



GC

International Atomic Energy Agency

# GENERAL CONFERENCE

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## GENERAL COMMITTEE

### RECORD OF THE FIFTY-FIRST MEETING

Held at the Austria Center, Vienna,  
on Thursday, 24 September 1987, at 2.55 p.m.

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provisional  
agenda\*\*

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[\*] A provisional version of this document was issued on 16 October 1987.

[\*\*] GC(XXXI)/818.

ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING

Chairman

Mr. COLOMBO (Italy), President of the General Conference

Members

Mr. KELSO, representing Mr. HAYDEN (Australia), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. WATERFALL, representing Mr. SHIELDS (Canada), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. YUN, representing Mr. HONG (Democratic People's Republic of Korea), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. AVENDAÑO (Ecuador), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. LOOSCH, representing Mr. ZILLER (Federal Republic of Germany), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. CHIKELU, representing Mr. LUKMAN (Nigeria), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. HADDAD (Syrian Arab Republic), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. ZOBOV, representing Mr. PETROSYANTS (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Vice-President of the General Conference

Mr. GUYER (Argentina), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. KOLYCHAN (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic), Additional Member

Mr. ZADOR, representing Mr. TETENYI (Hungary), Additional Member

Mr. AL-KITAL (Iraq), Additional Member

Mr. ZANNAD (Tunisia), Additional Member

Mr. STOIBER, representing Mr. HERRINGTON (United States of America), Additional Member

Secretariat

Mr. SANMUGANATHAN, Secretary of the Committee

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING (GC(XXXI)/GEN/72)

1. The CHAIRMAN asked whether the Committee was prepared to approve the provisional agenda set forth in document GC(XXXI)/GEN/72.
2. It was so decided.

EXAMINATION OF DELEGATES' CREDENTIALS

3. The CHAIRMAN, after referring to Rules 27, 28 and 29 of the Rules of Procedure and summarizing Rule 27 on the basis of an opinion given by the United Nations Legal Council some years previously, said that the Committee's task was simply to ascertain that the requirements of Rule 27 had been satisfied. The present situation was the following: 88 delegates had submitted credentials complying with Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure, while in respect of 12 delegates the Secretariat had received communications which did not constitute proper credentials meeting the requirements of that Rule. If any member of the Committee wished to know to which category a particular delegate belonged, that information would be provided orally at once.
4. He drew the Committee's attention to document GC(XXXI)/820, which contained the reservations of the Arab delegations regarding the credentials of the delegate of Israel. He proposed that the Committee take note of those reservations and that they be annexed to the Committee's report to the General Conference.
5. Mr. ZANNAD (Tunisia), speaking on behalf of the Arab delegations, said he felt bound to express the reservations of those delegations regarding the credentials of the delegate of the Israeli entity, for the following reasons: Israel persisted in defying the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, and in flouting United Nations resolutions concerning the Palestinian question and the situation in the Middle East. Israel, while occupying the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip, had annexed Jerusalem, which it regarded as its capital, in spite of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations - notably resolution 35/169 E adopted by the General Assembly on 15 December 1980, which held all administrative and legislative measures taken subsequent to the occupation of the city of Jerusalem to be null, void and illegal, and in which the General Assembly called upon all States, specialized agencies and other international

organizations not to conduct any business which was not in conformity with the provisions of that resolution. Israel had annexed the Syrian Arab Golan area and had refused to comply with the resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly by which that annexation had been declared invalid. Israel's treatment of the Arab citizens of the occupied territories constituted a violation of international law and of international agreements; indeed, Israel was continuing to disregard the resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations by openly pursuing an unlawful policy symbolized by the establishment of settlements in the occupied Arab territories with a view to imposing its hegemony on the occupied Arab lands and changing the geographic, demographic, cultural and social character of those lands, in violation of the provisions of the fourth Geneva agreement of 1949. Israel persisted in its refusal to abide by the resolutions of the United Nations concerning the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, denying that people its right to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent Palestinian State. It was continuing its illegal occupation of Palestinian territory, including the Holy City of Jerusalem. He requested that his statement be reproduced in full in an annex to the Committee's report to the Conference.

6. The CHAIRMAN took note of those reservations and said that the statement would be annexed to the Committee's report to the General Conference[1].

7. Mr. STOIBER (United States of America) said it was a matter for regret that certain members of the Committee had entered reservations concerning the credentials of the delegate of Israel for purely political reasons. It was not part of the Committee's mandate to judge different social systems and political programmes, or territorial conflicts. It was essential that members should continue to communicate with each other despite differences of opinion.

8. His delegation, while it made no express objection to the credentials of the delegate of Afghanistan, was profoundly concerned by the situation in

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[1] Issued subsequently as document GC(XXXI)/828.

that country, and the fact that the United States was prepared to join in a consensus within the Committee should not be interpreted to mean that it acquiesced in the armed Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. It noted, furthermore, that the régime set up in Afghanistan by the armed Soviet intervention, maintained as it was solely by the Soviet occupation, could not be considered as representative of the Afghan people.

9. Mr. HADDAD (Syrian Arab Republic) associated himself with the statement made by the representative of Tunisia concerning the credentials of the delegate of Israel.

10. Mr. ZOBOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) supported the statement of the Arab countries. The remarks by the representative of the United States on the subject of Afghanistan, on the other hand, were wholly unacceptable and constituted an exercise in pure propaganda. The statement of the United States was contrary to the constructive spirit which prevailed elsewhere in the General Conference, just as was its refusal to make an adequate contribution to the Agency's activities aimed at fostering international co-operation in the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy and securing the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

11. He also wished to express the reservations of his delegation concerning the credentials of Chile.

12. Mr. AL-KITAL (Iraq) expressed his support for the comments made by the representative of Tunisia concerning the credentials of the delegate of Israel.

13. Mr. KOLYCHAN (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) supported the statement of the Arab delegations contained in document GC(XXXI)/820 and the comments made by the representative of Tunisia in respect of the credentials of the delegate of Israel.

14. He also fully supported the position of the Soviet Union with regard to the credentials of the delegates of Afghanistan and Chile.

15. <sup>xc</sup> Mr. ZADOR (Hungary) said that the statement of concern by the United States representative with regard to Afghanistan was not relevant to the task described by the Chairman in his introductory remarks since it was unrelated to the issue of credentials.

16. His delegation had no doubts concerning the validity of the credentials of the delegate of Afghanistan, which were in full conformity with the criteria referred to by the Chairman at the outset.

17. Mr. YUN (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) strongly supported the statement of the Arab delegations contained in document GC(XXXI)/820, and expressed his own country's reservations concerning the credentials of the delegate of Israel.

18. He also had strong reservations concerning the credentials of the delegate of the Republic of Korea. The present régime in South Korea had been installed, and was now maintained and ruled, from abroad, and was not representative of the South Korean people.

19. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee submit to the General Conference a report[2] stating that the Committee had met to examine the credentials of delegates in accordance with Rule 28 of the Rules of Procedure and containing a summary of the statements made concerning the acceptance of credentials - and also the content of the Attachment to document GC(XXXI)/820 in an annex - together with lists of the Member States whose delegates were in possession of satisfactory credentials, of those for whose delegates the Director General had received communications not complying with Rule 27 and of those for whose delegates no credentials or communication of accreditation whatsoever had been received. The report could indicate that, following the practice of previous years, the General Committee considered that delegates in the latter two categories should be allowed to participate in the work of the Conference on the understanding that for each such delegate proper credentials would be submitted to the Director General as soon as possible. Lastly, the report could recommend that the General Conference adopt the following draft resolution:

"The General Conference

"Accepts the report by the General Committee on its examination of the credentials of delegates to the Conference's thirty-first regular session, which is set forth in document GC(XXXI)/..."

20. It was so decided.

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[2] Subsequently issued as document GC(XXXI)/828.

COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE AGENCY FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BOLIVIA  
(GC(XXXI)/INF/254)

21. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to document GC(XXXI)/INF/254, containing a request from Bolivia that Article XIX.A of the Statute should not be applied to it during the current session of the General Conference.

22. Mr. KELSO (Australia) considered it unwise to create a precedent by allowing countries in arrears in the payment of their assessed contributions to vote. Although he had every sympathy for Bolivia, he regretted his inability to support its request.

23. Mr. ZANNAD (Tunisia) observed that there were a number of countries, including many in Africa, which were unable to pay their contributions because of economic and financial difficulties. If an exception were made in the case of Bolivia, the same would have to be done for others, too.

24. Mr. LOOSCH (Federal Republic of Germany), recalling his statement at the preceding meeting of the General Committee, pointed out that many Member States which were facing severe economic problems had made an effort and fulfilled their financial obligations to the Agency. It was imperative that respect for the Agency's Statute should be maintained so that the Agency's financial situation would be assured. He was not in favour of acceding to the request submitted by Bolivia.

25. Mr. CHIKELU (Nigeria) also said, as he had in the case of Nicaragua, that allowing a country in arrears in the payment of its contributions to vote would encourage many others not to pay their contributions. The Committee should therefore not grant Bolivia's request.

26. The CHAIRMAN took it that the Committee did not wish to recommend that Bolivia be permitted to vote under the provision set forth in the second sentence of Article XIX.A of the Statute.

27. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 3.20 p.m.

