

General Conference

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Item 22 of the provisional agenda
(GC(65)/1)

Communication received from the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco regarding the amendment of Article VI of the IAEA Statute

1. The Secretariat received a Note Verbale dated 16 June 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco, H.E Mr. Azzeddine Farhane, attaching a letter addressed by the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the Ambassadors, Permanent Representatives of IAEA Member States, relating to the amendment of Article VI of the IAEA Statute.
2. As requested therein, the Note Verbale and the letter are herewith circulated.



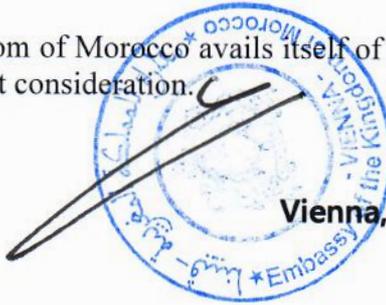
N: 970/NV/21

Note Verbale

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco presents its compliments to International Atomic Energy Agency IAEA and has the honour to forward the letter of H.E Mr. Azzeddine Farhane, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to IAEA, to the Ambassadors, Permanent Representatives of the IAEA Member States, with regard to the important item pertaining to the amendment of Article IV of the IAEA Statute, to be considered under the agenda item 22, during the upcoming 65th session of the IAEA General Conference.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco would be grateful for the IAEA Secretariat **to include and circulate** this letter as an official document of the 65th session of the IAEA General Conference.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the IAEA the assurances of its highest consideration.



Vienna, June 16th 2021

Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco

Telephone: +43 (1) 586 66 50 , Fax : +43 (1) 586 76 67, E-Mail: emb-pmissionvienna@morocco.at
Hasenauerstraße 57 A-1180 Vienna



Excellency,

I am writing to you, by virtue of my tenure as President of the 64th session of the IAEA General Conference (2020), with regard to the important item pertaining to the amendment of Article VI of the IAEA Statute which is under consideration by the IAEA.

As you may be aware, the General Conference adopted, at its 43rd regular session, resolution GC (43)/RES/19 whereby it decided to amend Article VI of the Agency's Statute and urged all Member States of the Agency to accept this amendment as soon as possible.

Furthermore, in my capacity as the President of the 64th regular session of the General Conference, you will recall that I had indicated in my closing statement, that *"during the debates, some delegations had referred to the need for the long overdue amendment to Article VI of the Statute to promptly enter into force. Expanding the membership of the Board of Governors would enhance the democratic decision-making process within the Agency and strengthen the sense of ownership and active involvement of Members States, bringing added value to the Agency's policies and priorities."* (paragraph 33 in the Record of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Plenary of GC (64)/OR.13 November 2020).

Indeed, the review of the composition of the Board of Governors, as provided for in Article VI, is an important step in the evolution of the IAEA's governance. Its entry in force will undoubtedly strengthen the presence of IAEA Member States in the Board, as the amendment offers the opportunity for the Member States as it will enable all the groups to have more seats than today's Board composition.

However, Article XVIII.C(ii) of the Statute requires that two-thirds of the Agency's Member States accept the amendment before it goes into force. But to date, only 62 out of 173 Member States have accepted the amendment, which falls short of the necessary required majority of 116 Member States.

Therefore, I encourage Member States who have not yet done so to consider the acceptance of this Amendment during the consideration of the agenda item 22 of 65th regular session pertaining to *"Amendment to Article VI of Statute"*, in light of the elements mentioned above.

Please, accept, Excellency, the expression of my highest consideration and esteem.

Vienna, June 11th 2021

H.E Mr. Azzeddine Farhane
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to IAEA

To: The Ambassadors, Permanent Representatives of the IAEA Member States