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INTRODUCTION

It will be recalled that in resolution 35/112 of 5 December 1980, the General Assembly invited all States which had not already done so to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the opening date, duration, venue and agenda of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy and on other matters relevant to its preparation and organization. The views, observations and suggestions received from Governments in response to the ensuing note verbale sent by the Secretary-General in pursuance of the Assembly's request, have been reproduced in document A/CONF.108/PC/2 and Add.1 and 2.

In resolution 36/78 of 9 December 1981, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference, ^{1/} endorsed the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee contained in the annex to its report and decided that the Conference should be held at Geneva from 29 August to 9 September 1983. It also called upon all States which had not already done so to communicate to the Secretary-General, not later than 30 April 1982, their views on the matters relevant to the preparation and organization of the Conference.

In pursuance of the Assembly's request, the Secretary-General, on 11 March 1982, sent a further note verbale inviting all States which had not already done so to communicate to him their views on these matters. The views, observations and suggestions received from Governments in response to the note verbale of the Secretary-General are reproduced below. Reference to these replies is also made in the report of the Secretary-General.

Any subsequent replies will be reproduced as further addenda to the present document.

REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

BELGIUM

[Original: French]

[11 May 1982]

By his note No. S.567 of 30 June 1981, the Permanent Representative transmitted to the Secretary-General the comments which the Belgian Government wished to make regarding this Conference.

He would none the less be grateful to the Secretary-General if the following points could be added to item 4 of the above-mentioned reply, which listed a number of subjects which the Belgian Government thought should be included in the agenda of the Conference:

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth session, Supplement No. 48 (A/36/48).

Problems relating to:

- (a) Food and agriculture;
- (b) Hydrology;
- (c) Minerals prospecting;
- (d) Mining and transport of ores;
- (e) Industrial applications.

The Belgian Government believes that, when these points come to be considered, the Conference should conduct assessments and identify: the various phases of development programmes; research, development and demonstration needs; and measures for the transfer, adaptation and application of tried and tested technologies.

BRAZIL

[Original: English]

[6 May 1982]

The following are comments of the Brazilian Government on the preparatory work for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy on the basis of the report of the Preparatory Committee: 2/

(a) Item 26 - The preparation of Summary Records to furnish supporting background material for forthcoming sessions of the Committee as well as for the Conference itself will make it possible for their work to be conducted on a sounder basis.

(b) Item 27 - The agenda of the Conference can be more adequately considered during the second session of the Preparatory Committee, scheduled for next June. However, there should be left open the possibility of the issue's being taken up again on subsequent occasions (namely, during the session which might still be held at the end of 1982, as well as during the session already foreseen for 1983), since the progress of the work may demonstrate the advisability of revisions or additions.

(c) Item 30 - It would also be appropriate to discuss the role of IAEA on the occasion of the second session of the Preparatory Committee. However, it should be borne in mind, as in the case cited under item (b) above, that this and other matters should develop more fully as a consequence of the debates within the Preparatory Committee, or of the continued consideration of the issue by the interested Governments. Thus the possibility should be left of pursuing these issues in future sessions.

2/ Ibid.

(d) The positions stated in items 3 and 6 of the annex to the Report of the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.108/PC/2) on an appropriate occasion to examine the feasibility of holding only one additional preparatory meeting, in 1983 (item 3), as well as to consider the draft rules of procedure applicable to the Conference, in accordance with similar criteria adopted at recent conferences of the United Nations.

CANADA

[Original: English]

[30 April 1982]

The basic approach of the Government of Canada was outlined by the Canadian representative when the General Assembly on 9 December 1981, adopted resolution 36/78 on the Conference. Noting that a great number of technical and policy studies had been, and were being, undertaken within the auspices of IAEA, including the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE), International Plutonium Storage (IPS) and Committee on Assurances of Supply (CAS) exercises, the representative stated that Canada envisaged a major role for the Conference in consolidating the work of the appropriate specialized fora. The Conference should not be used for providing a point of departure for the unknown. In this connexion, the Preparatory Committee will need to ensure through the preparation of a draft agenda and through its other activities that: (a) full use is made of the existing body of knowledge on nuclear energy accumulated by IAEA and other specialized bodies and (b) duplication with existing technical and policy studies is scrupulously avoided.

Both the Preparatory Committee and Conference should take into account in a balanced way the interests of both suppliers and consumers of nuclear materials, material, equipment and technology. In this way, Canada believes that the Committee and Conference will be successful in making a positive contribution to the evolution of more satisfactory international co-operation in this area on the basis of effective non-proliferation assurances.

As a specialized and high profile international gathering on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the Conference will undoubtedly attract a great deal of public attention and have a significant bearing on public understanding and public acceptance of nuclear power. The Conference should, therefore, be designed to address the questions nuclear power continues to raise in the minds of the public. This could be accomplished if the Conference would provide: (a) a comprehensive picture of the peaceful applications of nuclear energy and of their social and economic benefits; (b) a detailed study of how States have dealt so far with the question of the proliferation of nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons capability and (c) a reaffirmation of the principles of non-proliferation with a view to seeking to identify ways and means to universalize their application.

The Conference could also review how nuclear material, material, equipment and technology can circulate and how technical and financial assistance can be provided in an international environment where a formal commitment to non-proliferation has

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been made through ratification of the Non-Proliferation Treaty or equivalent action and universal acceptance of full-scope safeguards. The Canadian Government, therefore, considers that in so far as it is aimed at reinforcing world peace and stability by promoting a full and truly international system of non-proliferation, the Conference can and should address the political as well as economic components of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

As to procedural matters, the Canadian Government believes that the Conference itself, like the meetings of the Preparatory Committee, should take decisions by consensus. A decision on whether the Conference should issue a final document, as well as decisions on the form and content of such a document, should be taken by the Conference itself, on the basis of clear indications that a final document would make a positive contribution to improving international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. If it is the consensus of the Preparatory Committee that preliminary work on a final document should be initiated, there should be agreement in advance in order to limit the status of any text to represent only the views of Preparatory Committee participants.

Finally, regarding the work of the Preparatory Committee, its activities should continue to be restricted to procedural issues, namely the preparation of a draft agenda, formulation of draft rules of procedure and the commissioning of balanced background papers and documents from IAEA and other competent organizations. It is important that the Preparatory Committee continue to operate by consensus consistent with the mandate provided by United Nations General Assembly resolution 36/78.

CHILE

[Original: Spanish]

[6 May 1982]

Chile's position with regard to the objectives of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy can be summed up as follows:

The Conference must:

- (a) Reiterate the importance of the peaceful use of nuclear energy for development;
- (b) Recognize the leading role of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the need to strengthen the system of safeguards;
- (c) Promote the broadest possible co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

The agenda of the Conference should include, inter alia, the following items:

- (a) A case-by-case review of all applications of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;

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(b) An analysis of the existing machinery for nuclear co-operation, and alternative ways of promoting more flexible co-operation and assistance in this field;

(c) The role of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the strengthening of its action in all areas of the peaceful use of atomic energy.

With regard to the convening of the Conference, Chile, as a member of the Preparatory Committee, has indicated its concurrence with holding the Conference at Geneva from 27 August to 9 September 1983. The Government of Chile also agrees that the Preparatory Committee should hold two sessions this year, should that prove necessary.

With regard to the election of the officers of the Conference, Chile believes that the distribution of these posts should be based on the principle of equitable geographical distribution. The question of the Conference secretariat should be settled as soon as possible in order to ensure that the relevant documents are prepared in co-operation with IAEA.

CUBA

[Original: Spanish]

[28 April 1982]

The Republic of Cuba voted in favour of holding the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy in the belief that any action to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy for the development and advancement of all States makes a positive contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security.

The Government of the Republic of Cuba supported the idea of holding the aforesaid Conference within the framework of the United Nations system, with the International Atomic Energy Agency playing an appropriate part since IAEA is the specialized agency for such matters and General Assembly resolution 32/50 recognized the need to strengthen the Agency's role.

The Government of Cuba believes that an agenda geared to the aims of the Conference must be drawn up and, to this end, is pleased to transmit the recommendation contained in the report by the Group of Co-ordinating Countries for the Sphere of the Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy, adopted at the recent Fourth Meeting of Co-ordinating Countries of the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries (Havana, 10-13 March 1982), which reads as follows:

"To promote the most rapid adoption of the agenda of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy by its Preparatory Committee and, at the same time, to urge all non-aligned and other developing countries to take an active part in the preparatory work in order to obtain positive results regarding their objectives for the next session of the Committee and with a view to the 1983 Conference".

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EL SALVADOR

[Original: Spanish]

[30 March 1982]

The Permanent Mission of El Salvador wishes to inform you that the contents of your note and the annex thereto have been transmitted to the Salvadorian Foreign Ministry.

FINLAND

[Original: English]

[6 May 1982]

Finland welcomed the consensus reached at the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly in resolution 36/78, by which the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. The resolution serves to underline, inter alia, the importance of consensus on issues related to the promotion of international co-operation in the field of the peaceful atom. In addition to the views expressed on the subject in its earlier replies to the Secretary-General, Finland wishes to make the following observations:

Finland participates actively in the work of the Committee on Assurances of Supply, which was established by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in 1980. The task of the Committee lies at the core of international co-operation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The work of the Committee, now under way, has obvious links with the United Nations Conference. Finland considers that substantial progress in the work of the Committee on Assurances of Supply is essential for the achievement of the goals set for the Conference.

In addition to attaching particular significance to the Committee on Assurances of Supply, Finland continues to consider that IAEA is the main international body responsible for both the promotional and regulatory aspects of nuclear energy. Therefore, it should be one of the objectives of the Conference that the role of the Agency be further strengthened and consolidated.

It is the consistent view of the Government of Finland that the elimination of the dangers of the proliferation of nuclear weapons would serve to remove obstacles to enhanced international co-operation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. It is, therefore, vital that the objective of promoting international co-operation in the transfer of nuclear materials, equipment and technology and of strengthening the non-proliferation régime be pursued concurrently. A recognition of the relationship between those objectives is of fundamental importance to the success of the United Nations Conference.

Finland, which already has a considerable nuclear energy programme based largely on supplies from other countries, has a natural interest in the promotion of the two above objectives. Finland is prepared to continue to contribute in that spirit to the work of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference.

The agenda of the United Nations Conference should be concise and in particular take into account the problems associated with peaceful uses of nuclear energy as an alternative source of energy within the framework of a global energy policy. The twofold nature of the questions related to international co-operation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy - the link between promotional and non-proliferation aspects - should clearly be reflected in the agenda.

As far as procedures of preparatory work are concerned, Finland does not deem it necessary to establish intersessional working groups on certain items of the draft agenda.

MALAYSIA

[Original: English]

[2 September 1981]

The Government of Malaysia is of the view that one of the most important functions of this Preparatory Committee is to try to crystalize as clearly as possible what should be the general objectives of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy in 1983.

In our view, the coming Conference ought not be viewed separately. It should be part of a larger process towards an early establishment of a new international economic order. Many grave global issues arising from the economic and social disparities of the world community and establishment of a new international economic order pose a great social challenge of our time.

In the field of energy, fossil fuel has lost its magic power. Apart from its high cost, it is feared that the reserves might dwindle to such an extent that it could no longer support and sustain industrial growth.

Nuclear energy is a major alternative to fossil fuels. Its technology is well established. However, its development is plagued with problems. In the North, it is the problem of public acceptance. In the South, it is the problem of financing, availability of technology and the assurances of supply. There is also a common problem facing the North and the South, that is, the problem of orderly transition from high dependence on fossil fuel to nuclear energy. The Conference should consider these problems deeply and come up with recommendations.

There are other problems of importance to be considered by the Conference such as the problem of assurances of non-proliferation and the international collaboration in harnessing nuclear energy.

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Finally, attention should be given to the role of international institutions in promoting international co-operation and especially IAEA. Concerning the Conference, IAEA can play a supportive role, providing factual and background information, notably on the outcome of the nuclear power experience conference. Therefore, the Netherlands Government suggests that the Conference could usefully deal with the following questions:

(a) Importance of nuclear energy for social and economic development, taking into account, inter alia:

(i) The effects of the economic crisis on energy needs;

(ii) Other forms of energy.

(b) Results of and experience with the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

(c) Promotion of international co-operation on the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, such as:

(i) Assurances of supply (taking into account the results of the discussions in the Committee on Assurances of Supply);

(ii) Assurances of non-proliferation (taking into account the results of discussions in the Committee on Assurances of Supply);

(iii) Technical assistance;

(iv) Research and exchange of information;

(v) Financing;

(vi) Assistance in the exploration and development of resources;

(vii) Regional co-operation (for instance in border regions);

(viii) Nuclear safety co-operation and mutual emergency assistance.

(d) Role of international organizations and especially IAEA in the promotion of the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

The agenda for the Conference should, in an appropriate form, reflect the aforementioned questions. As a member of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee of the Conference, the Netherlands Government will take an active part in the preparations for the Conference.

PAKISTAN

[Original: English]

[2 April 1982]

The development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy are an essential component of the efforts by the international community to restore equilibrium in world economic relations and to establish the New International Economic Order. However, the past few years have witnessed increasingly restrictive policies and actions on the part of certain supplier States, which appear to be aimed at maintaining a monopoly over the supply of nuclear fuel, equipment, services and technology. The arbitrary policies of these States which in some cases have even prevented the fulfilment of valid contracts and agreements, have adversely affected the rational development of nuclear energy especially in the developing countries.

In Pakistan's view, the main objective of the United Nations Conference on the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy should be to reverse this negative trend, to give a new impetus to the development of nuclear energy programmes, particularly in the developing countries, and to intensify international co-operation for this purpose on an equitable and non-discriminatory basis. The United Nations General Assembly decided in its resolution 34/63 of 29 November 1979 to convene this Conference "in accordance with the objectives of General Assembly resolution 32/50". The objectives of resolution 32/50 were primarily to ensure that States "respect and observe" the principles set forth in that resolution which, inter alia, affirmed that (a) the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is of great importance for the economic and social development of many countries, (b) all States have the right, in accordance with the principle of sovereign equality, to develop their programme for the peaceful use of nuclear technology for economic and social development, in conformity with their priorities, interests and needs and (c) all States, without discrimination, should have access to and should be free to acquire technology, equipment and materials for the peaceful use of nuclear energy in the developing countries.

Resolution 36/78 reaffirmed the responsibility of States that are advanced in the nuclear field to promote the legitimate nuclear energy needs of the developing countries by participating in the fullest possible transfer of nuclear equipment, materials and technology under agreed and appropriate international safeguards applied through IAEA on a non-discriminatory basis in order to prevent effectively the proliferation of nuclear weapons; recognized the increasing significance of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development, in particular, its important role in accelerating the development of the developing countries; and expressed its conviction that the Conference, through the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, should contribute greatly to meeting the increasing energy and other requirements of many countries, particularly developing ones.

AGENDA OF THE CONFERENCE

The agenda of the conference should be formulated to ensure implementation of the broad objectives identified in resolutions 32/50 and 36/78 by adopting:

(a) A Declaration of principles for the promotion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy;

(b) A comprehensive Programme of Action, based on such principles, for the development of nuclear energy, specially in the developing countries and the promotion of international co-operation for this purpose.

DECLARATION

The declaration of principles could, inter alia, cover the following elements:

(a) An objective evaluation of the importance of nuclear energy to meet the growing world demand for energy and especially the indispensable need of the developing countries to develop and acquire nuclear technology for the implementation of their nuclear energy programmes, and over-all economic development;

(b) The basic principles outlined in resolution 32/50 and 36/78 and the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly ^{3/} should be adhered to and need to be reiterated for the guidance of States and international organizations for promotion of effective and beneficial co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Among these principles, the following could be reaffirmed:

- (i) All existing and valid contracts for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be honoured;
- (ii) No single State or group of States should unilaterally or collectively impose conditions on access to or transfer of nuclear technology, fuel or equipment;
- (iii) Conditions relating to the transfer of nuclear fuel, technology and equipment etc. should be limited to those jointly agreed upon by supplier and recipient States and approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency;
- (iv) Co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be in conformity with the norms of sovereign equality and non-discrimination contained in the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of the New International Economic Order and Charter on the Economic Rights and Duties of States.

^{3/} See General Assembly resolution S-10/2 of 30 June 1978.

(c) A reiteration of the goal of nuclear non-proliferation as defined in paragraph 65 of the Final Document adopted at the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, that is, "On the one hand to prevent emergence of any additional nuclear weapon States besides the existing five nuclear-weapon States and on the other progressively to reduce or eliminate nuclear weapons altogether". 4/ Strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation régime by exploring the avenues such as effective assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world. Furthermore, enhancement of the effectiveness of international safeguards will primarily depend on ensuring their application on universal, equitable and non-discriminatory basis to all nuclear facilities.

(d) It should be recognized, *inter alia*, that nuclear energy has a special importance for the developing countries and would have a direct and significant impact upon their self-sustained development, independence and national sovereignty; and interruptions or changes in nuclear supply agreements and contracts, or their application, will have more adverse consequences for developing than for developed countries; the developing countries have the same rights as other nations to develop peaceful uses of nuclear energy; existing multilateral and international mechanisms have had limited effectiveness in meeting the special needs of the developing countries which require international non-discriminatory arrangements covering supply of technology and equipment, manpower training, research, and financing, to develop their peaceful nuclear programmes.

The Programme of Action could cover the following main elements:

(a) An assessment of the growing demand for nuclear energy in the coming decades and the policy actions required to meet this demand, especially that of the developing countries;

(b) International assurances of supply of technology, fuel and services;

(c) Free access to technology, equipment and materials for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, especially to the developing countries;

(d) Special measures to meet the needs of developing countries such as international agreements for assured supply of materials and access to technology, participation in bilateral and multilateral fuel cycle activities, increased specialized training programmes for the development of manpower, larger technical assistance specially in projects dealing with major applications of nuclear technology and the increased availability of resources for nuclear energy programmes;

(e) Co-operation among developing countries, at the bilateral, regional or interregional level, for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy;

4/ Ibid.

(f) Strengthening of international institutions within the United Nations system to promote international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. This may include:

- (i) Establishment of an International Fund to finance the implementation of the Programme of Action.
- (ii) Increased allocation of resources by financial institutions such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for nuclear energy programmes in the developing countries.
- (iii) Establishment of an international technology Centre to provide practical training and access to expert advice for developing countries.
- (iv) Review and improvement in the operation of the International Atomic Energy Agency especially by:
 - a. Increasing funds of IAEA technical assistance programme and/or creation of a special fund for technical assistance.
 - b. Non-discrimination in IAEA assistance programme between parties and non-parties to NPT.
 - c. Ensuring adequate representation on the IAEA Board of Governors of underrepresented regions.
 - d. Development of uniform international safeguards applied through IAEA on a universal and non-discriminatory basis.
 - e. Security assurances to non-nuclear weapon States and possible regional and global arrangements towards this end.
 - f. Establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in appropriate regions of the world such as South Asia, Middle East and Africa. Progress has already been achieved in this direction in Latin America.

PARAGUAY

[Original: Spanish]

[4 May 1982]

The National Atomic Energy Commission of Paraguay, the competent national body, has stated that it has no objection whatsoever to make in this connexion and supports General Assembly resolution 36/78 in its entirety.

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ROMANIA

[Original: French]

[29 April 1982]

The Socialist Republic of Romania has the honour to confirm the validity of the reply transmitted by the Government of Romania in 1978, which was reproduced in document A/33/332.

SWEDEN

[Original: English]

[24 May 1982]

The United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy should, as its main objective, focus attention on the role of nuclear energy in the promotion of economic and social development in all States, particularly in the less developed countries. To this end, the Conference should address a fairly broad range of questions, with special emphasis placed on those of relevance to States who have not yet ventured into nuclear energy but might consider doing so.

Issues of interest include, inter alia, national energy planning, the role of nuclear energy in relation to other energy options, assurances of supply as concern technology, equipment and source materials consistent with non-proliferation requirements, capital requirements, environmental and safety aspects.

In addition to power production, also other applications of nuclear energy and nuclear science and technology such as in medicine and agriculture should be given attention by the Conference.

The agenda of the Conference should provide scope for a full discussion of the issues indicated above. It does not seem necessary, however, that the agenda formally lists all of them. In the Swedish view an agenda of a broad nature, referring to "international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy" and annotating the relevant subject-matters would be appropriate. The agenda should permit a wide presentation of national views, as well as, by invitation, those of international organizations with experience in the field.

Both in order to ensure a correct treatment of substantive matters and for reasons of administrative efficiency, it is essential that the preparations for the Conference, as far as possible, be co-ordinated with related work already being carried out within the United Nations system in particular. The Conference should enlist the services of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which is the only United Nations institution directly concerned with the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The agency should, at the request of the Preparatory Committee, provide papers on subjects of interest to the Conference. The agency might also be entrusted with the secretariat functions of the Committee.

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In addressing questions relating to the transfer of nuclear material, equipment and technology and the related questions of supply assurances and non-proliferation of nuclear explosive capability, the Conference should bear in mind the ongoing work within existing IAEA bodies such as the Committee on Assurances of Supply and the Expert Group on International Plutonium Storage, the results of which should provide the frame of reference for the Conference on these matters. The conclusions of the September 1982 IAEA Conference on Nuclear Power Experience will also be relevant to the Conference.

Any concluding document of the Conference should, in Sweden's opinion, provide a summary of proceedings and might contain agreed recommendations for future work to promote international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

UNITED STATES

[Original: English]

[30 April 1982]

The United States strongly supports the expansion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, hand in hand with strengthening the essential international régime of non-proliferation safeguards and controls. Peaceful nuclear technology can play a significant role in helping all nations meet their energy, agricultural, medical, industrial and other requirements for economic and social development. In our view, among those who stand to benefit most from the 1983 United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy (PUNE) are the countries still only at the threshold of peaceful nuclear technology and its application in the process of their national development. The PUNE Conference can better enable these countries, too, to share in the fruits of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy by identifying ways in which they may most effectively utilize this technology to help meet their economic and social goals and by fostering improved international co-operation in this field.

To be of broadest practical value, the Conference should examine the potential of nuclear technology throughout the full range of principal peaceful uses, including: large-scale and smaller-scale nuclear-power generation; food and agriculture; hydrology; health and medicine; industrial and other applications. The Conference should stress the importance of evaluating nuclear energy within the context of sound over-all energy planning which takes into account the availability, economics and capital costs of nuclear energy when viewed against other energy options. The Conference should examine the key infrastructure requirements for peaceful nuclear technology utilization, including: techniques of uranium exploration, mining, milling and transportation; capital needs; education and manpower training; an appropriate legal and regulatory framework for peaceful nuclear development; safety, health and environmental considerations; land use; waste management; and technical and financial assistance obtainable from international organizations and elsewhere. Interwoven into consideration of all aspects of peaceful nuclear technology application of course should be concern for non-proliferation and for an effective safeguards régime.

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In planning for the 1983 PUNE Conference, the 1981 United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, held last summer at Nairobi, can provide recent relevant examples. The Conference dealt with a closely allied subject area and similarly accorded special emphasis to the needs and capabilities of developing countries. A major contributing factor to the success of that Conference was the careful, comprehensive and technically sound approach taken throughout the preparatory process and the Conference itself by participating Governments and the international organizations concerned. New and renewable energy sources were examined realistically in a constructive and non-political atmosphere. Due attention also was given to the substantial contribution to be made by non-governmental organizations, universities and technical institutions and the private sector. The results of the Conference have been useful to Governments and international organizations alike.

The work of PUNE should be organized so as to reflect and balance the concerns of all participants: customers and suppliers, developed as well as developing countries. For its conclusions to carry authority and gain maximum support, the Conference should operate by consensus, but with opportunity for individual national views to be noted in the Conference report. In addition to national presentations by participating countries on their respective experience and priorities in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, presentations also should be invited from major international organizations with a contribution to make in furthering national development and international co-operation in this field, including, for example, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA), in addition to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). PUNE can encourage more effective use of the services and other resources which these organizations can provide, identify possible areas of overlap and highlight to these organizations the particular interests and needs of developing countries in the peaceful nuclear field.

The role of IAEA in relation to the Conference should be an essentially facilitative one of providing technical, economic and legal backup information and advice; including furnishing reports of previous conferences, for example, the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE), and the work of its own committees. IAEA also could be requested to prepare background or state-of-the-art papers on given subjects in which it has expertise, such as manpower development, regional co-operation (for example, the agreement on regional co-operation for Asia, or RCA), and the application of isotopes and radiation in agriculture. PUNE for its part could draw on discussions held and consensus reached on particular subjects in IAEA bodies, for example, the Committee on Assurances of Supply (per United Nations General Assembly resolutions 35/112 and 36/78), but should in no way duplicate, interfere with or otherwise impede their efforts. With respect to the Committee on Assurances of Supply (CAS) we are encouraged by recent developments there; continued progress in that Committee could contribute significantly to the success of the PUNE Conference.

In the specific area of nuclear power development, PUNE should take full advantage of the technical work of the September 1982 IAEA-sponsored Conference on Nuclear Power Experience, which will provide a comprehensive, expert-level review of advances over the past three decades in this field. PUNE also can draw on the technical conclusions and forecasts of the Third European Nuclear Conference, scheduled for April 1983, which is intended to evaluate future nuclear energy prospects.

VENEZUELA

[Original: Spanish]

[13 May 1982]

From the outset the United Nations has provided a forum for discussion, the most extensive exchange of views, and the promotion of the dissemination of scientific and technical information in the sphere of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Our world Organization has so far sponsored four international conferences on this subject, the first of which, held in 1955, aroused such interest that it led a year later to the holding of the Conference on the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and to the establishment of this intergovernmental agency within the United Nations system, its purpose being "to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world".

Venezuela holds that, at present, with IAEA completing 25 years of productive work, one of the priority matters before the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy should be to review and evaluate the role played by the Agency in promoting non-military uses of atomic energy, and to study ways and means of strengthening it, bearing in mind also its commitment to act in keeping with the purposes and principles of the Charter in promoting international peace and security.

Following the success of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE) as a "technical exercise", the effect of which was to create a better climate in international nuclear relations and to highlight the role of the political component, over and above technical and institutional machinery, in preventing proliferation of nuclear weapons, a second, political, evaluation of the present status of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy was conducted at the second Review Conference of the parties to the non-proliferation treaty. We therefore believe that the time has come to embark on the stage of negotiations at the level of the most comprehensive participation possible, in other words, at the United Nations, with a view to contributing to the endeavour that IAEA itself is initiating, within the Committee on Assurances of Supply (CAS) and elsewhere, with a view to achieving an international consensus in which the legitimate interests of suppliers and consumers of nuclear energy are taken into account.

In that connexion, the Conference should be aimed at kindling the collective political will so that it may bring about the adoption of a "programme of action", perhaps on the lines of that already agreed upon in the field of disarmament at the tenth special session of the General Assembly. The focus of the Conference should take account of the inherent interdependence of and a just balance between two forms of security: security as regards supplies and security in the field of non-proliferation. Venezuela would therefore like the Conference to pay particular attention to the legal/political and economic aspects of international nuclear relations and the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency:

- (a) as a forum for co-operation;
- (b) in adopting principles of co-operation;
- (c) in establishing basic requirements to be met by States in implementing such international co-operation.

The statements above are the specific points that the Government of Venezuela wished to make in this connexion.
