reflected in the record of the meeting.
25. It was so decided.
26. Mr. SILVA ARANDA (Peru), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, thanked the Chairman and the Secretariat for their patience, which had enabled the Committee to complete its work in a satisfactory manner.
27. Mr. GRINBERG (Bulgaria), speaking on behalf of the Socialist delegations, said he was impressed by the efficient way in which agreement had been reached and commended the Chairman and the Secretariat for their efforts.
28. Mr. SAMANIEGO (Ecuador) said he wished to associate the countries of the Latin American group with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers.

29. Mr. LOOSCH (Federal Republic of Germany) thanked the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen for the calm and efficient way in which they had conducted the affairs of the Committee.

30. Mr. O'SULLIVAN (Ireland), speaking on behalf of the countries of the European Community, warmly endorsed the sentiments expressed by the delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany.

31. Mr. KIRK (United States of America), speaking on behalf of the region of North America, expressed his gratitude to the Chairman for his able conduct of the Committee's business.

32. The CHAIRMAN said that hearty thanks were also due to all members of delegations and to the Secretariat for their active co-operation and hard work, without which the Committee could not have completed its tasks successfully.

The meeting rose at 7.10 p.m.