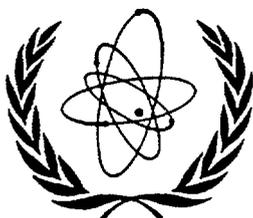


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# GENERAL CONFERENCE

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Thirty-first regular session  
Agenda item 7  
(GC(XXXI)/818)

## STATEMENT OF THE DELEGATION OF ISRAEL

The attached statement is being circulated at the request of the  
Resident Representative of Israel.

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87-5401



The General Conference has adopted today resolution GC (XXXI)/825 entitled "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities and Threat" sponsored by Arab states and Iran.

The issue is purely political, contrary to the technical character of the Agency as set by the Statute and irrelevant to its professional functions. It constitutes an unacceptable discrimination against Israel.

The resolution turns the IAEA into a forum for repetitive deliberations of an item which has been discussed ad nauseam at the United Nations.

It should be recalled that the IAEA was founded as an autonomous international technical body, governed solely by its Board of Governors and General Conference and not bound by United Nations' General Assembly resolutions.

This development is liable to further erode the authority and credibility of the IAEA and hamper its ability to perform its duties. Because of the political character of United Nations resolutions, the essentially non-political nature of the Agency would be even further compromised. The IAEA will also waste valuable resources during this period of financial difficulties to the Agency and will be distracted from dealing with problems of substance and urgency raised by the Chernobyl accident.

The resolution misrepresents Israel's policy of support for the principle of non-proliferation and the necessity of establishing a freely negotiated nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East along the lines laid down by Tlatelolco and Roratonga Treaties covering Latin America and the South Pacific respectively. The resolution also fails to recognize Israel's statements on this policy.

The resolution ignores the present situation in the Middle East and adjacent areas which gives rise to concern over the growing dangers of proliferation as illustrated by India, Pakistan, Syria and Libya.

Arab states and Iran abuse international fora, including the IAEA, to wage their political warfare against Israel without any relevance to the matters under consideration. The best evidence of this negative attitude is provided by these countries' consistent refusal to positively respond to Israel's repeated initiatives and calls for a freely negotiated nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

Israel believes there is an urgent need to arrest this process of politicization of the IAEA before it causes irreparable damage to the Agency.

