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## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

### RECORD OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna,  
on Wednesday, 22 September 1982, at 3.45 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. COPITHORNE (Canada)  
later: Mr. OYEGUN (Nigeria)

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\*/ A provisional version of this document was issued on 24 September 1982.

\*\*/ GC(XXVI)/674.

THE AGENCY'S PROGRAMME FOR 1983-88 AND BUDGET FOR 1983 (GC(XXVI)/666 and Mod.1)  
(continued)

1. The CHAIRMAN said that it was his understanding that the Committee would be prepared to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt draft resolution A contained in Appendix 5 to document GC(XXVI)/666/Mod.1 subject to the following reservations in respect of the allocation for an International Plutonium Storage (IPS) study:

- "(1) The sum of \$362 000 allocated to IPS is a contingency allocation;
- (2) It will not be used to extend any personnel contracts beyond 31 March 1983;
- (3) It will not be used for any other purposes prior to a decision on the matter of IPS; and
- (4) If the Board should decide not to approve the use of those funds either in whole or in part for IPS, they will be subject to a further Board decision."

2. Pointing out that the sum of \$362 000 referred to in the reservations was an adjusted amount, he said that it did not appear in the budget document (GC(XXVI)/666) since it reflected the result of changes in the dollar-schilling rate and had been arrived at by applying an exchange rate of 16.60 schillings to the dollar.

3. He asked whether the Committee was prepared to recommend the General Conference to approve draft resolution A in Appendix 5 to document GC(XXVI)/666/Mod.1 subject to the reservations he had just mentioned, and draft resolutions B and C in Annex VII to document GC(XXVI)/666.

4. Mr. DERPSCH BARTSCH (Chile) said that he wished to make a proposal relating to the Agency's programme for 1983-88 and budget for 1983.<sup>1/</sup>

5. Mr. KIRK (United States of America) asked whether the outcome of any discussions on the Chilean proposal was likely to affect the recommendations of the Committee in respect of the three draft resolutions just referred to by the Chairman.

6. The CHAIRMAN asked the representative of Chile whether he would have any objection to the Committee making its recommendations on the three draft resolutions on the understanding that it would discuss the Chilean proposal in

<sup>1/</sup> Subsequently issued as document GC(XXVI)/COM.5/20.

due course, after it had been circulated in all working languages of the General Conference.

7. Mr. DERPSCH BARTSCH (Chile) said that he would have no objection to that procedure being followed.

8. Mr. MENON (India) asked whether the Secretariat was in a position to answer his query on the accumulation of cash balances.<sup>2/</sup>

9. Mr. SIEVERING (Deputy Director General, Head of the Department of Administration) said that cash balances accumulated in various different ways; they were in any case returned to Member States in the final analysis. The main way in which they arose was through increases in the rate of exchange of the dollar against the schilling. Secondly, money invested by the Agency increased by the accretion of interest, which was also returned to Members. Thirdly, cash balances were accumulated at the end of a financial year in the form of genuine unobligated balances. Fourthly, income was earned on the sale of Agency publications; it was shown under "Miscellaneous income" and returned to Member States after two years. In the meantime such income earned interest, which was also returned to Member States.

10. The CHAIRMAN said that he understood that the representative of Belgium was prepared not to insist that his delegation's draft resolution in document GC(XXVI)/COM.5/18 be voted on. At the same time, it had been suggested by the representative of Denmark that the discussion on that draft resolution in the Committee be brought to the attention of the Director General and the Board of Governors.<sup>3/</sup>

11. He took it that the Committee was prepared to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt draft resolution A contained in Appendix 5 to document GC(XXVI)/666/Mod.1 subject to the reservations with respect to IPS which he had read out earlier and draft resolutions B and C in Annex VII to document GC(XXVI)/666.

12. It was so agreed.

<sup>2/</sup> See GC(XXVI)/COM.5/OR.27, para. 27.

<sup>3/</sup> See GC(XXVI)/COM.5/OR.27, para. 68.

13. Mr. ERNEMANN (Belgium) said he wished to express his Government's dissatisfaction with the draft budget for 1983, which should have reflected zero real growth. The Belgian Government had particular doubts with regard to the safeguards budget. However, it welcomed the fact that the Board had decided to undertake a study of various important aspects of the safeguards system and wished to be associated with it in some form or other. It should be noted that the draft resolution in document GC(XXVI)/COM.5/18 had called for a 1984 budget reflecting zero growth in real terms.

SCALE OF ASSESSMENT OF MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1983 (GC(XXVI)/671 and Mod.1)

14. The CHAIRMAN asked whether the Committee wished to recommend adoption by the General Conference of the draft resolution contained in document GC(XXVI)/671 with the Annex as reproduced in document GC(XXVI)/671/Mod.1.

15. It was so agreed.

16. After a procedural discussion it was decided to begin consideration of item 12 of the agenda (Staffing of the Agency's Secretariat) followed by item 13 (The financing of technical assistance) on the understanding that no decisions would be taken during the meeting in respect of those two items.

STAFFING OF THE AGENCY'S SECRETARIAT (GC(XXVI)/672 and Add.1)

17. Mr. HAWAS (Egypt) said that there was a need for increased participation by nationals of developing countries in the management of the Agency at the highest levels of responsibility, and a larger number of highly qualified staff should be recruited from developing countries.

18. Despite the increasing role of the developing countries in the Agency, the participation of their nationals in the Agency's activities, particularly at the policy-making level, had been modest. That had been the rationale behind resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386, in which the General Conference had stated that no post, including that of the Director General, should be considered the exclusive preserve of one country or group of countries.

19. Egypt had followed the Director General's moves to implement resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386 with great interest. It welcomed the principles behind the measures he was taking, although much remained to be done before the purpose of the resolution was fully realized. He therefore requested the

Director General to pursue yet more energetically the action aimed at applying the measures which he had announced at the Board meetings in February and June 1982. It was also necessary to improve the procedures governing the handling of vacancy notices, so that potential candidates from developing countries would become aware of them at their existing places of work.

20. Mr. KOREF (Panama), thanking the Director General for the steps he had taken to implement resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386, asked him not to yield to pressure aimed at reserving certain positions for nationals of particular countries, and to increase his efforts to recruit more qualified staff from the Third World.

21. Mr. GHAZALI (Malaysia) indicated his appreciation of the Director General's efforts to increase the number of Agency staff from developing countries.

22. Mr. OYEGUN (Nigeria) said that his delegation, which had been in the forefront of the negotiations leading to the approval of resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386, was pleased that the Director General had been making moves in the right direction. It was too early to judge the results of implementation of the resolution, but a start had been made and he urged the Director General to continue his efforts. He firmly supported the introduction of a training scheme for young graduates and junior professionals from developing areas and asked the Director General to ensure that circumstances would not arise in which a country, group of countries or region reserved a particular position for itself.

23. Mr. RUGGIERO (Italy) said that the Agency's staff, which absorbed two thirds of its budget, was its most valuable asset and the instrument by which it performed its work, and the matter of staff recruitment should not be taken lightly.

24. His Government continued to believe that resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386 did not represent a departure from the Statute and should be implemented in accordance with Article VII.B of the Statute and with the Charter of the United Nations. His delegation was fully in agreement with the conclusions reached in paragraph 6 of document GC(XXVI)/672, and was confident that the resolution

could be implemented step by step by the Director General in consultation, where appropriate, with the Board as in the past.

25. Finally, he congratulated the Director General on his efforts in that connection so far.

26. Mr. MENON (India) noted with satisfaction that a good start had been made on the implementation of resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386. One reason why the developing countries attached so much importance to that issue was that they felt the experience of their nationals should be available to the Secretariat when important decisions were taken, and that they in turn should subsequently be able to benefit from the experience which their nationals had gained while working within the Secretariat. He looked forward to additional measures to increase the representation of the developing countries in the Secretariat and to further reports by the Director General on the implementation of resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386.

27. Mr. IONESCU (Romania) said that the measures taken by the Director General to increase the representation of the developing countries on the staff of the Secretariat and the results obtained were a step in the right direction. His delegation expected the representation of the developing countries to be substantially improved by the following year, and urged that every effort be made by all concerned to implement resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386 in a thorough-going manner.

28. Mr. MAPARA (Zambia) welcomed the efforts of the Secretariat to fulfil the objectives of resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386, in particular the scheme to train graduates and junior professionals from developing areas with a view to increasing the number of potential candidates for employment with the Agency. He was pleased to note that financial provision for the scheme had been made in the 1983 budget proposals. He noted with satisfaction that the level of representation of the continent of Africa had improved, but urged that further efforts be made in that direction since Africa continued to be under-represented.

29. Mr. MALU wa KALENGA (Zaire) said that the progress made in the past year in implementing resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386 demonstrated that the recruitment of staff from the developing countries was not a problem of competence

but rather of the political will to achieve a more equitable distribution. He did, however, have reservations regarding the reference to safeguards in paragraph 4 of document GC(XXVI)/672. He saw no reason why staff from developing areas should be concentrated in the field of safeguards. They should, in fact, be recruited for all sections of the Agency. Finally, he noted with regret that of the twenty Professionals from Africa employed in the Agency only two were from French-speaking countries. The Agency should strive to achieve a better balance in that area, too.

30. Mr. BIRIDO (Sudan) thanked the Director General for the positive steps taken to implement resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386, particularly the measures concerning the distribution of vacancy notices, the training of young professionals from the developing countries and the preference given to candidates from developing areas for Secretariat appointments in cases where qualifications and competence were comparable. There was no doubt that competent personnel were available in the developing countries and he urged the Director General to continue his efforts to recruit them. His delegation felt that resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386 should apply not only to full-time Professional posts but also to consultants and experts working on short-term contracts.

31. Mr. SUAREZ de PUGA y VILLEGAS (Spain) said he supported the efforts of the Director General to achieve a more equitable geographical distribution among the staff of the Secretariat. It was normally only countries which considered themselves to be under-represented on the staff of the Secretariat which spoke on that subject, particularly those which could present suitably qualified candidates. He wished to point out, however, that it was not just developing countries that were under-represented but also countries which were developed but not quite to the same extent as those which were over-represented. The Agency's major asset was its staff, and it was essential that posts be distributed equitably among countries or regions.

32. Mr. KHAN (Pakistan) noted with satisfaction the clear recognition of the need to alter a staffing policy which gave the developing countries minimal representation on the Secretariat. In 1981, only 14% of Professional posts

were held by nationals of developing countries. He welcomed the fact that that figure had now increased by 2%, but pointed out that progress would have to be made at a much faster rate if the imbalance were to be rectified within four years as was required by resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386. He hoped that the Director General would make a detailed policy statement on the question at the Board of Governors' session the following February. Competent people were available in the developing countries to fill posts in all sections of the Agency. There was particular scope for nationals of such countries in the safeguards inspectorate. Finally, he commended the Director General on his plan to introduce a training scheme for junior professionals from the developing countries.

33. Mr. MAHMOUD (Iraq) approved the measures taken by the Director General to increase the number of staff from the developing countries and urged him to continue his efforts to put into practice resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386. No country or group of countries had an exclusive right to any post in the Agency since the necessary competence was also available in developing countries. He welcomed the statistics given by the Secretariat on vacant posts as that had provided a very clear idea of what was available for suitably qualified candidates.

34. Mr. COUSINS (Australia) said that document GC(XXVI)/672 was a very positive report on the practical steps that had been taken or were about to be taken in implementing resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386. He was pleased to note the progress that had been made in the past year. He welcomed in particular the changes that were taking place in the distribution of vacancy notices, which would undoubtedly assist prospective candidates, especially those from developing countries. Australia supported the special training scheme being introduced for young graduates and junior professionals from developing areas and looked forward to the planned evaluation report on the scheme after it had been operating for two years. Finally, he thanked the Secretariat for the information contained in document GC(XXVI)/672/Add.1, which provided added transparency to the staffing activities of the Agency.

35. Mr. MORALES (Cuba) welcomed the efforts made by the Director General to increase the representation of developing areas in the Secretariat.

Although the results obtained were quite creditable in view of the short period of time in which they had been achieved, they were nonetheless insufficient and further steps should be taken to rectify the imbalance. His delegation considered that increased representation of developing countries in the Secretariat should be achieved primarily at the expense of the over-represented countries or groups of countries, priority being given to those developing countries which were under-represented. Document GOV/2095/Add.1 contained figures that seriously worried his delegation, which would like to see them decline in the future - just as it would like to see certain other figures increase more rapidly, including those which related to Latin America.

36. Cuba supported the Director General's initiative in introducing a training programme for junior professionals from the developing countries, which would be of considerable benefit to them.

37. Mr. ASSI (Lebanon) congratulated the Director General on having increased the level of representation of the developing countries in the Secretariat and on having introduced the training scheme for young professionals from developing countries. The Director General should continue his efforts in that direction by contacting universities and training institutes directly and by ensuring the wide distribution of vacancy notices.

38. Mr. DARWISH (United Arab Emirates) thanked the Director General for his efforts so far to implement resolution GC(XXV)/RES/386. It was essential to achieve an equitable distribution of posts within the Secretariat, and he was sure the Director General would do his utmost to increase the number of personnel from developing areas on the staff and to rectify the present imbalance.

39. The CHAIRMAN said he assumed the Committee wished to defer further discussion of the item until a later meeting.

40. It was so decided.

THE FINANCING OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (GC(XXVI)/669, GC(XXVI)/COM.5/19)

41. Mr. HAWAS (Egypt) stated that resolution GC(XXV)/RES/388 was one of the most important resolutions adopted by the General Conference, and he urged

all Member States to assist in its implementation. The action so far taken by the Board pursuant to that resolution had followed consultations which had been held in an atmosphere of co-operation and mutual understanding. The agreement reached on the indicative planning figures for 1984, 1985 and 1986 represented an important step towards the implementation of resolution GC(XXV)/RES/388. He was sure that that agreement would be put into practice in the same spirit in which it had been negotiated. He hoped that all technically sound projects for the developing countries would be financed through the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund, although he was also sure that the recommended indicative planning figures represented minimum levels. If those figures proved insufficient, it was to be hoped that they could be reviewed in the same spirit of good will and co-operation.

Mr. Oyegun (Nigeria), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

42. Mr. ERNEMANN (Belgium) explained that the purpose of the draft resolution submitted by his country, as contained in document GC(XXVI)/COM.5/19, was to introduce a procedure for obtaining better information, through bilateral consultations, about the voluntary contributions which Member States actually intended to make during the coming financial year and for forwarding that information to the Board for action if required. However, his delegation would not press for consideration of its draft resolution if it was likely to be a source of controversy.

43. Mr. MALU wa KALENGA (Zaire) recalled that the request from the developing countries to finance technical assistance from the Regular Budget was prompted by their concern for the long-term availability of funds for that programme. Whilst stressing the need for long-range planning, his delegation appreciated the medium-range action taken by the Board in adopting indicative planning figures for a three-year period. He noted that the percentage increase in projected funds for technical assistance was of the same order of magnitude as for safeguards, thus removing one of his delegation's concerns.

44. Mr. KOREF (Panama) recalled that his country had always favoured a simpler solution than the present one for the financing of technical assistance. However, for the time being he was satisfied with the recommendation set forth in paragraph 4 of document GC(XXVI)/669. He urged all Member States to honour the pledges on which the indicative planning figures had been based. If targets were not met, the Agency would not be able to fulfil its obligations to the developing countries in terms of technical assistance. He supported the draft resolution tabled by Belgium but pointed out that his country could not make any pledge for 1983 until the corresponding budget had been approved by the National Assembly.

45. Mr. HOFLAND (Netherlands) declared that extensive discussions in the Agency's policy-making organs had demonstrated that there was a consensus on the practical question of financing technical assistance, if not on the principle. He had noted with great satisfaction that the Board had responded in a co-operative spirit to the terms of resolution GC(XXV)/RES/388. The indicative planning figures recommended for 1984-86 should provide the predictable and assured resources called for in operative paragraph (1) of that resolution. The total funds made available for technical assistance were increasing substantially in both absolute and real terms and were now larger than for any other programme, so that the terms of operative paragraph (2) were also being implemented. The reports requested from the Board in operative paragraph (3) were also being submitted. He therefore hoped that the consensus reached previously would be confirmed at the present session of the General Conference. He appreciated the position of the Belgian delegation as expressed in its draft resolution. The message of that resolution was clear and could be taken into account without the need for a formal decision.

46. The CHAIRMAN said he assumed that the Committee wished to defer further consideration of the item until its next meeting.

47. It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 5.25 p.m.