



UNITED NATIONS



United Nations Conference
for the Promotion of International Co-operation
in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

Geneva, Switzerland
23 March to 10 April 1987

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DRAFT REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE

Addendum

III. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

(a) Date and place of the Conference

1. The United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy was held in Geneva from 23 March to 10 April 1987. During that period, the Conference held ... plenary meetings.

(b) Pre-Conference Consultations

2. Pre-Conference consultations open to all States invited to participate in the Conference were held in Geneva on 19 and 20 March 1987 to consider a number of procedural and organizational matters. The Pre-Conference Consultations were conducted under the chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador Carlos Augusto de Proenca Rosa (Brazil) who reported on the consultations to the Conference at its opening meeting.

3. The Conference accepted the conclusions of the Pre-Conference Consultations as a basis for the organization of its work.

(c) Attendance

4. The following 106 States were represented at the Conference:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian SSR, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian SSR, USSR, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen Arab Republic, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

5. The United Nations Council for Namibia was represented at the Conference.

6. The following organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the capacity of observers were represented: Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, Commission of the European Communities, League of Arab States, Organization of African Unity.

7. The following National Liberation Movements were represented by observers: Palestine Liberation Organization, African National Congress of South Africa, Pan Africanist Congress of Azania, South West Africa People's Organization.

8. Members of the Secretariats of the following United Nations bodies and offices were present during the Conference: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations Environment Programme, Economic Commission for Africa, Economic Commission for Europe.

9. Representatives of the following specialized agencies and related organizations participated in the work of the Conference: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), International Maritime Organization (IMO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

10. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America, Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development/Nuclear Energy Agency.

11. A large number of concerned Non-Governmental Organizations were represented by observers. The List of Participants at the Conference is to be found in document A/CONF.108/INF. ...

(d) Opening of the Conference and election of its President

12. The Conference was opened by Mr. Amrik S. Mehta, Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Secretary-General of the Conference.

13. The text of a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, to the Conference was read by Mr. Jan Martenson, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva.

14. Ambassador Mohamed Ibrahim Shaker of the Arab Republic of Egypt was elected President of the Conference by acclamation.

15. In his message to the Conference, Mr. Perez de Cuellar, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, noted that in the history of human progress, energy had played a crucial role since development was, for the vast majority of the world's people, dependent on an adequate supply of energy. Nuclear power was seen by many as offering great promise in this regard, especially since the countries of the world were unevenly endowed with other energy sources. He added that each country must be free to choose for itself the energy sources suited to its national interests, needs, and conditions. None should be deprived of access to the technology for peaceful and safe utilization of nuclear power.

16. The Secretary-General further noted that international co-operation in bringing the potential benefits of the Atom to all countries needed to extend beyond the field of energy. In fact, for many developing countries, the application of nuclear techniques in fields such as health and medicine, food and agriculture and hydrology had more immediate relevance than nuclear energy, to their economic and social development.

17. The Secretary-General pointed out that successful efforts had been made to separate, or compartmentalize, civilian and military uses of nuclear energy but the laws of physics made them the opposite sides of the same coin. The enormous arsenals of nuclear weapons that existed generated fear and distrust among nations and peoples and posed a serious threat to humanity itself. International co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy could reach its full potential only in a world from which its potentially destructive uses had been eliminated. It was thus logical and wise to see the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons as necessary for the realization of the full peaceful benefits of the Atom.

18. The Conference was a pioneering global effort by the United Nations designed specifically for the purpose of promoting international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development. According to the Secretary-General, this distinctive purpose of the Conference needed to be clearly understood. A system in which technologically advanced States stood apart from the rest in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, as in other applications of modern science and technology, would be neither morally nor politically acceptable and, in the end, unsustainable. Yet, in order to

promote international co-operation to counter such a possibility, a climate of confidence was essential between the technologically advanced and the developing countries. This required a greater measure of mutual understanding of each other's concerns. As a global forum with the widest possible participation, the Conference was ideally suited to consider these concerns realistically and constructively. The aim must be to establish an appropriate framework for enhanced international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy that would serve the interests of both the technologically advanced and the developing countries.

19. Mr. Amrik Mehta, the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Secretary-General of the Conference, in his opening address, stated that energy and prosperity were twins that marched together. Given the prevailing uncertainties and the vulnerability of energy supplies, the potential of the nuclear energy was considered by many as a promising means in helping to bring about economic and social development so much needed in the greater part of the world. A number of countries had chosen nuclear power as a stable and viable source of energy for their needs. In particular, countries with little or no access to other energy sources had found the nuclear option especially attractive. For a large number of countries in the developing world, access to the use of nuclear techniques in the fields of food and agriculture, health and medicine, hydrology, industry, scientific and technological research, etc., had even more immediate relevance as a contributing factor towards their economic and social development. It was in this context, Mr. Mehta stated, that the need for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy was first considered by the General Assembly of the United Nations some ten years ago and the Assembly in its resolution 32/50, spelt out the principles which formed the basis for the Conference.

20. The Secretary-General of the Conference stressed that the central issue before the Conference was the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development. The Conference was by no means intended as a forum to make a case for or against the use of nuclear energy: those decisions were up to individual countries and each country had the right to choose for itself the energy sources most suited to its national interests. However, as long as nuclear energy was in use in

some parts of the world, international co-operation was necessary to ensure, on the one hand, that nuclear technology was not abused or misused in any way and, on the other, that its benefits were made available in a safe and secure manner.

21. Of late, there had been a world-wide expression in favour of strengthening co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, particularly in the nuclear safety area. This had two aspects: one of a post-accident remedial nature, and the other of a long-term and comprehensive nature related to the safe development of nuclear power in its totality, embracing all stages from planning, designing, siting, construction, operation, maintenance, waste disposal, health and environmental concerns. This required co-operation in such areas as infrastructure, manpower training, research and development, technical and scientific information, technological know-how and advances in safety mechanisms, etc. The possible effects and consequences of an accident were of concern equally to all countries, including those which might not be carrying out any nuclear activity on their territories. International co-operation for the safe development of nuclear energy was thus a matter of interest and concern equally for all countries.

22. The international community had been aware of the need for co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for many years, particularly the establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which had made a unique and historic contribution in this field. The present Conference should lead to the broadening of the scope of the activities of the IAEA and strengthening of its central role as the principal international instrument for all nuclear related activities, in co-operation with other concerned organizations of the United Nations system.

23. Given the purpose and the objective of the Conference, there was need essentially to look to the future with a view to exploring all possible ways and means for strengthening international co-operation. As a global forum with the widest possible participation, the Conference was ideally suited to consider all relevant concerns and lay a firm foundation for future international co-operation in this vitally important field. As stated by Mr. Perez de Cuellar in his message, the aim must be to establish an appropriate framework for enhanced co-operation that will serve the interests of both the technologically advanced and the developing countries.

24. The President of the Conference, Mr. Mohamed Ibrahim Shaker (Egypt), in his opening statement noted that the Conference represented the first global effort under United Nations auspices designed specifically for the purpose of promoting international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for social and economic development, and emphasized the importance of the four principles adopted by consensus in General Assembly resolution 32/50, which he said should be the basis for the work of the Conference.

25. The President said the Conference should be guided by the preparatory work undertaken for it, which had been underway for a long time. The path leading to the Conference had not been an easy one and participants were to be engaged in a serious and demanding review of the question of international co-operation in the utilization of nuclear energy for economic and social development. In this review, security in applying this source of energy must be taken into account. He expressed his sincere hope that the spirit of mutual understanding and co-operation that prevailed during the preparatory process would be fully sustained to guarantee the success of the Conference.

26. In his statement to the Conference, Mr. Hans Blix, Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, stated that during the past three decades there had been very substantial progress in the dissemination and exploitation of nuclear science and technology. But, in this process, he continued, the problems, difficulties and dangers of the brave new world had also been encountered while the military and civilian uses of nuclear energy were by no means inseparable, they were branches of the same tree of science. Peaceful uses could, however, be nurtured without creating a military threat, Mr. Blix pointed out. While most nations of the world dealt with the technology precisely this way, the problem of the further growth - both horizontal and vertical - of military nuclear technology presented mankind with a serious continuing challenge. Another challenge to survival related to the environment, he continued, while to billions of people the most immediate challenge was to escape from hunger, illness and poverty, and to achieve a level of socio-economic development which ensured life with dignity. It was the possibilities and problems raised by a transfer of this technology that was the subject of the present Conference, he stated. IAEA, he said, had a great stake in the Conference. It was to be hoped that the Governments and

organizations represented there would formulate new ideas on how to further facilitate the transfer of nuclear science and technology to promote development and how to set the right priorities. If much had been accomplished in this regard, much more remained to be done. He concluded by noting that the most important ingredients - political will and resources - must be put into play for success in harnessing nuclear technology for human betterment.

(e) Adoption of the Rules of Procedure

27. At its first plenary meeting, on 23 March, the Conference adopted the Provisional Rules of Procedure established by the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.108/2).

(f) Adoption of the Agenda

28. At the same meeting, the Conference adopted the following Agenda as recommended by the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.108/1).

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of the President of the Conference.
3. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the rules of procedure;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (c) Organization of work;
 - (d) Election of officers other than the President;
 - (e) Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
 - (i) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
 - (ii) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. General debate.

5. Principles universally acceptable for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and appropriate ways and means for the promotion of such co-operation, as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 32/50, and in accordance with mutually acceptable considerations of non-proliferation.
6. Role of nuclear power for social and economic development.
7. Role of other peaceful applications of nuclear energy, such as food and agriculture, health and medicine, hydrology, industry etc., for social and economic development.
8. Adoption of concluding document(s).
9. Closure of the Conference.

(g) Establishment of the main Committees and organization of work

29. At the first plenary meeting, as recommended by the Preparatory Committee, the Conference also decided to establish two main Committees. It further decided that Agenda item 5 would be considered by Committee I and Agenda items 6 and 7 by Committee II.

30. At the same meeting, as agreed at the Preparatory Committee, the President read out the following text:

"Without prejudice to the rules of procedure of the Conference and without setting a precedent, an understanding was reached in the Preparatory Committee that decisions in the Conference relating to the substance of Agenda item 5 should be adopted by consensus".

(h) Election of Officers other than the President

31. Also at its first plenary meeting the Conference elected the following 25 States as Vice-Presidents:

Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Kenya, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, Sudan, Syria, Swaziland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

32. The Conference elected Mr. H. Thielicke (German Democratic Republic) Rapporteur General by acclamation.

33. The Conference elected by acclamation Mr. F. Cuevas Cancino (Mexico) as Chairman of Committee I and Mr. I. Makipentti (Finland) as Chairman of Committee II.

(j) Appointment of Members of the Credentials Committee

34. At its ninth plenary meeting, the Conference appointed the following States as members of the Credentials Committee: China, Ghana, Netherlands, Paraguay, the Philippines, Rwanda, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America and Venezuela.

(k) Messages received by the Conference

35. The Conference received messages from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Heads of State or Government of China, Egypt and Iraq, the texts of which are contained in Annex I.

IV. SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL DEBATE

V. REPORT OF THE MAIN COMMITTEES OF THE CONFERENCE AND
ACTION TAKEN ON THESE REPORTS BY THE CONFERENCE

(a) Report of Committee I.

(b) Report of Committee II.

VI. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE

VII. CONCLUDING STATEMENTS

Annex I. Text of messages received, etc.

Annex II. List of documents.