

**GC**

International Atomic Energy Agency

GENERAL CONFERENCEGC(40)/INF/2
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ADVANCE INFORMATION FOR DELEGATIONS**OPENING OF THE FORTIETH REGULAR SESSION**

1. The fortieth regular session of the General Conference will open on Monday, 16 September 1996, at 10 a.m.^{1/} It will be held at the Austria Center Vienna (ACV), Am Hubertusdamm 6, 1220 Vienna, next to the Vienna International Centre (VIC).
2. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference, morning meetings will begin at 10 a.m. and afternoon meetings at 3 p.m. Delegates are requested to be in their places by those times in order to allow meetings to start punctually. If evening meetings prove to be necessary, the starting times will be announced during the session.

PRE-SESSION CONSULTATIONS

3. **During the weekend preceding the opening of the Conference's session (Saturday, 14 September, and Sunday, 15 September 1996), facilities for group meetings are being made available on request. Member States are strongly urged to avail themselves of those facilities with a view to achieving agreement on organizational matters (e.g. regarding the composition of the General Committee) before the session opens on Monday and thereby contributing to the smooth running of the Conference's session, ensuring - where necessary - that their representatives arrive in Vienna in time to participate in pre-session group meetings and the associated group decision-making. Meeting rooms should be reserved in good time through the Secretariat's Conference Service Section.**

^{1/} The provisional agenda for the fortieth regular session is contained in document GC(40)/1.

NOTIFICATION OF THE COMPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS

4. Governments are requested to communicate to the Secretariat the composition of their delegations well in advance. This should be done in writing - by letter or by completing the registration form which has been transmitted to Permanent Missions. Rule 23 of the Conference's Rules of Procedure^{2/} provides for each Member State of the Agency to be represented by one Delegate, who may be accompanied by as many assistants (alternates, advisers, etc.) as may be needed. An unofficial edition of members of delegations will be issued on Wednesday, 11 September 1996; only those names that are received by the Secretariat before Friday, 6 September can be included in it. The first official list of members of delegations will be issued on Sunday, 15 September; it will contain information which has been communicated to the Secretariat before Friday, 13 September.

5. If, during the session, changes are required in the particulars provided at the time of registration, Delegates are requested to inform Protocol in writing, so that the list of delegation members may be brought up to date.

CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATES

6. Delegates (but not other members of a delegation) will require credentials specifically for the session, even if they are already accredited to the Agency in some other capacity - for example, as Resident Representative. Credentials have to be delivered in due time; this helps to avoid difficulties, particularly for the General Committee. It is accordingly emphasized that, under Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure, credentials should be submitted to the Director General not later than Monday, 9 September 1996, issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Member concerned. If credentials cannot be submitted by Friday, 13 September, Delegates should deliver them direct to the Credentials Officers at the ACV either on Sunday, 15 September, between 2.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. or on the following Monday morning.

REGISTRATION FOR BADGES

7. Each participant will require a badge with a photograph for entry into the ACV during the session. Badges will be issued by the staff at the Registration Desk to those designated participants who are not already in possession of a valid VIC ground pass. Badges issued for the General Conference will also be valid for entering the VIC.

8. Participants may register on Friday, 13 September, at the Agency's Registration Desk at the VIC between 9 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. and on Sunday, 15 September, between 2 p.m. and

^{2/} GC(XXXI)/INF/245/Rev.1.

6.30 p.m. at the ACV. Registration will continue throughout the week of the Conference's session at the Registration Desk at the ACV.

9. Participants also attending the meetings of the Board of Governors which start on Monday, 9 September 1996 may register simultaneously for both the Board's meetings and the Conference's regular session at the Agency's Registration Desk at the VIC between 8.30 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. on Monday, 9 September and Tuesday, 10 September, provided that they inform the Secretariat of their intention to do so before Friday, 6 September.

DOCUMENTS

10. Each delegation is urged to visit the Documents Distribution Centre in room FM152 at the VIC not later than Friday, 13 September, and specify its requirements for documents on a form which will be provided for this purpose. If this is not possible, delegations should apply to the Documents Station at the ACV either on Sunday, 15 September, between 2.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. or on the following Monday morning.

11. Before the opening of the session one complete set of the Conference documents already issued will be available to each delegation. All documents produced during the session, including the Conference Journal containing the daily programme, and other notices will also be available at the Documents Station at the ACV.

12. Delegates wishing to submit draft resolutions or other documents to the Conference during the session are requested to provide the Conference Secretary or the appropriate Committee Secretary with the text as early as possible.

SPEAKERS IN THE GENERAL DEBATE

13. Until the beginning of the Conference's session on Monday, 16 September 1996, requests for inscription on the list of speakers in the general debate should be made directly, either personally or in writing, to the Secretariat of the Policy-making Organs (VIC, room A 2871). As Member States were informed by document GC(40)/INF/1, issued on 20 May 1996, inscription in the list of speakers started on 17 June 1996; a ballot was taken at 11 a.m. on that day in order to determine the order of priority among the Member States whose representatives had - between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. - personally made a request for inscription in the list.^{3/} Since 11 a.m. on 17 June, Member States making requests for inscription in the list have been added in the order in which they made their requests. It should be noted, however, that the practice of giving priority to Ministers participating in the general debate will continue.

^{3/} This procedure was approved by the Conference in 1989.

14. Delegates who have not inscribed their names on the list by the beginning of the session but wish to speak in the general debate are requested to contact the official responsible for maintaining the speakers' list, who will have a desk in Conference Room A (where the plenary meetings will take place). Delegates should also contact that official if they wish to speak on other items at plenary meetings.

STATEMENTS IN THE GENERAL DEBATE

15. In order that the general debate may represent a more efficient use of the time available, Delegates are invited to keep the duration of their statements down to 15 minutes by focusing on the main points which they wish to make.

16. To facilitate interpretation, texts of statements to be delivered should be handed to the Conference Officer in advance. Copies of the full texts (in the original language) will, if Delegates so request, be made available to other Delegates during the session.

17. It is of considerable help if the texts of statements provided to the Secretariat are typed with double line spacing.

WORKING LANGUAGES AND INTERPRETATION

18. The working languages of the Conference are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, and statements made in any one of these languages will be interpreted simultaneously into the others. If Delegates wish to make a speech in a language other than the working languages, they should, under Rule 87 of the Rules of Procedure, themselves arrange for interpretation into one of the working languages and provide the Secretariat with a written text of their speech in advance in that working language.

PLEDGES OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION FUND FOR 1997

19. The Board of Governors has set a target of US\$ 68 million, subject to the Conference's approval, for Members' contributions to the Technical Co-operation Fund for 1997. A circular letter indicating Member States' individual shares of the target (calculated on the basis of the base rates of assessment applicable for 1997) is being forwarded to Member States. Before the regular session opens, a document will be circulated for the purpose of notifying delegates of the contributions that Members have pledged themselves to make.^{4/} It would be greatly appreciated if Governments facilitated the timely preparation of this document by communicating their pledges to the Director General as soon as they are

^{4/} The corresponding document of last year was GC(39)/25.

in a position to do so. During the session, it will be possible to communicate pledges to the Contributions Officer, who will have a desk in Conference Room A and will arrange for updated versions of the document to be issued.

SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME ORGANIZED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CONFERENCE'S SESSION

20. A special scientific programme will be organized in conjunction with the Conference's fortieth regular session. It will take place on *Tuesday, 17 September, in the afternoon and on Wednesday, 18 September, in the morning and in the afternoon, in Conference Room C at the ACV*, as follows:

Tuesday, 2.30 p.m. *Advanced Nuclear Fuel Cycles: New Concepts for the Future*
(Scientific Secretary: Mr. N. Oi
Division of Nuclear Power and the
Fuel Cycle
Tel.: 2060/22766)

Wednesday, 10 a.m. *Agency Information Management for Member States*
(Scientific Secretary: Ms. J. Amenta
Division of Scientific and Technical
Information
Tel.: 2060/22830)

Wednesday, 2.30 p.m. *Trends in Research Reactor Utilization*
(Scientific Secretary: Mr. T. Dolan
Division of Physical and Chemical
Sciences
Tel.: 2060/21756)

Further information may be obtained from the Scientific Secretaries.

SAFEGUARDS AFTERNOON

21. A safeguards afternoon - "Strengthening and Improving Safeguards - An Introduction to Programme 93 + 2" - will be held in Meeting Room M at the AVC at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 18 September 1996. The programme will be introduced by the Director General and will cover the following topics:

- What is new in "Programme 93 + 2"
- "93 + 2": experience in the field
- Broadening information sources - Environmental sampling

- New technology for information collection - Remote monitoring
- More access for inspectors - Why and where

The programme will conclude with an open-ended discussion.

Further information may be obtained from Mr. J. Larrimore (Tel.: 2060/21833).

MEETING OF SENIOR SAFETY OFFICIALS

22. The traditional meeting of senior safety officials will be held on *Wednesday, 18 September and Thursday, 19 September 1996*. The topics to be covered in the one and a half-day meeting include:

- (i) National approaches to spent fuel management and disposal
- (ii) Protection of patients and the safety of radiation sources in medical applications
- (iii) Application of Probabilistic Safety Assessment (PSA) in nuclear safety regulatory regimes
- (iv) A decade of emergency planning developments
- (v) Judging the adequacy of the licensees management of safety arrangements
- (vi) Nuclear Power Plant safety related issues - Examples of regulatory difficulties

The meeting will be held in the IAEA Boardroom, on the 4th floor of Building C at the VIC. Further information may be obtained from the Department of Nuclear Safety (Tel.: 2060/22700).

TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION MEETINGS

- (i) **AFRA/ARCAL/RCA and Regional Technical Co-operation Programme for Europe.**
- (ii) **Joint Meetings of Chairpersons and Representatives of AFRA, ARCAL, RCA.**

23. There will be meetings of groups and representatives of Regional Co-operative Agreements (AFRA, ARCAL, RCA) and Regional TC Programmes (Europe). Individual group meetings will be followed by a joint meeting of group Chairpersons and Representatives.

24. The timetable and locations are as follows:

AFRA Tuesday, 17 September 1996 at 10 a.m.
VIC, C-Tower, 7th Floor of Building C, Meeting Room V.

RCA Wednesday, 18 September 1996 at 08.30 a.m.
VIC, C-Tower, 7th floor of Building C, Meeting Room V.

ARCAL Thursday, 19 September 1996, at 10 a.m.
VIC, C-Tower, 7th floor of Building C, Meeting Room V.

Europe Thursday, 19 September 1996, at 10 a.m.
VIC, C-Tower, 7th floor of Building C, Meeting Room IV.

Joint AFRA/ARCAL/RCA Chairpersons and Representatives
Thursday, 19 September 1996 at 2.30 p.m.
VIC, C-Tower, 7th floor of Building C, Meeting Room V.

(iii) Consultations with Member States

25. Consultations with the representatives of most Member States being recipients of technical assistance will be held prior to the Conference sessions. For those delegations present in Vienna only during the General Conference and for specific issues and/or special problems meetings will be arranged during the General Conference.

(iv) TC Information Management Systems - demonstration

26. A stand will be maintained at the Austria Center to demonstrate the latest in TC Information Management Systems such as TC-PREFS, PIPELINE, TC-PIMS and TCIM Systems.

INFORMATION DISPLAY (INTERNET) CORNER

27. An Information Display (Internet) Corner will demonstrate the utilization of selected IAEA information resources - the IAEA Internet Services and some of the IAEA scientific and technical databases. It will be open all day and attended by staff members from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (special demonstration sessions outside these hours can be organized if requested by Conference participants).

EXTERNAL E-MAIL SERVICE

28. Delegates will be able to receive and send electronic mail during the Conference.

29. The public address is: "GENCONF96@EXTERN.IAEA.OR.AT". Senders should specify the recipient's name and country in the subject line in order to ensure that the message is allocated to the proper delegate. Messages sent to this e-mail address may be picked up by delegates at the information desk. This e-mail address may be used only to receive messages.

30. In addition to the above general e-mail address, delegates may register during the Conference for a specific individual e-mail address valid for the duration of the General Conference. Computers will be available so that delegates can send and receive e-mail messages using their individual e-mail address.

General Information

ACCOMMODATION FOR DELEGATIONS

1. Hotels in Vienna are usually heavily booked during the month of September. It is therefore important to reserve accommodation as far in advance as possible. Delegates are advised to make their bookings either direct with the hotel or through their Permanent Mission or Embassy/Consulate in Vienna.

CURRENCY

2. Bank notes, travellers' cheques and letters of credit may be brought into Austria without restriction but, as not all currencies are in equal demand, a few may not be easily saleable. Departing visitors may take with them the foreign currency and securities they brought into the country and any amount in Austrian Schillings. It is, however, recommended that Conference participants keep the receipts relating to all major currency exchange transactions in case they need to re-exchange currencies on their departure from Austria.

PARKING

3. Parking facilities will be available on parking decks 1 and 2 of the ACV. For official cars with chauffeurs, red stickers entitling the cars to be driven to the main entrance of the ACV will be issued; for other cars General Conference and VIC ground passes will suffice as identification for free parking in this area.

VIC COMMISSARY

4. In accordance with the Agreement between the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Austrian Government, the heads of delegations of Member States participating in the General Conference are entitled to commissary cards for the duration of the Conference's session.

5. Any questions in connection with the issuing of commissary cards to the heads of delegations should be directed to the Protocol Office.

RECEPTIONS AND OTHER EVENTS TAKING PLACE DURING THE CONFERENCE

6. The organizers or sponsors of receptions and other events to be arranged during the Conference are invited to contact the Protocol Office if they wish an announcement regarding such events to be included in the Conference Journal.

