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COMMUNICATION OF 5 AUGUST 1996 RECEIVED FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

The text of a note verbale dated 5 August 1996 which the Director General has received from the Permanent Mission of Iraq is - as requested - reproduced for the attention of the General Conference.

"The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the IAEA presents its compliments to the International Atomic Energy Agency and with reference to the Agency's message No. N3.31-2-IRQ/A1.10.2 dated 12 July 1996 regarding the right to vote in the forthcoming meetings of the General Conference in September 1996 in Vienna and would like to state the following:

"As a result of a number of resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council a total embargo was imposed on the Republic of Iraq since August 1990. The embargo is still in effect. In addition, the said resolutions have resulted in freezing all Iraqi assets abroad and all banks were ordered not to effect any transactions on behalf of Iraq. Thus force majeure conditions were created which prevent Iraq from paying its assessed contribution to the regular budget.

"The Mission would like to emphasize that Iraq has always made good on its financial contributions to the IAEA prior to the present situation. Iraq will make every effort to fulfill its obligations as soon as conditions permit it to do so.

"The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq requests that this note is brought to the attention of the General Conference with a view to restoring its right to vote in accordance with article XIX.A of the Statute.

"The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the IAEA avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration."*/

*/ It is suggested that, pursuant to Rule 42(b) of the Conference's Rules of Procedure and in line with past practice, this request be referred to the General Committee for consideration.