

# General Conference

**GC(48)/COM.5/OR.1**

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## Forty-Eighth (2004) Regular Session

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# Committee of the Whole

## Record of the First Meeting

*Held at the Austria Center Vienna on Tuesday, 21 September 2004, at 10.40 a.m.*

**Chairman:** Mr. OTHMAN (Syrian Arab Republic)

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The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document GC(48)/INF/16/Rev.1.

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[\*] GC(48)/25.

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## – Election of Vice-Chairmen and organization of work

1. The CHAIRMAN, having expressed appreciation for the confidence which the General Conference had placed in him, said that, as provided for in Rule 46 of the Rules of Procedure and following group consultations, it had been proposed that Ms. Stokes of Australia and Mr. Nemethy of Slovakia should serve as Vice-Chairmen of the Committee. He took it that the Committee wished to endorse their nominations.

2. It was so agreed.

3. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to document GC(48)/COM.5/1, which listed the agenda items referred to the Committee of the Whole by the General Conference. He proposed that, in line with past practice, he report orally on the Committee's deliberations at a plenary meeting of the Conference. He took it that the Committee wished the practice of clustering, to the extent practicable, the draft resolutions recommended to the Conference by the Committee for adoption to be continued.

4. It was so agreed.

## 9. The Agency's accounts for 2003 (GC(48)/9)

5. The CHAIRMAN, noting that no Committee members wished to take the floor, assumed that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution on page I of document GC(48)/9.

6. It was so agreed.

## 10. The Agency's budget for 2004 — supplementary appropriation (GC(48)/16)

7. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that the Board had recommended to the Conference a supplementary appropriation to the Regular Budget for 2004 to cover the Agency's share of the immediate budgetary requirements for new security enhancements at the Vienna International Centre, and corresponding requirements for Agency regional, liaison and field offices and laboratory sites.

8. The Committee had before it document GC(48)/16, which contained in the Annex a draft resolution recommended by the Board for adoption by the Conference.

9. Noting that no Committee members wished to take the floor, he assumed that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it approve the supplementary appropriation to the Regular Budget for 2004 set out in document GC(48)/16 and, accordingly, to adopt the draft resolution contained in the Annex to that document.

10. It was so agreed.

## **11. The Agency's budget for 2005** (GC(48)/2 and Mod.1)

11. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that: the Board had, at its June session, recommended the adoption by the General Conference of the draft resolution entitled "A. Regular Budget appropriations for 2005" in the Annex to document GC(48)/2; the Board had, the previous week, recommended a figure for the Technical Cooperation Fund (TCF) target for 2005 and the adoption of the draft resolution entitled "B. Technical Cooperation Fund allocation for 2005" in document GC(48)/2/Mod.1; and the Board had in June also recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution entitled "C. The Working Capital Fund in 2005" in the Annex to document GC(48)/2.

12. He drew the Committee's attention to document GC(48)/INF/13, containing a specimen draft resolution, produced solely for purposes of illustration, on the Regular Budget appropriations for 2005.

13. Noting that no Committee members wished to take the floor, he assumed that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it approve a total Regular Budget figure for 2005 of US \$281 430 000 on the basis of an exchange rate of €0.9229 to \$1.00 and, accordingly, that it adopt the draft resolution entitled "A. Regular Budget appropriations for 2005" in the Annex to document GC(48)/2.

14. It was so agreed.

15. The CHAIRMAN took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it approve a target for voluntary contributions to the TCF for 2005 of \$77 500 000 and, accordingly, that it adopt the draft resolution entitled "B. Technical Cooperation Fund allocation for 2005" in document GC(48)/2/Mod.1.

16. It was so agreed.

17. The CHAIRMAN took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that the level of the Working Capital Fund in 2005 be maintained at its current level of \$18 000 000 and, accordingly, that it adopt the draft resolution entitled "C. The Working Capital Fund in 2005" in the Annex to document GC(48)/2.

18. It was so agreed.

## **12. Scale of assessment of members' contributions towards the Regular Budget** (GC(48)/10)

19. The representative of MEXICO said that there should be a thorough analysis of the scale of assessments issue with a view to arriving at a fair distribution of the financial burden, without significantly affecting Member States' contributions. Her delegation would in due course make specific proposals in the appropriate forum.

20. The CHAIRMAN, noting that no other Committee members wished to take the floor, assumed that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(48)/10.

21. It was so agreed.

## **15. Strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities (GC(48)/INF/6 and Supplement; GC(48)/COM.5/L.1)**

22. The representative of PAKISTAN, introducing, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the draft resolution contained in document GC(48)/COM.5/L.1, said that technical cooperation was of great importance for developing Member States and expressed the hope that the draft resolution would be recommended by the Committee to the General Conference for adoption.

23. The representative of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, referring to the last phrase ("based on ... years") in preambular paragraph (j) of the draft resolution, said that his delegation had misgivings about the implied automatic linkage between the Regular Budget level and the TCF target. He suggested the insertion, after paragraph (j), of a paragraph reading "Convinced, however, that the TCF target should be set at a realistic level which Member States are able to pay, as for 2005–2006".

24. The representative of GERMANY expressed support for the suggestion made by the representative of the United States of America.

25. The representative of INDIA pointed out that the words "from 2005 onwards ... years" in preambular paragraph (j) had been taken from paragraph 8 of the 'package proposal' approved by the Board in July 2003 (GOV/2003/48). The Indian delegation would like the draft resolution to remain as it stood.

26. The representatives of CHINA, BRAZIL, the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC and YEMEN expressed support for the statement made by the representative of India.

27. The representative of PAKISTAN, also expressing support for the statement, said that nothing should be done to detract from the importance of technical cooperation financing.

28. The representative of EGYPT, likewise expressing support for the statement, said that preambular paragraph (j) reflected the outcome of extensive negotiations which had covered not only technical cooperation but also activities such as safeguards.

29. The representative of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN said that although the draft resolution was not ideal, failing — inter alia — to reflect the concern that technical cooperation activities could be used to serve political interests, his delegation would not like to see it changed, as changing it would entail the reopening of issues on which agreement had been reached in 2003.

30. The representative of the UNITED KINGDOM said that, although preambular paragraph (j) reflected the 'package proposal' agreed on in July 2003, the additional paragraph suggested by the representative of the United States of America reflected the importance of taking into account the ability of Member States to contribute to the TCF. Failing to take it into account would result in the under-funding of technical cooperation activities.

31. The representative of PERU, expressing support for the statement made by the representative of India, recalled that the words “from 2005 onwards ... years” had appeared in preambular paragraph (j) of resolution GC(47)/RES/9 adopted in 2003.

32. The representative of the NETHERLANDS said that his country, which had already pledged its full share of the envisaged TCF target for 2005, was in favour of adequate funding being provided for technical cooperation and suggested that “realistic” be replaced by “adequate” in the additional paragraph proposed by the representative of the United States of America.

33. The CHAIRMAN proposed that further consideration of agenda item 15 be postponed.

34. It was so agreed.

## **16. Strengthening the Agency’s activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications**

(GC(48)/12; GC(48)/14; GC(48)/INF/4; GC(48)/COM.5/L.2;  
GC(48)/COM.5/L.3)

35. The representative of PAKISTAN, introducing the draft resolution contained in document GC(48)/COM.5/L.2, said that it was crucial to intensify the Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC).

36. The representative of CANADA suggested that, in the interests of consistency with resolution GC(46)/RES/11.D) adopted in 2002, the words “within available resources” be inserted at the end of operative paragraph 3.

37. The DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR MANAGEMENT suggested that, also in the interests of consistency with the resolution adopted in 2002, that the words “subject to the availability of resources” be inserted at the end of operative paragraph 5.

38. The representatives of MOROCCO questioned whether the ability of the Director General to report to the Board and the General Conference would be limited by a shortage of resources.

39. The representative of PAKISTAN, having expressed support for the comment made by the representative of Morocco, said that he was opposed to the suggestion made by the representative of Canada. The magnitude of the tsetse fly problem called for unqualified support for PATTEC.

40. The representative of the NETHERLANDS, responding to the statement made by the representative of Pakistan, said that in his view it was undesirable to express unqualified support for one particular activity in the technical cooperation area, however important. Technical cooperation involved many very deserving activities. His delegation therefore supported the suggestion to add “within available resources” in operative paragraph 3.

41. The DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR MANAGEMENT said that the Secretariat did not insist on the addition of “subject to the availability of resources” in operative paragraph 5 but considered that operative paragraph 3 should be amended as suggested by the representative of Canada.

42. The CHAIRMAN proposed, following a request by the representative of JAPAN for time in order that her delegation might consult with the relevant authorities in Tokyo, that the Committee postpone further consideration of the draft resolution contained in document GC(48)/COM.5/L.2.

43. It was so agreed.

44. The representative of PAKISTAN, introducing the draft resolution contained in document GC(48)/COM.5/L.3, said that it was essentially an updated version of resolution GC(47)/RES/10.A adopted in 2003.

45. The representative of GERMANY, welcoming the report by the Director General contained in document GC(48)/12, said that her country greatly appreciated the progress that had been made in preserving and enhancing nuclear knowledge since the 2004 session of the General Conference and hoped that further progress would be made, with a view to ensuring the future availability of the qualified manpower needed for the safe and secure utilization of all nuclear technologies.

46. The CHAIRMAN took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(48)/COM.5/L.3.

47. It was so agreed.

**The meeting rose at 11.55 a.m.**