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GENERAL CONFERENCE

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FORTY-FIRST (1997) REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RECORD OF THE SEVENTH MEETING

Held at the Austria Center Vienna on Thursday, 2 October 1997, at 8.30 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. STRATFORD (United States of America)

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[*] GC(41)/28.

The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document GC(41)/INF/17/Rev.2. 97-03931 (XXXI)

MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN NUCLEAR, RADIATION AND WASTE SAFETY (continued) (GC(41)/COM.5/2)

- 1. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u>, drawing attention to the amended version of the draft resolution submitted by Turkey in document GC(41)/COM.5/2, asked the representative of Turkey whether her delegation was prepared to accept it.
- 2. <u>Ms. OK</u> (Turkey) said that the amended version met the concerns of her delegation.
- 3. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> took it that the Committee of the Whole wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(41)/COM.5/2 as amended.
- 4. <u>It was so agreed</u>.

ARTICLE VI OF THE STATUTE (resumed)

- 5. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u>, drawing attention to the draft resolution text and the statement text which had been distributed, said that the former contained elements from the draft resolution submitted by Brazil on behalf of the Group of 77 in document GC(41)/COM.5/15, elements from the Canadian proposal contained in Appendix II to document GC(41)/11 and elements from resolution GC(40)/RES/20 adopted at the preceding session of the General Conference.
- 6. In 1996, the Committee of the Whole, when agreeing to recommend adoption of resolution GC(40)/RES/20, had also agreed that the President of the General Conference should read out a statement. The report of the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole had contained merely the recommendation that the Conference adopt the resolution; no reference had been made to the statement. The latter had been given to the President, who had then announced that no recommendation had been made by the Committee of the Whole on the composition of regional groups and that it was his understanding, following

extensive consultations, that agreement had been reached that he should read out the statement which had been given to him.¹

- 7. In the contact group which had met under his chairmanship, besides agreement on the draft resolution text and on a slightly revised version of the statement on the regional group composition question which had been read out at the preceding year's session of the General Conference, there had also been agreement that exactly the same procedure would be followed as in 1996. In particular, it had been agreed that no member of the Committee of the Whole would raise any objection in the Plenary.
- 8. The discussions in the contact group had been difficult and the agreements had been reached on the understanding that no modifications would be made to the resulting texts. He appealed to the members of the Committee to respect that result.
- 9. Mr. BENMOUSSA (Morocco), speaking on behalf of the African Group, congratulated the Chairman on the patience he had shown and associated himself with the Chairman's appeal.
- 10. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> took it that the Committee wished to recommend the adoption by the General Conference of the draft resolution text which had been distributed and wished him to present to the President of the Conference, through the Secretariat, the statement text which had been distributed, with the recommendation of the Committee that the President read it out.

11. It was so agreed.

12. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> said he was pleased that the Committee had been able to arrive at a consensus regarding the Article VI issue.

See GC(40)/OR.10, para. 75.

- 13. He thanked the interpreters and other Conference personnel for their efforts, and especially Mr. Bashua from the Secretariat of the Policy-making Organs.
- 14. Chairing the Committee of the Whole had for him been a difficult but highly rewarding experience.

The meeting rose at 9 p.m.