

# General Conference

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## Fifty-seventh regular session

# Plenary

## Record of the Seventh Meeting

*Held at Headquarters, Vienna, on Thursday, 19 September 2013, at 10 a.m.*

**President:** Mr MABHONGO (South Africa)

## Contents

Item of the agenda <sup>1</sup>	Paragraphs
8	General debate and Annual Report for 2012 ( <i>continued</i> )
	1–164
	Statements by the delegates of:
	Turkey
	1–29
	Uruguay
	30–43
	Dominican Republic
	44–58
	Cameroon
	59–71
	Zimbabwe
	72–84
	Uganda
	85–91
	Belgium
	92–121
	Chile
	122–137
	Albania
	138–152
	Romania
	153–164

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<sup>1</sup> GC(57)/24.

## Contents

Item of the agenda		Paragraphs
27	Examination of delegates' credentials	165–170
–	Interim oral report by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole	171–180
–	– The Agency's Financial Statements for 2012	181
–	– The Agency's Programme and Budget for 2014–2015	182
–	– Amendment to Article XIV.A of the Statute	183
–	– Scale of assessment of members' contributions towards the Regular Budget	184
–	– Measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety	185
–	– Strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications	186
–	– Amendment of Article VI of the Statute	187
–	– Elections of the Agency's Staff Pension Committee	188
–	– Personnel matters	189
9	Election of members to the Board of Governors	190–213
12	Appointment of the External Auditor	214–217

**Abbreviations used in this record:**

AFRA	African Regional Co-operative Agreement for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology
ARCAL	Co-operation Agreement for the Promotion of Nuclear Science and Technology in Latin America and the Caribbean
AU-PATTEC	African Union's Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign
CPF	Country Programme Framework
CPPNM	Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material
CT	computed tomography
CTBT	Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
CTBTO	Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
EPREV	Emergency Preparedness Review
Euratom	European Atomic Energy Community
HEU	high-enriched uranium
imPACT	integrated missions of PACT
INPRO	International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles
INSServ	International Nuclear Security Advisory Service
INSSP	Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan
IPPAS	International Physical Protection Advisory Service
IRRS	Integrated Regulatory Review Service
ITDB	International Trafficking Database
LEU	low-enriched uranium
NAM	Non-Aligned Movement
NPT	Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
NPT Review Conference	Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
NWFZ	nuclear-weapon-free zone

**Abbreviations used in this record (continued):**

OIOS	Office of Internal Oversight Services
OSART	Operational Safety Review Team
PACT	Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
Pelindaba Treaty	African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty
PET	positron emission tomography
R&D	research and development
SIT	sterile insect technique
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
VVER	(See WWER)
WENRA	Western European Nuclear Regulators' Association
WHO	World Health Organization
WWER	water cooled water moderated reactor

## **8. General debate and Annual Report for 2012 (continued)** (GC(57)/3 and Supplement)

1. Mr BAYER (Turkey) said that, due to a rapid increase in national electricity demand, particularly during the past two decades, and an inadequacy of indigenous energy resources, Turkey's energy policy was focused on the security, sustainability and competitiveness of its energy supply. Long-term plans required diversification of its energy supply, which at present was to more than 50% dependent on imported fossil fuels. It was estimated that Turkey would require an additional 100 000 MW(e) of installed capacity by 2030. Consequently, nuclear power generation had become a feasible option for Turkey.
2. His country had concluded with the Russian Federation an agreement paving the way for the construction of a nuclear power plant with four VVER-1200 units at the Akkuyu nuclear site by 2020. In addition, Turkey was planning the construction of a nuclear power plant with a total capacity of 5000 MW(e) at the Sinop nuclear site.
3. In support of its nuclear power programme, Turkey was in the process of enhancing its human resources and knowledge management capacity and updating its legislation in the light of the latest Agency standards.
4. Turkey, which was committed to the safe, secure and peaceful utilization of nuclear energy, would continue its close cooperation with the Agency to that end.
5. Turkey, which attached great importance to high levels of nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, encouraged the Secretariat to continue strengthening its efforts aimed at achieving and maintaining them.
6. The Fukushima Daiichi accident had once more brought the significance of nuclear safety to the world's attention. In order to prevent further such accidents, vigorous efforts should be made in continuing to enhance nuclear safety. The lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident would be useful, and Turkey greatly appreciated the activities organized by the Secretariat for the sharing of those lessons.
7. His country encouraged the Secretariat to continue providing guidance and assistance to Member States wishing to adopt safety regulations and establish or maintain safety infrastructure, with due regard to the needs of those Member States which were thinking of embarking on nuclear power programmes.
8. Regarding the safety of old nuclear power plants, the very old Metsamor Nuclear Power Plant, located in an earthquake zone in Armenia and lacking protective structures, remained a matter of concern for Turkey and other nearby countries. All necessary measures should be taken in order to eliminate the risks associated with that nuclear power plant.
9. Nuclear security was also an area to which Turkey attached great importance and in which it was cooperating closely with the Secretariat.
10. Non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy were complementary and mutually reinforcing aspects of the NPT, and Turkey recognized the importance of the crucial role that the Agency played with regard to both.

11. Turkey, which had always attached great importance to the promotional activities of the Agency and to the Agency's technical cooperation programmes, considered the funding of those programmes to be a joint responsibility of all Member States.

12. Turkey believed that the resources provided to the Agency through the Regular Budget should continue to be sufficient to enable it to perform its statutory functions properly. Accordingly, Turkey would continue to support all reasonable, balanced and affordable Regular Budget increases.

13. The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction was one of the leading challenges of the twenty-first century, and creating conditions for a world without nuclear weapons was therefore essential.

14. The NPT, based on the three mutually reinforcing pillars of nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy, was an irreplaceable framework for strengthening international peace, security and stability. It was the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime and essential for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament, under Article VI, and for access to the benefits of the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy, under Article IV.

15. Possible benchmarks of the sustainability of the NPT regime included: progress towards the universalization of the NPT; strengthening of the Agency's safeguards system, including through the universalization of additional protocols; reinforcement of export controls; and the early entry into force of the CTBT.

16. An important priority was the establishment of effectively verifiable zones free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction wherever feasible. A reduction of the stockpiles of nuclear weapons pursuant to Article VI of the NPT in a transparent, irreversible and verifiable manner was also an important priority.

17. Nuclear terrorism was one of the most serious threats to global security and stability, as everyone would be vulnerable if non-State actors acquired nuclear or other radioactive material. There was consequently a need for effective international cooperation in countering nuclear terrorism. That was why Turkey had been participating in the Nuclear Security Summit process from the very beginning.

18. The Agency's safeguards system was an essential part of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime, which Turkey would like to see strengthened through the universalization of additional protocols, as the strengthening of that regime would not only help to further enhance security worldwide, but also, and more importantly, help to enable international cooperation in the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy to reach its full potential.

19. However, there were still a considerable number of countries without additional protocols, and 15 of those countries had not yet even brought comprehensive safeguards agreements with the Agency into force pursuant to their NPT obligations. Turkey called upon all the countries in question to bring comprehensive safeguards agreements and/or additional protocols into force without further delay.

20. At the same time, it should be remembered that the NPT did not impose obligations only on non-nuclear-weapon States; under Article VI, the nuclear-weapon States also had important obligations.

21. Turkey called upon the non-NPT States that had nuclear weapons programmes to accede to the NPT and eliminate their military nuclear capabilities as soon as possible. In its view, the fact that there were non-NPT States with nuclear weapons programmes was dangerously undermining the global safeguards system and the NPT.

22. In December 2012, in Japan, Turkey had participated very actively and at a high level in the Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety.
23. The Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI), a ministerial-level group of 12 countries to which Turkey belonged, had made a number of meaningful proposals in 2012 during the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 NPT Review Conference. At the sixth NPDI Ministerial Meeting, held in The Hague in April, his country had participated very actively. In the three years since being launched, the NPDI had managed to create a multiplier effect.
24. Following the successful conclusion of the 2010 NPT Review Conference, with the adoption of a comprehensive action plan, a positive atmosphere had prevailed. The New START treaty had entered into force and was being implemented and progress was being made within the framework of the Nuclear Security Summit process. Unfortunately, 2013 was proving to be a difficult year in the areas of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation. There were major regional challenges, and, at the global level, nuclear weapons existed in gruesome numbers, and there was a looming risk of their proliferation. It was important to strike a balance between nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation. Turkey therefore believed that the existing mechanism needed to be strengthened and, where necessary, revitalized.
25. Turkey was disappointed at the postponement of the conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction that was to have taken place in 2012, and it hoped that the conference would take place soon. In its view, the holding of the conference would be not only an important confidence-building measure but also a significant stimulus to the NPT review process. It therefore called upon all relevant States to work constructively for the convening of the conference, and it would continue to support the efforts of the conference facilitator and his team.
26. In Turkey's view, all States that complied with their obligations emanating from the NPT had the right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, but it was essential to ensure that there would be no increased risk of nuclear weapons proliferation associated with the expansion of nuclear energy utilization. Turkey therefore advocated universalization of the NPT and its consistent implementation in good faith.
27. The Agency's safeguards system was an essential part of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime, and Turkey, which attached great importance to the system's effectiveness, greatly appreciated the manner in which the Secretariat conducted its verification activities.
28. Turkey remained fully committed to a diplomatic resolution of the Iranian nuclear issue through dialogue and other peaceful means. As it had repeatedly stated, only through a step-by-step process involving parallel actions would it be possible to arrive at a mutually satisfactory resolution. As always, Turkey stood ready to facilitate constructive dialogue.
29. Turkey, which was gravely concerned about the fact that the DPRK had ceased all cooperation with the Agency, called upon the DPRK to abandon its nuclear weapons-related activities in an irreversible manner under Agency verification, to act strictly in accordance with its international obligations and to return immediately to the Six-Party Talks process without preconditions.
30. Mr BARROS OREIRO (Uruguay) said that during the past year his country had participated in numerous Agency-organized meetings where its representatives had expressed the views of Uruguay regarding the Agency's role in the world. He would therefore confine himself to matters connected with the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy in Uruguay.
31. His Government attached great importance to radiation protection and safety, and in January the Uruguayan Parliament had approved Law 19.056 on Radiation Protection and Safety, which provided

for the regulation of all activities involving the use of ionizing radiation. The Law specified the responsibilities of the regulatory authority and its powers as regards ensuring the safety and security of radioactive sources and of the facilities where such sources were being used.

32. Through the Agency, new equipment had been provided to the regulatory authority, whose inspection capabilities had thereby been substantially enhanced. The regulatory authority was cooperating in the nuclear security area with a number of organizations — including the US Department of Energy, under an agreement with which many of its officials had received training.

33. With the involvement of all relevant institutions, Uruguay's national radiological emergency plan was being updated in order to take account of new accident scenarios.

34. Since 2009, the Agency had been applying integrated safeguards in Uruguay — a demonstration of the Agency's confidence in his country, which would like to see many more Member States qualifying for the application of integrated safeguards.

35. Pursuant to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, Uruguay had in August submitted its national report for consideration in 2014 at the Sixth Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

36. His country greatly appreciated the education and training received through the Agency in the areas of radiation protection and safety, from which officials of the Uruguayan regulatory authority had derived considerable benefit.

37. His country was participating very actively in the work of the Ibero-American Forum of Radiological and Nuclear Regulatory Agencies (FORO), which its Ministry for Industry, Energy and Mining had been supporting from the outset.

38. FORO had been engaging in important scientific activities. For example, its study relating to the ageing and life extension of nuclear power reactors in FORO member countries had been taken into account by regulatory authorities in other parts of the world, and FORO had developed an information tool for facilitating risk assessment in radiation therapy.

39. Uruguay would like to see the Agency cooperating still closer with FORO and with organizations such as WHO and PAHO in the area of nuclear and radiation safety and disseminating the results widely.

40. His country, which attached great importance to Agency technical cooperation project URU/1/007 (Improving Exploration and Exploitation Mining Processes and the Environmental Consequences), hoped that it would lead to greater investment in the mining sector.

41. The Secretariat was assisting Uruguay in connection with an aerogeophysical exploration project, inter alia by arranging for an expert to participate in the assessment of bids.

42. Within the framework of the ARCAL project RLA/7/016 (Using Isotopes for Hydrogeological Assessment of Intensively Exploited Aquifers in Latin America), his country's National Directorate for Mining and Geology was carrying out an assessment of the Raigón aquifer, the most important aquifer in Uruguay.

43. In that connection, he considered it appropriate to underline the great importance that his country attached to ARCAL, which it considered to be an irreplaceable mechanism for promoting cooperation in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

44. Mr QUIÑONES (Dominican Republic) said that the Agency, of which his country had been a member since 1957, had become an important ally of the Dominican Republic on its way towards sustainable development. His country was very grateful to the Agency.

45. On 31 July, his country's President, H.E. Mr Danilo Medina, had promulgated Law 100-13 establishing the Ministry of Energy and Mines, tasked with formulating and implementing policies and programmes relating to — inter alia — nuclear energy.
46. The Ministry would be responsible for developing research projects, implementing international agreements and proposing legislation connected with the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy, and its cooperation with the Secretariat would therefore be very important.
47. His Government considered the Agency's technical cooperation programmes to be essential for developing countries wishing to acquire the knowledge necessary in order to use nuclear techniques.
48. Through the Agency, his country was being assisted with the establishment of a Centre for Nuclear Research and Applications (CIAN), with radiation therapy at the Hospital Nacional de Oncología, with nutrition programmes and with environmental conservation and marine biodiversity projects — all matters of great importance for the Dominican Republic.
49. Thanks to the significant progress made in his country in the area of nuclear medicine, the entire population would soon have access to nuclear medicine techniques, in line with the President's drive to ensure that all citizens had access to high-quality health care services.
50. His Government hoped that PACT would help in combating the cancer epidemic that was affecting the Caribbean region and would support the implementation of a cancer control programme in the Dominican Republic.
51. His Government, which was very interested in ensuring the effectiveness of Agency technical cooperation projects in the Dominican Republic, attached great importance to the creation of national mechanisms for coordination between the Secretariat and beneficiary institutions. It was hoping for the support of the Department of Technical Cooperation in that connection.
52. His Government considered it important that the Dominican Republic's CPF be reviewed in the light of the National Development Strategy 2030 approved by the National Congress.
53. The Dominican Republic, which attached great importance to ARCAL, had during the 2012–2013 technical cooperation cycle benefited substantially from participating in 26 ARCAL projects — for example, ones relating to nuclear cardiology, radiation oncology and heavy metal contamination in fish.
54. His Government, which attached great importance to the Agency's efforts in promoting international cooperation in the area of nuclear and radiation safety, had particularly appreciated those efforts immediately after the Fukushima Daiichi accident.
55. His country had established inter-institutional coordination mechanisms for ensuring safety and security during the transport of radioactive materials within the Dominican Republic and during the maritime transport of nuclear fuel through nearby waters.
56. His country welcomed the theme of the 2013 Scientific Forum: "The Blue Planet — Nuclear Applications for a Sustainable Marine Environment". To mark World Ocean's Day, its Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources had organized several events aimed at promoting a caring attitude towards the Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean waters along the Dominican Republic's coast, which were being affected by pollution and climate change.
57. The Dominican Republic was pleased that one of the Agency technical cooperation projects proposed for it for the 2014–2015 cycle — and to be implemented with help from UNEP and the World Environment Fund — related to the preservation of marine biodiversity.

58. His Government looked forward to cooperating further with the Secretariat in the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy for the benefit of humankind.

59. Mr MPAY (Cameroon) said that his country had benefited greatly from Agency technical assistance in the areas of human health, animal health and livestock production, food and agriculture, industrial applications of ionizing radiation, and nuclear safety and security.

60. Through Agency technical cooperation projects, experts in Cameroon had mastered techniques relating to non-destructive testing, artificial insemination, the production of vaccines against animal diseases, and radiation protection. His country was very grateful for the assistance received.

61. Cameroon was participating very actively in regional technical cooperation activities conducted under the Agency's auspices. In March 2012, its Agence Nationale de Radioprotection had hosted the coordination meeting for regional project RAF/9/038 (Promoting Self Assessment of Regulatory Infrastructures for Safety and Networking of Regulatory Bodies in Africa). In June 2012, his country had hosted an Agency-organized regional course on the end-user testing of radiopharmaceuticals. Cameroon made material and financial resources available in order to ensure the success of such events.

62. In November 2012, Cameroon had been visited by an Agency team that had helped it with the drafting of an INSSP, and in February his Government had informed the Agency that it had approved the INSSP and would like it to be implemented as soon as possible.

63. His country looked forward to hosting INSServ and IRRS missions in 2014.

64. In December 2012, an Agency expert had visited Cameroon in order to assist with the drafting of a law on nuclear safety, security and safeguards. The process of adoption of the draft law was under way.

65. In June, Cameroon, which welcomed the fact that more resources were to be allotted to PACT during the next two years, had hosted an imPACT team, and it would draw on the team's recommendations when updating the national cancer control programme.

66. The Agency's technical cooperation activities were essential for promoting the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy in Member States, particularly developing ones, and the resources for them should be commensurate with the needs in areas such as cancer control, water resources management, agriculture, and animal health and livestock production.

67. Cameroon would like to see more financial resources devoted to training in the use of nuclear techniques at the regional training centres established within the AFRA framework.

68. Cameroon, which welcomed the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in Africa (FNRBA) and the Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety, would like to see more support being provided through the Agency for the FNRBA's activities.

69. His country welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety and the establishment by the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety of an efficiency and transparency working group. It hoped that the working group's conclusions would be taken into account during the forthcoming review of the Convention. It also hoped that the results of IRRS missions would be shared during that review.

70. Cameroon would like to see a continuing strong emphasis on water resources management, cancer control, agriculture, animal health and livestock production, and nuclear safety and security in the future technical cooperation programmes of the Agency.

71. It would also like to see a further strengthening of nuclear safety and security standards in order that developing Member States might benefit more from the peaceful uses of nuclear energy with fewer risks.

72. Ms MUTANDIRO (Zimbabwe) said that global challenges such as climate change, food insecurity, water scarcity, the scourge of cancer and other diseases, and the socio-economic ills accompanying economic underdevelopment highlighted the growing relevance of the Agency's activities relating to applications of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. It thus behoved all Member States to support the Agency in the realization of its mandate.

73. Zimbabwe attached great importance to its cooperation with the Agency in areas such as nuclear medicine, radiation protection infrastructure development, agriculture and livestock production, tsetse fly eradication, energy planning and cancer therapy.

74. Given the high incidence of cancer in Zimbabwe, her Government had given top priority to boosting the country's cancer treatment capacity. With Agency support, Zimbabwe had in 2011 procured a linear particle accelerator and other relevant equipment, and earlier in the current year it had purchased a gamma camera. Again with Agency support, it was planning to procure an image scanner-intensifier (C-arm machine) for Mpilo Hospital in Bulawayo. The procurement of the C-arm machine would go a long way to reduce the need for cancer patients in the southern part of Zimbabwe to travel long distances in order to receive cancer treatment in Harare.

75. The growing incidence of cancer was a global phenomenon, and the high priority being given to PACT within the Agency and the imminent upgrading of the PACT Programme Office to the status of a division in the Department of Technical Cooperation were therefore very welcome.

76. Zimbabwe had greatly appreciated the Secretariat's assistance with the development of an INSSP.

77. Zimbabwe looked forward to the provision of further assistance to its National Radiation Protection Authority, which was endeavouring to strengthen its capabilities in areas such as the control of occupational and medical exposures to ionizing radiation and the management for disused radioactive sources.

78. Her country greatly appreciated the activities of the Agency, in collaboration with other United Nations specialized agencies, aimed at the eradication of malaria-transmitting mosquitoes and of tsetse flies through the use of the SIT. The Agency's support for AU-PATTEC had done much to help in creating areas free of tsetse flies and trypanosomiasis.

79. Zimbabwe, which attached great importance to the Agency's technical cooperation activities, considered it essential that the resources for them be sufficient, assured and predictable. It therefore looked forward to the establishment in the near future of a Working Group on Financing the Agency's Activities tasked with — inter alia — examining ways and means of ensuring that the resources in the TCF were sufficient, assured and predictable. It was confident that the outcome of the Working Group's deliberations would be positive.

80. Zimbabwe, which was unequivocally committed to the NPT, considered it important not only for preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons but also for the attainment of nuclear disarmament and for the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy without discrimination.

81. Zimbabwe, which had taken note of the report by the Director General on "The Conceptualization and Development of Safeguards Implementation at the State Level", considered that the State-level concept required further elaboration and clarification by the Secretariat. It would

therefore like the Secretariat to engage in a more extensive dialogue with Member States on that concept.

82. Zimbabwe, which welcomed the Ministerial Declaration adopted in July at the International Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Security, attached great importance to the Agency's activities in strengthening the global nuclear security framework. In its view, however, the primary responsibility for nuclear security lay with individual States.

83. Zimbabwe regretted the fact that the conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction that was to have taken place in 2012 had been postponed. As a party to the Pelindaba Treaty establishing an NWFZ on the African continent, it was of the view that the establishment of NWFZs was essential for global nuclear disarmament, and it urged the Director General to continue with his efforts to bring about the convening of the conference at the earliest possible date.

84. Zimbabwe commended the Director General for his commitment to addressing the issue of the gender imbalance at the Professional and higher levels within the Secretariat and to increasing the number of persons from developing Member States serving in the Secretariat.

85. Mr D'UJANGA (Uganda) said that his country greatly appreciated the remarkable achievements of the Agency under the leadership of Director General Amano; there was an increasing awareness of the Agency not just as the "UN nuclear watchdog" but also as a promoter of socio-economic development in Member States. Uganda therefore welcomed Director General Amano's appointment for a further term of office.

86. A world free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction was one of the best gifts that could be offered to humankind, and Uganda therefore attached great importance to the nuclear non-proliferation regime and to the role of the Agency's safeguards system within that regime. It would like to see additional protocols in force and being implemented in all States. It would also like to see all countries with stockpiles of nuclear weapons acceding to and complying with all relevant nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament conventions.

87. His country's development blueprint, "Vision 2040", aimed at transforming Uganda into a modern and prosperous country within 30 years, and his Government believed that technical assistance provided through the Agency in areas such as water resources management, human health, electricity generation, and food and agriculture would have an important role to play in the realization of that vision.

88. His Government and the Secretariat had agreed on a new CPF for Uganda, covering the years 2014–2018. Among Uganda's top priorities were the conduct of pre-feasibility studies for the launching of a nuclear power programme, the expansion of radiotherapy and nuclear medicine services, the strengthening of food security and the expansion of industrial applications of ionizing radiation.

89. For his country, as for many other countries, nuclear power was a proven, clean, safe, and economical technology that would play an increasingly important role in achieving energy security and sustainable development goals in the 21st century. At the same time, Uganda was aware that the Fukushima Daiichi accident had led some governments to start planning to eliminate nuclear power from their countries' energy mix. Nevertheless, it was encouraged by the fact that so many nuclear power plants around the world were being operated safely, and its nuclear power ambitions would therefore not be dampened by the Fukushima Daiichi accident. Rather, Uganda would seek all the support necessary in order to ensure that it got everything right first time — and every time.

90. Uganda, planning to embark on a nuclear power programme and to expand its radiotherapy services, recognized the importance of having a strong nuclear and radiation safety regime. It was grateful to the staff members of the Agency who were helping it to establish the necessary regulatory control infrastructure.

91. Uganda would continue to support the Agency's activities in the belief that, through the joint efforts of Member States and the Secretariat, the Agency would in the future make an even greater contribution to the achievement of prosperity for all humankind.

92. Mr RECKER (Belgium) said that the Agency played an essential role in ensuring that nuclear energy was used in such a way as to contribute to peace, health and prosperity and in accordance with the most stringent safety and security standards.

93. Since the Fukushima Daiichi accident, numerous initiatives had been launched by the international community with regard to nuclear safety. The adoption of the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety had undoubtedly been one of the most significant initiatives. Belgium would like to see all Member States participating in the implementation of the Action Plan in order to ensure that it was implemented in all its aspects.

94. Belgium would also like to see regular use being made, preferably on an obligatory basis, of Agency services such as the OSART service, the IRRS and the EPREV service and strengthening of the mechanism for inter-operator peer reviews.

95. His country, which was preparing for an IRRS mission due to take place early in December, had drawn up an action plan based on a comparison of its regulatory practices with the relevant Agency standards. That mission would be in conformity with Belgium's obligations under the Euratom directive on nuclear safety adopted in July 2009.

96. The stress tests that had been conducted in Belgium and other European countries by the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG) had been an unprecedented demonstration of rapid response to a major nuclear accident. The resulting action plans had been diligently implemented, and their implementation had been the subject of peer reviews at the European level.

97. His Government had — although they were not a European requirement — conducted stress tests at all of its nuclear fuel cycle facilities, and the stress tests had taken account of the risks associated with human factors.

98. The Euratom directive on nuclear safety was currently being reviewed, and the review was providing an opportunity for improving the European nuclear safety framework through — inter alia — the sharing of resources and expertise.

99. His country, which regularly organized training courses together with the Agency, would in October host an Agency training course on communicating with the public in the event of a radiological emergency.

100. In 2012, during rigorous inspections, indications had been noticed of flaws in the pressure vessels of Belgium's Doel-3 and Tihange-2 reactors. The operators had immediately, under the supervision of the Belgian nuclear safety authority, initiated an in-depth review of the measurement findings and the pressure vessel construction files. At the same time, the Belgian nuclear safety authority had assembled a group of foreign counterparts with whom it had shared the available preliminary information, the aim being to benefit from their expertise when considering the likely causes and effects. Also, it had made full, transparent presentations regarding the matter at the 2012 session of the General Conference and at other major events. Pending the outcome of the review, the reactors had remained shut down.

101. The consultations with the foreign counterparts and with other experts had proved highly useful, and in December 2012 the Belgian safety authority had approved the operators' action plan. Once the operators had demonstrated compliance with their obligations, the reactors had been brought back online early in June.

102. His country was grateful to the States that had assisted in — and that in August had been represented at a workshop on the topic, regarding which WENRA had recently issued a recommendation.

103. The international community had everything to gain from the smooth operation of an effective and credible safeguards system and from full compliance by States with their safeguards commitments, and had everything to lose if cases of non-compliance were left without a corrective response. In that regard, his country deplored the cases of non-compliance that had been identified by the Agency.

104. In his country's view, the current verification standard for Agency safeguards was a comprehensive safeguards agreement plus an additional protocol. Belgium would therefore like all countries to have a comprehensive safeguards agreement plus an additional protocol in force.

105. His country commended the tireless efforts of the Secretariat in increasing the effectiveness of the Agency's safeguards system, which was essential to the international community's fight against the proliferation of nuclear weapons and whose objectivity and independence must be preserved.

106. Regarding the conceptualization and development of safeguards implementation at the State level, Belgium would like the Secretariat to keep Member States informed about the work being done in that connection. It was particularly interested in the modalities of the implementation of State-level safeguards and their impact on States. Generally speaking, his country welcomed any initiative that, while increasing the effectiveness of safeguards, ensured their objectivity and permitted a reduction in the number of inspections in States that had a good non-proliferation record.

107. The unique nature and the high quality of the Agency's safeguards system were due both to its capacity to analyse and evaluate the collected data and to the diversity of the means at its disposal. While it was indisputably necessary to rationalize and optimize their use, it was nonetheless the case that those means were necessary for the independent performance of the mission assigned to the Agency under its Statute and the NPT.

108. The International Conference on Nuclear Security that had taken place in July had provided a wealth of information, and the resulting Ministerial Declaration was a useful starting point for future work. His country was grateful to the Director General for convening the Conference.

109. The Conference had demonstrated yet again the importance of international cooperation in the field of nuclear security. Belgium was in favour of all such cooperation provided it reflected the letter and spirit of the relevant international conventions, respected the principle of confidentiality and did not jeopardize the sovereignty of States in their field.

110. His country would like to see the 2005 Amendment to the CPPNM entering into force soon. It had deposited its instrument of ratification of the Amendment on 22 January.

111. The Agency, which was contributing greatly to nuclear security worldwide through IPPAS missions, training courses and the formulation of recommendations, should also intensify its coordinating activities so as to enable every interested State to participate in the promotion of nuclear security, which was essential for the sustainable development of the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy.

112. Every year, the relevant Belgian authority organized a workshop dedicated to a specific aspect of nuclear security, such as domestic threats, response capabilities and document protection. The workshops brought together nuclear facility managers and their staff responsible for physical protection and representatives of — inter alia — the federal police and the judiciary.

113. The 2013 workshop had focused on the relationship between nuclear security and communication. One of the main issues to emerge had been how to reconcile the need for discretion in connection with security measures and the need for public outreach through the media — an important issue given the demand nowadays for near-real-time information about any event. Ignoring that issue would simply help those who criticized the nuclear energy sector for a lack of transparency.

114. Consequently, his country believed that the Agency should look into that issue with a view to making recommendations that could assist Member State authorities in responding to questions from facility operators.

115. His country would be hosting, in the first week of November, an Agency-organized seminar on the CPPNM for francophone African States.

116. His country, which accorded great importance to nuclear research, was continuing with its MYRRHA (multi-purpose hybrid research reactor for high-tech applications) project. Upon completion, the MYRRHA facility would be used for — inter alia — studies on the transmutation of radioisotopes in irradiated fuel, the development of fuels and construction materials for fourth-generation reactors and fusion reactors, and the production of medical radioisotopes.

117. His Government had in 2010 allocated €60 million for the period 2010–2014 in order to advance the project to the front-end engineering design stage. Also, the Belgian Council of Ministers had agreed to meet up to 40% of the total cost of the project, estimated at €960 million (at 2009 prices), provided that there was sufficient external funding.

118. As regards the difficulties with the long-term supply of medical isotopes, his country had significantly increased the production capacity of the BR2 reactor at Mol and of the National Institute for Radioelements (IRE) at Fleurus.

119. The conversion of the BR2 reactor at Mol and the targets at Fleurus from HEU to LEU was proceeding according to plan.

120. A draft law extending the operational life of the Tihange-1 reactor by ten years had been adopted by the Council of Ministers on 19 July. His Government was continuing to pursue a gradual phase-out of the commercial generation of electricity using nuclear power, but the extension was necessary in order to ensure the country's energy supply security. The extension meant that Tihange-1 would operate for 50 years, while the operational lives of Belgium's other power reactors was limited to 40 years.

121. Belgium, which greatly appreciated the professionalism of the Director General and the Secretariat staff, stood ready to continue working with other Member States in meeting the many challenges with which the Agency was faced.

122. Mr LABBÉ VILLA (Chile) congratulated Director General Amano on his re-election and commended him and the Secretariat staff on their professionalism and impartiality.

123. Although many people still said, with a touch of nostalgia, that the Agency was a technical body, Chile regarded it as a political body created by the international community to meet political needs of humankind.

124. The Agency was not a scientific and technological island existing in splendid isolation from the rest of the United Nations system. In performing a function that contributed to the attainment of Millennium Development Goals, it was responding to the demands for a right to development, and, in serving as a nuclear verification mechanism, it was contributing to the full enjoyment of the right to peace. Thus, the Agency was a body with responsibilities in the field of human rights.

125. What should be the role of the Agency in the Post-2015 Development Agenda? The Agency's activities in the fields of nuclear safety, nuclear security, technical cooperation and safeguards were all relevant.

126. As regards nuclear safety, the Fukushima Daiichi accident had highlighted the need to imagine the unimaginable and engage in a thorough political, legal, cultural, technical and operational rethink of the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy, especially in electricity generation. People in Chile — like people in Japan, California and New Zealand — knew that there was no upper limit on the Richter scale. The most important task was to establish a safety culture based on the belief that the most important thing was people; the technical solutions would then emerge with relative ease.

127. As a State located close to one of the planet's main transoceanic routes, Chile would continue to stress the importance of safety in the maritime transport of nuclear material. It would examine with great interest the Joint Statement on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage recently signed by France and the United States of America.

128. Chile welcomed the progress made during the past year in the dialogue, facilitated by New Zealand, between coastal States and shipping States. It also welcomed the consensus reached in the working group, very ably chaired by Ambassador Petersen of Norway, on best practice guidelines for intergovernmental communications on the transport of radioactive material.

129. As regards nuclear security, the international community needed to do a great deal in strengthening the legal framework and determining the Agency's role. Chile, which had accepted the Amendment to the CPPNM in 2009, would continue to push for the earliest possible entry into force of the Amendment.

130. In July, the International Conference on Nuclear Security had helped to involve the Agency politically in an issue highlighted by the Nuclear Security Summit process — an initiative of President Obama that had, notwithstanding all criticisms, placed the issue on the personal agendas of heads of State and government and made people everywhere aware of the nuclear security risks existing in the world. In Chile's view, it was important to exploit the synergies that undoubtedly existed between political activities at the highest level — for example, within the framework of the Nuclear Security Summit process — and statutory activities of the Agency relating to nuclear security.

131. Chile would have liked the Ministerial Declaration emerging from the Conference on Nuclear Security to be much more substantive and proactive, linking the solution of the problem of nuclear terrorism to nuclear disarmament. Thanks to the efforts of Ambassador Csuday of Hungary and Ambassador Vinhas of Brazil, however, the Ministerial Declaration was a valuable document that should be implemented imaginatively so that the Agency might play its due role in the design of practical responses.

132. As regards technical cooperation, Chile had benefited greatly from Agency technical assistance with peaceful applications of nuclear energy and with the strengthening of its regulatory infrastructure for nuclear and radiation safety. At present, Chilean institutions were participating in 58 ARCAL and non-ARCAL projects that were contributing to sustainable development and technological progress in his country.

133. As regards safeguards, the Agency's activities belonged within the broader context of non-proliferation and, above all, of nuclear disarmament, which Chile — a member of organizations such as NAM, the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, and the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative — advocated in the General Assembly, the NPT Review Conferences, CTBTO meetings and other fora.

134. Nuclear disarmament presupposed the political stigmatization and legal delegitimization not only of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery but also of the doctrines — such as those of nuclear deterrence — which were invoked in order to justify them. It also presupposed widespread education in disarmament and a very active alliance between non-nuclear-weapon States and civil society.

135. On 11 September, in the Board, when condemning the third nuclear test carried out by the DPRK, he had said that the DPRK's stubborn insistence on confrontation was “ a serious obstacle to nuclear disarmament insofar as it justified the doctrines of nuclear deterrence...”. In Chile's view, the DPRK nuclear issue, the Iranian nuclear issue and other such issues should be resolved by diplomatic and other exclusively peaceful means, in strict conformity with the Charter of the United Nations.

136. Additional protocols had been signed by 142 States, of which 120 — including Chile — had ratified. His country therefore wished to recall that an additional protocol ratified and in force was not simply a confidence-building agreement but a proper legal instrument designed to substantially enhance the Agency's verification capabilities.

137. Chile, for which there was no greater global challenge than the achievement of a world where humankind was joined together in justice and peace, hoped that “Atoms for **peace**” would remain “Atoms for **peace**” — and atoms for development and human rights everywhere.

138. Mr KOÇI (Albania), congratulating Director General Amano on his re-appointment, said that he could count on the full support of Albania.

139. The implementation of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety was progressing well and many useful lessons had been learned from it.

140. The Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety had been very successful, providing an opportunity for the sharing of lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident and generating clear messages about the further strengthening of nuclear safety worldwide.

141. Albania welcomed the Ministerial Declaration from the International Conference on Nuclear Security, which had reaffirmed the Agency's central role in the nuclear security field. It would support the implementation of the Agency's Nuclear Security Plan 2014–2017.

142. On 26 April, Albania had deposited its instrument of ratification of the 2005 Amendment to the CPPNM, which it would like to see entering into force soon.

143. His country, which attached great importance to international cooperation in the field of nuclear security, was participating in the Agency's ITDB Programme. With assistance provided through the Agency, it was establishing infrastructure and training staff for the detection and inspection of radioactive materials not under State regulatory control entering and leaving the country. It was fully committed to the project in question.

144. Albania, which attached great importance to the work under way on the conceptualization and development of safeguards implementation at the State level, welcomed the Secretariat's efforts to improve the efficiency of safeguards implementation while increasing its effectiveness. Also it

commended the efforts being made to enhance the ability of the Secretariat to detect undeclared nuclear material and activities.

145. Like the Director General, his country, which was pleased with the large number of additional protocols in force, looked forward to the universalization of additional protocols.

146. Albania commended the Agency's continuing strong focus on and highly professional approach to the Iranian nuclear issue, the Syrian nuclear issue and the DPRK nuclear issue.

147. As regards the Iranian nuclear issue, Albania would like to see a fresh start being made and constructive engagement by Iran with the Agency.

148. As regards the Syrian nuclear issue, his country would like to see Syria cooperating fully with the Agency in the clarification of all questions connected with the Dair Alzour site and other locations.

149. As regards the DPRK nuclear issue, Albania called upon the DPRK to comply fully with its obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions and to cooperate promptly in the implementation of its safeguards agreement with the Agency.

150. His Government, which believed that the establishment of an NWFZ in the Middle East would contribute to the achieving of global nuclear disarmament, hoped that a conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction would be convened soon.

151. Albania, which was a PACT Model Demonstration Site, greatly appreciated the assistance that it was receiving through the Agency in the area of cancer control. The radiotherapy service and the nuclear medicine service at the University Hospital Centre "Mother Teresa" had been established and were being expanded with Agency support, for which his country was very grateful.

152. In June, the OIOS had carried out a field activities audit in Albania in order to assess the implementation status of ten Agency technical cooperation projects there. Its conclusions had been very positive: all equipment was fully operational; most of the trained fellows were working at their institutions; and the projects were being implemented smoothly, with very good communication with the Programme Management Officer and the Technical Officers.

153. Mr ISTRATE (Romania) said that, given the current challenges to the nuclear non-proliferation regime and the constant threat of nuclear terrorism, his country was taking every opportunity, at the bilateral and the multilateral level, to emphasize the importance of maintaining the highest standards in the nuclear non-proliferation field and the nuclear security field.

154. Romania, which was supporting the efforts of the international community in the fields of nuclear safety and radiation protection, considered it important to draw lessons from the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.

155. Winning back public confidence in nuclear power after the Fukushima Daiichi accident required a firm commitment to nuclear safety and also to openness and transparency on the part of operators, regulators and governments. For its part, his Government was continuously taking steps to increase public confidence in nuclear power generation and the other peaceful applications of nuclear energy.

156. In July, at the International Conference on Nuclear Security, the participating States had agreed that the threat of nuclear and radiological terrorism and of other malicious acts involving nuclear and other radioactive material was a matter for serious concern. In Romania's view, all countries, particularly those with nuclear power programmes, should strengthen their nuclear security arrangements in accordance with the relevant binding and non-binding instruments.

157. All nuclear material in Romania was subject to Agency and Euratom safeguards, and each year the Agency confirmed that in Romania there was no undeclared nuclear material and no indication had been noted of a diversion of nuclear material from peaceful activities.

158. In March 2012, at the Nuclear Security Summit held in Seoul, Romania had assumed several commitments in the field of nuclear security. Since then, it had received an IPPAS mission, and it would be making a contribution to the Nuclear Security Fund.

159. Romania stood ready to share with other countries its experience relating to the conversion of research reactors from HEU fuel to LEU fuel and to the repatriation of HEU fuel.

160. Pursuant to its national strategy in the field of nuclear security, Romania was currently bringing its nuclear security regulations into line with the Agency's latest nuclear security recommendations.

161. Romania was engaging in R&D relating to nuclear safety and security, radioactive waste and spent fuel management, and nuclear non-proliferation, and it was participating in regional and interregional projects in areas such as radioactive waste management and human health.

162. Romania would that very day be signing a new CPF, for the 2014–2017 technical cooperation cycle. The five priorities identified in the new CPF were: the strengthening of radioactive waste management; enhancement of the nuclear regulatory authority's management system; nuclear power-related workforce development, human health, and food and agriculture.

163. His country was participating in PACT activities relating to the early detection and treatment of cancer, and its PET/CT network was to be expanded during the next few years.

164. Romania was also participating in three INPRO collaborative projects, and it was thinking of using the INPRO methodology in a nuclear energy system assessment within the framework of the relevant interregional projects.

## **27. Examination of delegates' credentials**

GC(57)/28)

165. The PRESIDENT said that the General Committee had met earlier that day as a credentials committee to examine the credentials of all delegates, as provided for in Rule 28 of the Rules of Procedure. After discussion, the Committee had recommended the adoption by the Conference of the draft resolution contained in paragraph 8 of its report, with the reservations and positions expressed in the report.

166. Mr POURMAND TEHRANI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that adoption of the draft resolution as recommended by the Committee did not imply recognition of the Israeli regime by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

167. Mr OMARI (Jordan) said that the approval by his country of the credentials of the delegate of Israel did not imply recognition of Israel's occupation since 1967 of Arab territories, including the Arab part of Jerusalem and the Golan Heights.

168. Mr SHAMAA (Egypt) said that acceptance by the General Conference of the Committee's recommendation did not imply recognition of Israel's occupation since 1967 of Arab territories, including the Arab part of Jerusalem, the Golan Heights and the Shebaa Farms.

169. The PRESIDENT took it that, with the reservations expressed, the Conference wished to adopt the draft resolution contained in paragraph 8 of document GC(57)/28.

170. It was so decided.

## — **Interim oral report by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole**

171. Mr STRATFORD (United States of America), Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, presented the outcome of the Committee of the Whole's deliberations on agenda items 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 18, 24, 25 and 26.

172. Under item 10, "The Agency's Financial Statements for 2012", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/12.

173. Under item 11, "The Agency's Programme and Budget for 2014-2015", the Committee recommended the following: that the Conference approve a Regular Budget figure for 2014 of €352 674 019, comprising €344 450 019 for the operational portion of the Regular Budget, and €8 224 000 for the capital portion of the Regular Budget, and accordingly adopt draft resolution A in document GC(57)/2, entitled "Regular Budget Appropriations for 2014"; that the Conference approve a target for voluntary contributions to the Technical Cooperation Fund for 2014 of €69 221 750 (equivalent to US\$ 90 250 000) and accordingly adopt draft resolution B in document GC(57)/2, entitled "Technical Cooperation Fund Allocation for 2014"; and that the Conference approve the level of the Working Capital Fund in 2014 at €15 210 000 and accordingly adopt draft resolution C in document GC(57)/2, entitled "The Working Capital Fund in 2014".

174. Under item 13, "Amendment to Article XIV.A of the Statute", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the decision set out in document GC(57)/L.3.

175. Under item 14, "Scale of assessment of members' contributions towards the Regular Budget", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution on page 3 of document GC(57)/20.

176. Under item 15, "Measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(57)/L.6.

177. Under item 18, "Strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolutions contained in document GC(57)/L.7, as follows: A. Non-power nuclear applications (1. General; 2. Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy; 3. Support to the African Union's Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign (AU-PATTEC); 4. Plan for producing potable water economically using small and medium-sized nuclear reactors; 5. Use of isotope hydrology for water resources management; 6. Renovation of the Agency's nuclear applications laboratories at Seibersdorf); and B. Nuclear power applications (1. General; 2. Small and medium-sized nuclear reactors — Development and deployment; 3. Agency activities in the development of innovative nuclear technology; 4. Approaches to supporting nuclear power infrastructure development).

178. Under Item 24, "Amendment to Article VI of the Statute", the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the decision set out in document GC(57)/L.4.

179. Under item 25, “Elections to the Agency’s Staff Pension Committee”, the Committee recommended that Mr Wolfgang Thill, from the delegation of Austria, be elected as an alternate member to represent the General Conference in the Agency’s Staff Pension Committee.

180. Under item 26, “Personnel matters”, the Committee recommended that the Conference adopt the draft resolutions contained in document GC(57)/L.5, as follows: “A. Staffing of the Agency’s Secretariat” and “B. Women in the Secretariat”.

**The Agency's Financial Statements for 2012** (agenda item 10)

181. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the draft resolution set out in document GC(57)/12 was adopted.

**The Agency’s Programme and Budget for 2014-2015** (agenda item 11)

182. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, draft resolutions A, B and C set out in document GC(57)/2 were adopted.

**Amendment to Article XIV.A of the Statute** (agenda item 13)

183. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the decision set out in document GC(57)/L.3 was adopted.

**Scale of assessment of Members' contributions towards the Regular Budget** (agenda item 14)

184. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the draft resolution set out on page 3 of document GC(57)/20 was adopted.

**Measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety** (agenda item 15)

185. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the draft resolution set out in document GC(57)/L.6 was adopted.

**Strengthening the Agency’s activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications** (agenda item 18)

186. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the draft resolution set out in document GC(57)/L.7 was adopted.

**Amendment to Article VI of the Statute** (agenda item 24)

187. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the decision set out in document GC(57)/L.4 was adopted.

**Elections to the Agency’s Staff Pension Committee** (agenda item 25)

188. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, Mr Wolfgang Thill of Austria was elected as an alternate member of the Agency’s Staff Pension Committee.

**Personnel matters** (agenda item 26)

189. As recommended by the Committee of the Whole, the draft resolutions set out in document GC(57)/L.5 were adopted.

## **9. Election of Members to the Board of Governors (GC(57)/4 and GC(57)/25)**

190. The PRESIDENT recalled that in 1989 the General Conference had approved a procedure whereby, when there was agreement regarding the candidate or candidates from a particular area, no secret ballot would be held. Balloting would take place only in respect of those areas for which there was no agreed slate. That procedure considerably facilitated the rational use of the Conference's time.

191. However, Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure, which provided that elections to the Board should be by secret ballot, would need to be suspended in respect of the areas for which no secret ballot was to be held.

192. Given that all area groups had reached agreement on their candidates for the vacancies to be filled, he took it that the Conference wished to suspend Rule 79 in order to dispense with the need to hold a secret ballot.

193. It was so agreed.

194. The PRESIDENT, after thanking all area groups for their efforts in reaching agreement, drew attention to document GC(57)/4, containing the names of the Member States which the Board of Governors had designated to serve on the Board from the end of the fifty-seventh (2013) session of the Conference until the end of the fifty-eighth (2014) session.

195. Recalling that, under Rule 83 of the Rules of Procedure, the presiding officer must indicate to the General Conference those elective places on the Board which must be filled, he referred the Conference to document GC(57)/25, paragraph 2 of which indicated, for each of the geographical areas, the number of Member States which must be elected so as to ensure that the Board would be constituted in accordance with Article VI.A. of the Statute.

196. There were 11 seats to be filled: 2 for Latin America, 2 for Western Europe, 2 for Eastern Europe, 2 for Africa, 1 for the Middle East and South Asia, 1 for the Far East and 1 — the so-called floating seat — that it was the turn of a Member State in the area of the Middle East and South Asia to fill.

197. Paragraph 3 of that document contained a list of 24 Member States which had been either elected by the General Conference in 2012 in accordance with Article VI.A.2 of the Statute, and which would therefore continue to serve on the Board of Governors until 2014, or designated by the Board in June 2013 for membership of the Board pursuant to Article VI.A.1 of the Statute for the one-year period 2013–2014.

198. In order to facilitate the election, delegates had been furnished with a note showing the results of consultations among the area groups regarding their candidates for the vacant seats as far as they were known. The note was purely informal in character and provided information insofar as it had been made available to him and to the Secretariat.

199. He took it that the General Conference wished to elect Peru and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the two vacant seats for Latin America.

200. Peru and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela were duly elected.

201. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect Austria and Finland to the two vacant seats for Western Europe.

202. Austria and Finland were duly elected.

203. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect Bosnia and Herzegovina and Slovakia to the two vacant seats for Eastern Europe.
204. Bosnia and Herzegovina and Slovakia were duly elected.
205. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect Kenya and Sudan to the two vacant seats for Africa.
206. Kenya and Sudan were duly elected.
207. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect Qatar to the one vacant seat for the Middle East and South Asia.
208. Qatar was duly elected.
209. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect Viet Nam to the one vacant seat for South East Asia and the Pacific.
210. Viet Nam was duly elected.
211. The PRESIDENT took it that the General Conference wished to elect the United Arab Emirates to the floating seat, which it was the turn of a Member State in the area of the Middle East and South Asia to fill.
212. The United Arab Emirates was duly elected.
213. The PRESIDENT recalled that, under Article VI.D of the Statute, the eleven Member States just elected to the Board would hold office from the end of the current, fifty-seventh, session of the General Conference to the end of the fifty-ninth regular session, in 2015.

## **12. Appointment of the External Auditor** **(GC(57)/13)**

214. The PRESIDENT said that the tenure of the Agency's present External Auditor would end with the completion of the audit of the Agency's financial statements for 2013. It would therefore be necessary to appoint an External Auditor to audit the Agency's financial statements for the years 2014 and 2015.
215. The matter had been considered by the Board of Governors at its June session, and the Board had agreed to recommend to the General Conference that it appoint the Comptroller and Auditor General of India as the External Auditor to audit the Agency's financial statements for the financial years 2014 and 2015.
216. He took it that the General Conference wished to appoint the Comptroller and Auditor General of India as the External Auditor to audit the Agency's financial statements for the financial years 2014 and 2015.
217. It was so decided.

**The meeting rose at 1 p.m.**