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REPRESENTATION OF IAEA MEMBER STATES NOT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AT MEETINGS OF THE BOARD AS OBSERVERS

As agreed in February, at the end of the discussion in the Board of Governors under the agenda item "Representation of IAEA Member States not members of the Board at meetings of the Board as observers", the attached summary records of that discussion are herewith being transmitted to the General Conference for its information.

ATTACHMENT

Summary records of the Board's discussion under the agenda item
"Representation of IAEA Member States not members of the Board
at meetings of the Board as observers"
in February 1989

RECORD OF THE 707th MEETING (held on 23 February 1989, a.m.)

REPRESENTATION OF IAEA MEMBER STATES NOT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AT MEETINGS OF
THE BOARD AS OBSERVERS (GOV/INF/562)

89. The CHAIRMAN recalled that the Board, at its post-General Conference meeting the previous September, had agreed to take up the present item at its February 1989 session pursuant to a recommendation by the General Conference that the Board continue its consideration of the matter.

90. The matter had been extensively discussed by the Board in February 1988 on the initiative of the Ambassador of the Philippines, at whose request copies of the summary record of the discussion in February 1988 (document GOV/OR.690) were available in the meeting room.

91. In February 1988, the Board had recognized that there was scope for improving the physical arrangements in the Boardroom through measures such as the provision of more seats and the reservation of seats for representatives of non-Board members who had indicated in advance their wish to attend the Board meetings; at the same time, however, the Board had reaffirmed the resolution it had adopted in October 1957 and amended in 1958 on arrangements to enable all Members of the Agency to follow the work of the Board - i.e. to enable them to attend Board meetings without notifying the Secretariat in advance of the meetings. In fact, the prevailing view in February 1988, as stated by the then Chairman of the Board, had been "that the existing rules and practices, and also the continuing and well-functioning consultative mechanisms which had been developed by the Secretariat and successive Chairmen of the Board, provided ample opportunities for Member States not currently serving on the Board to follow the work of the Board and to present their views".

92. As a consequence of that Board decision, various measures had been taken by the Secretariat to facilitate the attendance by representatives of non-Board Member States at meetings of the Board and its committees; for example, non-Board Member States were being asked by circular letter whether they wished to be represented at the forthcoming Board or committee session and, if they did, a desk with country nameplate and microphone was being provided for each representative. If they could not give advance notification, they would still, of course, be most welcome to send representatives, and the Secretariat would do its utmost to provide adequate seating for them. In addition, the current series of meetings had been preceded by an informal meeting in which representatives of several non-Board Member States had participated, and some of them had also had talks with him in the course of his consultations on specific matters of interest to them on the current agenda of the Board.

93. The matter was nevertheless before the Board again, at the renewed initiative of the Ambassador of the Philippines, who had proposed the inclusion of an item on it in the agenda for the previous General Conference session. The discussion on the matter in the General Conference was reflected in document GOV/INF/562, to which were attached the texts of relevant letters exchanged between the Ambassador of the Philippines and the Secretariat.

94. Although the substance of the matter had already been extensively discussed the previous year in the Board - which was, of course, master of its own procedures - the matter was of wide interest and - in his view - merited further discussion, and he would propose letting the General Conference know about the Board's deliberations under the current agenda item through the transmission to the Conference of the summary record of the Board's discussion.

95. The Ambassador of the Philippines had requested the opportunity to introduce the item, and he was sure that the Board would wish to hear him at the outset of the discussion.

96. Mr. LAVIÑA (Philippines)[*] expressed his gratitude to the members of the Board for allowing him to speak, and thanked the Secretariat for the

[*] Member States not members of the Board of Governors are indicated by an asterisk.

improved arrangements to enable Member States not members of the Board to attend and participate in Board meetings - although those improvements were not entirely satisfactory.

97. As the Chairman had already pointed out, the question of the representation of IAEA Member States not members of the Board at meetings of the Board as observers had first been raised by the Philippine delegation at the Board's meetings in February 1988. The reasons for doing so had been the following. Firstly, non-Board members should be entitled to participate in meetings of the Board, as observers without the right to vote, in accordance with the fundamental principle of "sovereign equality" of States, enshrined in the Agency's Statute and in the United Nations Charter. Secondly, all Member States had the basic democratic right to be heard before the Board took a decision, particularly when the Agency's budget, which affected all Member States was being considered. Thirdly, the IAEA Board's rule and practice of restricting participation by non-Board members, even as observers, in Board meetings was unique among international organizations and constituted an anachronism in the light of contemporary developments. Furthermore, Article VI of the Statute grouped Agency Member States artificially into distinct areas, even though a Board member from a particular group did not necessarily represent the interests of all the other members of that group. Therefore, also, it was important for non-Board members to be given the opportunity to be heard, as observers, if they so wished.

98. In that connection, the term "observer" should be understood to mean a participant in the debates provided with all the facilities necessary to exercise the rights of participation except for the right to vote. An observer's participation should not be encumbered by a need to inform the Board in advance of a desire to speak on a particular item. If those proposals were accepted, incidentally, the Board's committees would of course all effectively be open-ended.

99. It seemed to him that the Board could make the proposed changes without even having to amend Rule 50 of its Provisional Rules of Procedure, although ultimately Rule 50 would have to be completely redrafted, as it was outdated and unrealistic in its present form.

100. The main argument advanced against the acceptance of non-Board members as full observers, in the sense just outlined, was the claim that increasing the number of participants in the meetings of the Board would decrease its efficiency. However, that argument had been rejected by many delegations, including those of Egypt, Spain and Italy.

101. In any case, the matter had not been settled satisfactorily during the Board's meetings in February 1988, and so it had been brought up again during the 1988 session of the General Conference, where it had been discussed extensively by the Committee of the Whole.

102. In that Committee, there had been a slight majority in favour of the draft resolution presented by the Philippines, but there had been no consensus, and so the matter had been passed on to the Plenary for discussion. At the end of the discussion there, the President of the Conference had read out an attempt at a compromise solution with the following precise wording:

"The Conference appreciates the spirit behind the resolution on the representation of IAEA Member States not members of the Board at meetings of the Board as observers. The Conference shares the belief that every opportunity should be given to non-Board members to attend meetings of the Board of Governors and to express their views on matters of interest. The Conference feels that this question, however, warrants further consideration by the Board and, while expressing its appreciation for the efforts already made by the Board, it recommends that the Board continue with its consideration of the matter."

After a statement by the delegate of the Philippines, the President had then clarified:

"I thank the distinguished delegate of the Philippines for his understanding and for accepting the proposal I just made on condition that the Board will report to the next General Conference."
[underlining added]

After interventions by other delegations, the President had made a third attempt at summing up:

"May I take it that what I read out is agreeable and that we will, and the Board will report back to the General Conference on the progress?"
[underlining added]

After two further interventions, the President had concluded with the following words:

"It is not the intention to compel or to direct the Board to report to the General Conference but rather a request that this be given a favourable consideration. ... From the discussion it appears to me that what I read out earlier was acceptable to all delegations, and in any case the Philippine delegate has indicated that he reserves the right to bring this matter again to the General Conference next year, ... when the Conference would get a report, we would be aware of the progress that has taken place in this matter. So with that, I hope that we can end the discussion on this subject and pass on to the next item." [underlining added]

103. However, the summary record of that meeting, issued by the Secretariat in document GC(XXXII)/OR.311, rendered the President's final summing-up in the following way:

"The PRESIDENT, noting that there was no intention of directing the Board to report to the General Conference, asked whether his suggestion was acceptable to the General Conference, it being borne in mind that the Philippine delegate had reserved the right to submit a proposal to the General Conference at its next regular session, at which time the Conference would be aware of the progress which had been made in the Board."

104. Thus, the summary record omitted the request that the matter be given favourable consideration, and therefore did not reflect the essence of the Conference's decision. Although he was aware that corrections to summary records were normally requested only by the author of the statement concerned, a President's ruling, being binding on Conference participants, was different, and he would have hoped that the Secretariat would have corrected the record so as to reflect the Conference's decision accurately. But in any case, what really mattered was that the Conference had requested the Board to give favourable consideration to the issue at hand.

105. In view of all the foregoing, he appealed to the members of the Board to apply Rule 50 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure liberally, by inviting non-Board members to attend or be represented, as a matter of course, at Board meetings; to decide that, as a consequence, the Boardroom should be further rearranged to allow more non-Board members to attend, with all facilities for proper participation; and, finally, to accord such observer status to non-Board members in the committees or subsidiary bodies of the Board as well.

106. Mr. USTYUGOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) reiterated his delegation's view that Rule 50 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure enabled all Member States which were not Board members to participate in Board discussions on all matters of interest to them, and that there was thus no need to amend that Rule.

107. While appreciating the diplomatic skill of the representative of the Philippines, who had so ably represented his country as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole during the 1988 session of the General Conference, the Soviet delegation felt compelled to adopt an objective view with regard to the outcome of the discussion of item 19 of the agenda of the thirty-second regular session of the General Conference, and accordingly remained convinced that the summary records of the discussions on that item accurately reflected the General Conference's decision.

108. Mr. SCHEEL (German Democratic Republic) said that his delegation appreciated the way in which the Secretariat had dealt with the issue and made efforts to facilitate the attendance of non-Board members; still, it considered that there was no need to change the Board's procedures and practices, since under Rule 50 non-Board members were able to express their views and to participate in consultations arranged by the Secretariat.

109. Mr. KOCH (Denmark) welcomed the measures taken to facilitate the attendance of non-Board members as observers. In view of the position of various countries, as reflected in the summary records of the previous session of the General Conference, his delegation believed that the only realistic solution to the problem of representation of non-Board members lay in a more flexible implementation of Rule 50 of the Board's Provisional Rules of Procedure. In particular, observers that had a special interest in the matter concerned should be allowed to speak at an appropriate time during the discussions and not necessarily after all Governors had expressed their views. However, it should not become customary for observers to make statements on all items of the Board's agenda.

110. Mr. RAMTANI (Algeria) expressed support for the Philippine proposal concerning the representation of non-Board members as observers at Board meetings. All Member States of the Agency had a legitimate right to

participate in the Board's work, so that they could monitor the Agency's activities more satisfactorily and make useful contributions to them. Increased participation by observers would also enable the Board to take decisions which were more representative of the views of all Member States. Any decision in favour of the Philippine proposal should not, however, be regarded as a substitute for amending Article VI of the Statute to correct the existing imbalance in the Board resulting from the under-representation of certain geographical regions such as Africa and the Middle East and South Asia.

111. Mr. SCHAAD (Federal Republic of Germany) said that his delegation had no reason to believe that the summary record referred to by the representative of the Philippines was not an accurate reflection of the President's summing-up. Furthermore, the practical arrangements made by the Secretariat seemed sufficient to allow non-Board members to follow the Board's work adequately.

112. Mr. GUYER (Argentina) reiterated his delegation's view that opening up the Board's most important committees to participation by non-Board members was a possible way of meeting the legitimate desire of all Member States to take an active part in the consideration of matters of particular interest to them. By doing so and by improving the physical facilities for observers at its meetings, the Board would be enhancing universality of its decisions without impairing its efficiency. Moreover, those measures could be taken without even amending Rule 50.

113. Mr. NEWLIN (United States of America) considered that the steps taken by the Secretariat to facilitate the representation of non-Board members, together with Rule 50 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure, provided adequate opportunity for non-Board members to attend Board meetings as observers. Furthermore, the Board in its present form was a representative body which was able to carry out its functions efficiently and effectively. The Chairman should therefore report to the General Conference reconfirming the steps already taken and noting that there was no consensus regarding any further action.

114. Mr. WATERFALL (Canada) said that the proposal made by the representative of the Philippines seemed inconsistent with Rule 50, as well as being likely to impair the effectiveness of the Board. Rule 50 was a flexible

instrument and an appropriate means of enabling non-Board members to express their views. His delegation did, however, welcome the improvements in the practical arrangements which had been made to facilitate their attendance at and participation in Board meetings.

115. Mr. TETENYI (Hungary) agreed with previous speakers that judicious use of Rule 50 constituted a satisfactory solution to the matter raised by the representative of the Philippines. In view of the improvements already made to facilitate the attendance and participation of non-Board members, there appeared to be no need for further action.

RECORD OF THE 708th MEETING (held on 23 February 1989, p.m.)

REPRESENTATION OF IAEA MEMBER STATES NOT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AT MEETINGS OF THE BOARD AS OBSERVERS (GOV/INF/562) (continued)

1. Mr. WILSON (Australia) welcomed the spirit of dialogue and not division that prevailed now, as in the past, during the discussion of the item.
2. All Member States were entitled to see that their interests in the Agency were fully protected, and on that score, the Agency set an excellent example. The relevant discussion had amply revealed that the Board was sensitive to the issue and wished to take a sensible and reasonable position. Through the resolution it had adopted in 1957, as amended in 1958, the Board had provided an opportunity for all Member States to follow its activities, and in practice those States had every facility to do so. In 1988, the Board had adopted measures designed to ensure that all Member States not members of the Board were able to participate in its discussions, in accordance with the Provisional Rules of Procedure.
3. Provided that those measures continued to be implemented in a spirit of co-operation - a spirit which the Chairman had already demonstrated - they would serve as a satisfactory basis for all Member States of the Agency to attend Board meetings. Accordingly, his delegation saw no need for further modifications.
4. Mr. KAZUHARA (Japan) said that the main purpose of the proposal by the Philippines was to ensure that non-Board members were allowed, as a matter

of course, to attend Board meetings as observers, without the right to vote, the term "observer" being defined as one who participated in the debates. If that was the case, the Board could give effect to the proposal without amending Rule 50 of its Provisional Rules of Procedure: indeed, the author of the proposal was not asking for the amendment of any provisions of the Rules or of the Statute. The question, therefore, was whether there was any real need to take a formal decision on the matter.

5. In his view, the Board had so far operated effectively under the able leadership of its various Chairmen, and it was they who were best placed to resolve in practice the issue raised by the Philippines. Their involvement in advisory committees and informal consultations in any case enabled all non-Board members to express their opinions on a variety of issues and thereby to contribute to the creation of consensus. His delegation therefore saw no need to adopt a decision on the matter: practical arrangements, such as providing certain facilities to non-Board members, would be enough achieve the objective pursued by the Philippine delegation.

6. His delegation wished to express appreciation to the representative of the Philippines for drawing attention to the importance of participation by all Member States in the Agency's activities and for instigating a salutary examination of the various problems faced by Member States that were not members of the Board. The discussion had been productive, and the time had come to move on and put the lessons learned into practice.

7. Ms. AMIN (Malaysia) said that the decision adopted at the thirty-second regular session of the General Conference and duly reflected in the summary records of the Committee of the Whole and the Plenary clearly showed that all Member States would like the Board to deliberate further on the question of representation of non-Board members as observers at the Board's meetings. It was to be hoped that the Board would take an appropriate decision on the matter.

8. In response to the questions raised by the representative of the Philippines regarding the accuracy of the summary records, she wished to state, on behalf of the President of the thirty-second regular session of the General Conference, that the summary records reflected the spirit and essence of the decision that had been adopted: namely, to request the Board to

continue to deliberate on the question and to make the results of its deliberations known to Member States at some stage before or during the next session of the General Conference.

9. Mr. TALIANI (Italy)[*], referring to the comment just made by the Governor from Malaysia concerning the summary records, said that - especially after hearing the arguments advanced by the representative of the Philippines - no one could contend that the records rendered the discussion in full: they were obviously incomplete because they were too "summary".

10. Thanking the Chairman for the practical arrangements he had made to enable Member States of the Agency that were not Board members to attend the Board's meetings, he noted that Rule 50 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure was exceedingly vague and open to various interpretations: the wording should therefore be made clearer. For example, it had been said that never in the Agency's history had a Member State that was not a member of the Board been refused permission to take the floor at a Board meeting. If that was true, the actual practice in applying Rule 50 should be recognized by stipulating that a Member State of the Agency that was not a Board member would, upon request, be given the right to take the floor during Board meetings.

11. He suggested that the Chairman undertake consultations on the possibility of amending Rule 50: if the prevailing conservatism obstructed any such amendment, he might simply offer a new interpretation of Rule 50, to the effect that a Member State of the Agency that was not a member of the Board had the right to attend meetings of the Board and to take the floor, without any special invitation and with the benefit of all the necessary physical facilities. The objective was merely to eliminate the formality that currently surrounded the invitation to take the floor. If that suggestion was acceptable, the Chairman might decide to engage in further consultations with members of the Board and, if appropriate, with other Member States, regarding the advisability of adopting such measures.

12. Mr. HIREMATH (India) said he was fully conscious of the transparent sincerity that had motivated the representative of the Philippines to insist on further consideration of the subject by the Board of Governors.

However, in his delegation's opinion, the Philippine proposal was unnecessary for a number of reasons.

13. First, Rule 50 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure already enabled non-members of the Board to attend its meetings. Although it actually provided that the Board "may invite" such States to be represented at or to attend the meetings, the Board had adopted a formal decision in 1957, amended in 1958, to clarify the situation by stipulating that all Member States of the Agency that were not members of the Board were to be permitted to attend the Board's meetings.

14. Secondly, the letter sent out by the Secretariat to all members of the Agency inquiring whether they wished to attend a particular Board session was a clear indication of the Secretariat's desire to provide the necessary logistic facilities to enable non-members of the Board who wished to attend the Board's meetings to do so without inconvenience.

15. Thirdly, it was not correct to say that important decisions of the Board, such as those relating to the budget, were taken by Board members and applied automatically to the rest of the Agency's membership, since it was in fact the General Conference that considered and approved the Agency's budget. In that context, it was regrettable that, for various reasons, so few non-members of the Board had participated in the informal discussions held shortly before the present meetings on the Agency's budget for 1990.

16. Fourthly, the question of revising Article VI of the Agency's Statute, and in particular Article VI.A.2, was being considered under another agenda item. Whatever the outcome of those discussions, the Board's current procedure and practice gave all members of the Agency the opportunity to participate in its deliberations.

17. Fifthly, the Agency's Statute made no provision for the status of "observer": it mentioned only members of the Agency and members of the Board. There was no need at the present stage to create a new category of "observers".

18. For all those reasons, he agreed with those Governors who had suggested that the Board should report to the General Conference that no consensus had been reached in favour of the action proposed in 1988. Finally, regarding the

comments made by the representative of Italy concerning the formalities surrounding the invitation to take the floor, he pointed out that there was nothing in Rule 50 that obliged the Chairman to seek the Board's formal approval before giving the floor to a non-member.

19. Mr. ERRERA (France) said that the goal of his delegation and of many others, and indeed of the Agency itself, was to ensure that all voices could be heard in an appropriate manner so that the decisions adopted would be based on broad agreement, or at least would be arrived at after the broadest possible range of views had been heard.

20. Both on paper and in practice the problem of participation by Member States not members of the Board appeared to have been resolved in a satisfactory manner: on paper, because of the existence and application of Rule 50 of the Board's Provisional Rules of Procedure, and in practice, through the supplementary arrangements adopted since the thirty-second session of the General Conference.

21. Consequently, his delegation saw no need to add any further provisions to those already in existence. He could not support the Philippine proposals which, far from improving the Board's operational efficacy, might on the contrary diminish it and even call in question the legitimacy of the very principle of representation which was the corner-stone of the democratic system at both the national and the international level.

22. Mr. YBAÑEZ (Spain) said that although it might be beneficial for as many Member States as possible to participate in the decision-making process, that was not sufficient reason, as the Governor from France had pointed out, for diluting the responsibility for the decisions adopted that Board members bore by virtue of the principle of representation. The Board must hear the full range of views and base its decisions upon the maximum possible quantity of information, but there should be a clear distinction between observers and members of the Board - including in the actual conduct of the Board's discussions, during which Board members should continue to take the floor before observers. There were general rules that must be respected, and it was obvious that observers should not be involved in the actual decision-making process.

23. The proposals made in the present context were entirely separate from those that had been submitted under agenda items 6 and 7 and related to a real problem, namely the need to restructure the Board's membership.

24. Although attendance of observers during Board meetings might raise technical and legal problems, such problems could be resolved through the exercise of political will. In that endeavour, the existing rules should provide a foundation rather than act as an obstacle, even if one day it might prove necessary to amend them. For the present, since Rule 50 of the Board's Provisional Rules of Procedure stipulated that "the Board may invite any State which is a Member of the Agency ... to be represented at or to attend any meeting of the Board", he proposed that the Board should decide forthwith to invite all Member States of the Agency to be represented at or to attend its next session, at which time the Board could again consider the question of whether it wished to invite Member States to be represented at its meetings. If a precedent were thereby established, a new practical arrangement would have come into being without any need to modify basic provisions.

25. Mr. CLARK (United Kingdom) said he considered the Philippine proposal inappropriate for the reasons advanced by the Governor from India. Only three non-Board members had taken the floor during the informal consultations on the Agency's draft programme and budget for 1990 which had immediately preceded the current session.

26. As to the formal invitation which non-Board members had to await before speaking at the Board's meetings, it was important because it enabled the Chairman to draw a clear distinction, in his summing-up of the discussion, between members of the Board and non-members.

27. Mr. van GORKOM (Netherlands) considered the existing provisions satisfactory and saw no reason for the Board to adopt additional measures.

28. Mr. Al NO-WAISER (Saudi Arabia)[*] began by thanking the Secretariat for the arrangements it had made to enable Member States of the Agency that were not members of the Board to attend Board meetings - even though those arrangements remained on the whole inadequate, as the Governor from the Federal Republic of Germany had said.

29. Certain governors might well have difficulties in accepting the Philippine proposal. It was true that Member States of the Agency not members of the Board could attend the Board's meetings in conformity with Rule 50 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure, but still they had difficulty in doing so for lack of space. The intention was not to amend Rule 50 radically, but simply to give non-Board members who wished to attend the Board's meetings the means of doing so by inviting all such Member States to attend, by providing seats for the observers, and by scheduling their statements to coincide with the discussion of the relevant agenda items. That procedure was of crucial importance for all Member States of the Agency and should not give rise to opposition, since it in no way jeopardized the interests of Board members.

30. Mr. SAVIC (Yugoslavia) said that his delegation had supported the Philippine proposal in 1988 and wished it to be clearly understood that its position remained unchanged: it still supported the proposal.

31. Mr. KHAN (Pakistan) said the statements made by governors who had spoken before him indicated that there was no consensus on the Philippine proposal. In the past, Rule 50 had been interpreted in a liberal and constructive manner by Chairmen of the Board, and more facilities had recently been provided to enable non-members to participate in discussions. It would thus appear that there was an unwritten agreement on the subject which was working satisfactorily. Any attempt to formalize that agreement might not be helpful, and might even lead to a review of Rule 50 resulting in the application of more restrictive provisions.

32. He thanked the representative of the Philippines for having drawn attention to the matter in such a way that a number of de facto concessions had been obtained. Nevertheless, the Board should not be forced into making concessions de jure. The existing arrangements should now be allowed to work for a number of years: the Board could always revert to the matter should they prove to be unsatisfactory.

33. Mr. LAVIÑA (Philippines)[*] expressed his delegation's thanks to the Chairman and to all the Board members, particularly those who had expressed some support and sympathy for his proposal. His delegation had had no illusions about the outcome of the discussion, given the attitude adopted

by the Board at its February 1988 meetings and the position it had taken on other matters, such as the revision of Article VI of the Statute.

34. In the Philippines, as perhaps also in certain international forums, anyone who disagreed with a ruling manifested his position; however, he had heard no objections expressed during the discussion of the question, either within the Committee of the Whole or in the General Conference itself. The summary records in fact showed that one important delegation had helped to draft and had proposed a compromise text according to which the issue would be referred back to the Board with the recommendation that it consider it favourably.

35. The CHAIRMAN said that note had been taken by several speakers of various improvements made in the practical arrangements for non-Board Member States to express their views at meetings of the Board and of its committees, and other speakers had drawn attention to the fact that non-Board members were regularly notified of the meetings and invited to indicate whether they wished to participate, so that a desk and a microphone could be provided for them. It seemed to him that the predominant views expressed by Board members during the discussion had been so similar to those expressed when the Board had considered an agenda item with the same title at its February 1988 session that much of the summing-up made by his predecessor at that time bore repeating.

36. There had obviously been understanding on the part of the Board for the motives which had prompted the initiative by the representative of the Philippines, and also for the legitimate desire by all Members of the Agency to be adequately informed of the Board's activities and to be able to present their views when the Board was considering matters of particular interest to them.

37. In fact, the prevailing view had clearly been that the existing rules and practices, and also the continuing and well-functioning consultative mechanisms which had been developed by the Secretariat and successive Chairmen of the Board, provided ample opportunities for Member States not serving on the Board to follow the work of the Board and to present their views.

38. In that connection, he assumed that the Board wished to reaffirm the resolution on "Arrangements to enable all Members of the Agency to follow the work of the Board", which it had adopted in 1957 and amended in 1958, under which all Member States not members of the Board were to be permitted to attend meetings of the Board. He also assumed that, in doing so, the Board would like to emphasize that it was the master of its own procedures.

39. With regard to the improvements made by the Secretariat in the physical arrangements in the Boardroom, he believed the Board welcomed them, but would like the Secretariat to consider whether further improvements were possible.

40. Lastly, in order that the General Conference could be aware of the outcome of the Board's deliberations, he proposed that the summary record of the Board's discussion under the item be transmitted to the General Conference for its information.

41. The Chairman's summing-up was accepted.