

**REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
FOR THE PROMOTION OF
INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION
IN THE PEACEFUL USES
OF NUCLEAR ENERGY**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 43 (A/36/48)



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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In resolution 35/112 of 5 December 1980, entitled "Peaceful use of nuclear energy for economic and social development", the General Assembly decided to establish a Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, composed of 70 Member States and, on an equal footing, other Member States which might express their interest in participating in the work of the Committee, and requested the President of the General Assembly to appoint the members of the Committee, in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation, not later than 1 July 1981.

2. In the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Preparatory Committee to hold, at Vienna, an organizational session not exceeding one week in length during the second half of 1981, primarily for the purpose of preparing its programme of work, and to submit its report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session.

II. ORGANIZATION OF MEETINGS

A. Opening and duration of the organizational session

3. The Committee held its first session at the Vienna International Centre from 3 to 7 August 1981. The Committee held 7 meetings (1st to 7th meetings). It also held a number of informal meetings during that period.

4. The session was opened by the representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Charles-Edouard Bourbonnière.

B. Membership and attendance

5. In accordance with the relevant provision of resolution 35/112, the President of the General Assembly appointed the following Member States as members of the Preparatory Committee (see A/35/805 and Add.1): 1/

Algeria	Indonesia
Argentina	Iraq
Australia	Italy
Austria	Japan
Belgium	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Brazil	Mauritania
Bulgaria	Mexico
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Morocco
Canada	Netherlands
Chile	Norway
China	Pakistan
Colombia	Peru
Costa Rica	Poland
Cuba	Romania
Czechoslovakia	Spain
Denmark	Sri Lanka
Ecuador	Sweden
Egypt	Syrian Arab Republic
Finland	Turkey
France	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
German Democratic Republic	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Germany, Federal Republic of	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Ghana	United States of America
Greece	Uruguay
Guatemala	Venezuela
Hungary	Yugoslavia
India	Zaire

1/ The President of the General Assembly, on 11 September 1981, informed the Secretary-General, on the basis of information transmitted to him by the Chairman of the Group of Asian States, that he had appointed Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and the United Arab Emirates as members of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy (see A/35/805/Add.2).

6. The following members of the Committee were represented at the first session:

Algeria
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist
 Republic
Canada
Chile
China
Colombia
Cuba
Czechoslovakia
Denmark
Ecuador
Egypt
Finland
France
German Democratic Republic
Germany, Federal Republic of
Ghana
Greece
Hungary

India
Indonesia
Iraq
Italy
Japan
Mexico
Netherlands
Norway
Pakistan
Peru
Poland
Romania
Sweden
Turkey
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
United Kingdom of Great Britain
 and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uruguay
Venezuela
Yugoslavia
Zaire

7. Ireland, Malaysia, Nigeria, Oman, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates also participated as observers at the first session of the Committee.

8. The Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation was represented.

9. The International Atomic Energy Agency was also represented.

C. Election of officers

10. At its 1st meeting, on 3 August 1981, the Preparatory Committee decided that the bureau of the Committee should be composed of one Chairman, eight Vice-Chairmen and one Rapporteur. At the same meeting, the Committee also decided that the terms of office for the officers of the Committee should be the whole preparatory period leading up to the convening of the Conference.

11. At its 1st, 2nd and 3rd meetings on 3, 4 and 5 August, the Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman: Mr. Novak Pribicevic (Yugoslavia)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. F. K. A. Allotey (Ghana)
Mr. Essam El-Din Hawas (Egypt)
Mr. Van Barneveld Kooy (Netherlands)
Mr. L. A. Olivieri (Argentina)
Mr. Alvaro Salcedo Rubio (Peru)
Mr. B. Skala (Sweden)
Mr. Jan Strucka (Czechoslovakia)
Mr. Suror Merza Mahmoud (Iraq)

Rapporteur: Mr. Sumaryo Suryokusumo (Indonesia)

D. Adoption of the agenda

12. At its 1st meeting, on 3 August, the Committee adopted the following agenda for the session, as contained in document A/CONF.108/PC/1:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Programme of work of the Committee.
4. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Committee.
5. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

E. Documentation

13. The Committee had before it the following documents:

Provisional agenda (A/CONF.108/PC/1)

Report of the Secretary-General: Programme of work of the Committee (A/CONF.108/PC/2 and Add.1)

Draft report of the Committee on its first session (A/CONF.108/PC/L.1)

F. Adoption of the report

14. At its 7th meeting, on 7 August, the Committee adopted the draft report of the Committee, as contained in document A/CONF.108/PC/L.1, as orally amended.

III. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FUTURE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

A. Opening statements

15. The Chairman, in his opening statement, stressed the importance, magnitude and complexity of issues which have to be resolved in order to ensure a successful United Nations Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. He stated that it was the common desire of the international community that this Conference should bring fruitful and comprehensive results favourable to further development of international co-operation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy on an equitable and non-discriminatory basis.

16. A substantial part of the international community, in particular a growing number of developing countries, has no alternative other than to resort to the peaceful use of nuclear energy in satisfying their energy requirements in the years and decades to come. He further stated that scientific achievements, accomplished know-how, technological and industrial capability in a growing number of developed countries were making the harnessing of nuclear potential for peaceful uses an accessible alternative. All previous experiences had demonstrated that meaningful international co-operation in this field could only be achieved within the framework of internationally agreed principles.

17. He continued to emphasize the need for the Conference to consider with all due attention the serious concern expressed about the dangers of further proliferation of nuclear weapons.

18. In concluding his statement, he reiterated his readiness to be an instrument of the endeavour of the Committee to achieve consensus and common understanding on all issues before the Committee.

19. The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency, in his statement, expressed the readiness of the Agency to fulfil its appropriate role and provide the necessary assistance and services as needed for the preparation of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. He further stated that the subject of the Conference was closely related to the Agency's statutory responsibilities.

20. He referred to the work of the Agency's Committee on Assurances of Supply which was an important step in the strengthening of mutual confidence between the suppliers and recipients of the materials, equipment and technology for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The Agency looked forward to reporting to the Preparatory Committee and the Conference on the work of the Committee.

21. He also drew attention to the Agency's International Conference on Nuclear Power Experience to be held in September 1982, which, in reviewing world nuclear power experience thus far, would provide valuable up-to-date technical contributions to the deliberations of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. Most of the Agency's activities would be relevant to the subject-matter of the Conference, and the Agency looked forward to playing a full part in contributing to a useful and constructive discussion of the many important issues which the Conference would address.

B. Deliberations of the Committee

22. The Committee, at its 2nd meeting, on 4 August, exchanged views concerning the subject-matters which should be dealt with by the Committee at the session. Many delegations were of the view that even though the Committee was requested by the General Assembly to deal primarily with organizational matters at this session, the Committee should exchange views on the substantive matters concerning the Conference, particularly on the agenda of the Conference. Other delegations were of the view that the Committee should concentrate its work at this session on organizational matters, and should only begin its substantive preparation for the Conference at its next session.

23. The Committee then agreed to hold informal meetings on the following subject-matters:

- (1) The approximate date of the Conference, namely, either in the early or latter part of 1983, so that the schedule of meetings for the Preparatory Committees can be arranged accordingly;
- (2) The Schedule, frequency and venues of future sessions of this Preparatory Committee;
- (3) Agenda for the next session of this Committee;
- (4) Documentation which the Committee may wish to be prepared and submitted to it by the Secretary-General for the future sessions of the Committee;
- (5) The Establishment of a Conference secretariat;
- (6) The Role of the International Atomic Energy Agency;
- (7) Preliminary consideration of the agenda of the Conference.

24. At its 5th meeting, on 6 August, the Chairman presented to the Committee the following proposal, on the basis of informal consultations held on item 3 of the agenda:

"The Preparatory Committee, at its 5th meeting, on 6 August 1981, decides to recommend to the General Assembly the following:

Date, venue and duration of the Conference

"(1) The Conference shall be held at Geneva for a duration of two weeks, from 29 August to 9 September 1983.

Future sessions of the Preparatory Committee

"(2) In 1982, the Preparatory Committee shall hold a second session from 21 to 25 June at Vienna, with the possibility of a further one-week session at Vienna in the latter part of the year if it deems necessary. A decision about this meeting will be taken by the Committee at its second session, in the light of the programme of its work.

"(3) In 1983, the Preparatory Committee shall hold a final session at Vienna, which will last for one week unless the Committee decides otherwise in 1982.

Establishment of a Conference secretariat

"(4) The Secretary-General of the United Nations should establish as soon as possible a small conference secretariat for the Conference, to be headed by a Secretary-General of the Conference.

"(5) The International Atomic Energy Agency should play an active role in all phases of the preparation of the Conference, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/112.

Draft rules of procedure of the Conference

"(6) The Secretariat is requested to prepare draft rules of procedure of the Conference for consideration by the Committee at its second session, taking fully into account similar rules of procedure adopted by other recent United Nations conferences."

25. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted without a vote the draft proposal submitted by the Chairman (see annex) after hearing a statement by the Secretary of the Committee on the administrative and financial implications of the proposal.

26. At the 6th meeting of the Committee, on 7 August, it was proposed that the Preparatory Committee recommend to the General Assembly that, owing to the historical importance of the Conference, and in order to provide it with complete documentation, summary records be provided for future sessions of the Preparatory Committee, as well as for the Conference itself. Some delegations expressed their support for this proposal while some other delegations expressed their objection to it on grounds of the financial implications, the possible precedent, and the loss in informality and efficiency.

27. In the course of the informal consultations, a number of delegations stressed the importance they attached to the content of the agenda of the Conference and expressed their views on that subject. They emphasized the need to promote international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for the benefit of the international community, and in particular of developing countries. A number of delegations put forward preliminary suggestions for the agenda of the Conference, whilst some other delegations were of the view that it was premature for the Committee, at this session, to consider the agenda of the Conference, and believed that the second session of the Committee would be the most appropriate time to deal with that question. Governments which have not yet done so are invited urgently to reply to the note of the Secretary-General of 26 March 1981 in time for the consideration by the Committee at its second session.

28. At its 7th meeting, on 7 August, the Committee decided that the Chairman should present in person the report of the Preparatory Committee on its first session to the General Assembly. The Secretary of the Committee made a statement on the administrative and financial implications of the decision before it was adopted by the Committee.

C. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Committee

29. At its 5th meeting, on 6 August, the Chairman proposed to the Committee the following draft provisional agenda, on the basis of informal consultations held on item 4 of the agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
 2. Preparation of the Conference: report of the Secretary-General.
 3. Draft rules of procedure of the Conference.
 4. Draft provisional agenda of the Conference.
 5. Documentation for the Conference.
 6. Schedule of and provisional agenda for the third session of the Committee.
 7. Adoption of the report of the Committee.
30. At the same meeting, the Committee approved the provisional agenda for the second session of the Committee as suggested by the Chairman. It was understood that the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the preparation for and in the proceedings of the Conference will be discussed at the second session of the Preparatory Committee.

Annex

Decision adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its first session

The Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful uses of Nuclear Energy recommends to the General Assembly the following provisions:

Date, venue and duration of the Conference

1. The Conference shall be held at Geneva for a duration of two weeks, from 29 August to 9 September 1983.

Future sessions of the Preparatory Committee

2. In 1982, the Preparatory Committee shall hold a second session from 21 to 25 June in Vienna, with the possibility of a further one week session at Vienna in the latter part of the year if it deems necessary. A decision about this meeting will be taken by the Committee at its second session, in the light of the programme of its work.

3. In 1983, the Preparatory Committee shall hold a final session at Vienna, which will last for one week unless the Committee decides otherwise in 1982.

Establishment of a Conference secretariat

4. The Secretary-General of the United Nations should establish as soon as possible a small conference secretariat for the Conference, to be headed by a Secretary-General of the Conference.

5. The International Atomic Energy Agency should play an active role in all phases of the preparation of the Conference, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/112.

Draft rules of procedure of the Conference

6. The Secretariat is requested to prepare draft rules of procedure of the Conference for consideration by the Committee at its second session, taking fully into account similar rules of procedure adopted by other recent United Nations conferences.

5th meeting
6 August 1981

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