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

Third session

Vienna, 27 October-2 November 1982

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL 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
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ANNOTATIONS

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The General Assembly, in its resolution 35/112 of 5 December 1980, 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 may 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". 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 Assembly at its thirty-sixth session".

In accordance with the above provisions of resolution 35/112, the Committee had its first session at the Vienna International Centre from 3 to 7 August 1981. The report on the session is contained in document A/36/48. 1/

The Preparatory Committee held a second session at the Vienna International Centre from 21 to 30 June 1982. At the 17th meeting of that session, the Committee decided that a third session of the Committee would be held at Vienna beginning 27 October and ending not later than 2 November 1982. 2/ The provisional agenda for the third session of the Committee, as contained in the present document, was approved by the Committee at the 18th meeting of its second session on 30 June 1982.

The Committee may wish to decide on the organization of the work of the session in the light of the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 36/78 of 9 December 1981 and taking into account the progress of work of the Committee during its second session.

2. Preparation of the Conference: report of the Secretary-General

In its resolution 35/112, the General Assembly, inter alia, decided to convene in 1983 the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. In its resolution 36/78, the Assembly decided that the Conference should be held at Geneva from 29 August to 9 September 1983.

In the preambular part of resolution 36/78, the General Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed the principles and provisions of its resolution 32/50 of 8 December 1977 on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development and stressed in particular the relevance of the principles set forth in paragraph 1 of resolution 32/50 for the preparation of the Conference and for the Conference itself. 3/ In the same resolution, the Assembly considered that the outcome of the Conference should be embodied in appropriate documents, in a suitable format, pertaining, inter alia, to ways and means of promoting international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The Assembly also reaffirmed its decision to take account of the results of the work of the Committee on Assurances of Supply.

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In paragraph 9 of resolution 36/78, the Assembly urged all States to contribute to the successful preparation of the Conference by, inter alia, making available, in conformity with international obligations, information on their scientific and technological achievements and practical experiences in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. In paragraph 10 of the same resolution, the Assembly called upon all States which had not yet 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 paragraph 11 of the resolution, the Assembly invited the International Atomic Energy Agency to fulfil its appropriate role within the scope of its responsibilities at all stages of preparation of the Conference, and during the Conference itself, by contributing to the discussion of relevant issues, by providing technical data and documentation as needed, particularly in relation to the progress of the work of the Committee on Assurances of Supply, and by participating in the secretariat of the Conference. In paragraph 12 of the same resolution, the Assembly invited specialized agencies and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system to contribute effectively to the preparations for the Conference by, inter alia, making available studies, reports and other appropriate documents concerning the applications of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, as well as the results and future prospects of such applications.

In resolution 36/78, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the establishment, at the appropriate time, of a small secretariat for the Conference, to be headed by a Secretary-General of the Conference. In this context, it may be recalled that the Secretary-General, on 1 February 1982, designated his Personal Representative for Special Missions, Mr. K. K. S. Dadzie, to serve as Secretary-General of the Conference. On 1 August 1982, the Secretary-General designated Mr. Amrik S. Mehta to succeed Mr. Dadzie as Secretary-General of the Conference.

In the same resolution, the Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Preparatory Committee all the communications received from Member States and to assist the Committee by providing it with all necessary facilities for its work. In pursuance of this request, the Committee had before it at its second session a report of the Secretary-General transmitting Governments' 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 other matters relevant to its preparation and organization (A/CONF.108/PC/2 and Add.1-4). The Secretary-General has received no additional communications from Member States on this question since the second session of the Preparatory Committee.

At its second session, the Committee also had before it a report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Conference (A/CONF.108/PC/4), in which the Secretary-General drew attention to a number of issues with regard to the agenda, programme of work, documentation and structure of the Conference, which require decisions of the Preparatory Committee. In addition, the attention of the Committee was drawn to related issues such as the convening of ad hoc expert group meetings prior to the Conference, the provision of a public information programme

in support of the Conference, and arrangements for intergovernmental consultations, as required, between sessions of the Preparatory Committee, including the holding of informal intersessional meetings of the Bureau of the Committee. The Committee may wish to resume consideration of these questions at its third session.

Documentation

Report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy on its second session (A/37/48 (Part I)) 4/

Report of the Secretary-General transmitting Governments' 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 (A/CONF.108/PC/2 and Add.1-4)

Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Conference (A/CONF.108/PC/4)

3. Draft rules of procedure of the Conference

The Preparatory Committee, at the fifth meeting of its first session, on 6 August 1981, requested the Secretariat 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.

The Preparatory Committee, at its second session, had before it a note by the Secretariat on draft rules of procedure for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy (A/CONF.108/PC/5), on which comments and suggestions were made by delegations in the course of the deliberations.

At the 17th meeting of its second session, on 30 June 1982, the Committee decided to finalize its consideration of the draft rules of procedure of the Conference at its third session.

For the information of the Committee, a conference room paper will be circulated on suggestions made and tentative agreements reached at the second session of the Committee on the draft rules of procedure of the Conference, as contained in document A/CONF.108/PC/5.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on draft rules of procedure for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy (A/CONF.108/PC/5)

Note by the Secretariat on suggestions made and tentative agreements reached on the draft rules of procedure of the Conference as contained in document A/CONF.108/PC/5 (A/CONF.108/PC/1982/CRP.1)

4. Draft provisional agenda of the Conference

In the report of the Preparatory Committee on its first session it is stated, inter alia, that "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." 1/

At the outset of its second session, the Preparatory Committee had before it for the consideration of this item a summing-up of an informal meeting of the Bureau of the Committee, held on 20 and 21 April 1982 (see A/37/48 (Part I), annex II).

During the second session, the Committee exchanged views concerning the draft provisional agenda of the conference and suggestions were made by many delegations on subject matters which should be included in the provisional agenda of the Conference.

The Committee, in its report, stated that by the 17th meeting, on 30 June, although there was a degree of convergence of views concerning the provisional agenda of the Conference, no agreement could be reached. However, the general view was that efforts should continue to be made to reach agreement on the provisional agenda at the next session.

At the same meeting, the Committee decided to annex to its report, at the request of the delegations concerned, a number of proposals submitted by various delegations concerning the provisional agenda of the Conference (A/37/48 (Part I), annex III).

The Preparatory Committee may wish to continue its consideration of the item and recommend to the General Assembly a provisional agenda for the Conference, in the light of the proposals made by various delegations at the second session, as well as of the views communicated by States (see A/CONF.108/PC/2 and Add.1-4).

5. Documentation of the Conference

At the second session, the Secretary-General of the Conference informed the Committee of his intention to undertake consultations on documentation for the Conference with the International Atomic Energy Agency and other concerned organizations of the United Nations system, taking into account the indications

already given to the Committee by the representatives of organizations participating in the second session, as well as elements contained in the suggestions of delegations concerning the draft provisional agenda of the Conference, as contained in annex II to the report of the Preparatory Committee at its second session (A/37/48 (Part I)).

As a result, the Secretary-General of the Conference expects to be able to provide the Committee at its third session with a list of topics on which the concerned organizations of the United Nations system may have indicated willingness to contribute inputs to the Conference and, as far as possible, an outline of the relevant materials.

6. Schedule of and provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Committee

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 34/50 of 23 November 1979, the Committee may wish to consider and approve a draft provisional agenda and proposed documentation for its fourth session.

The Committee may also wish to take a decision on the date of its fourth session.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the draft provisional agenda and documentation for the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee. 5/

7. Adoption of the report of the Committee

The General Assembly, in its resolution 36/78, decided to include in the provisional agenda for its thirty-seventh session an item entitled "Preparation of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy: report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy". Accordingly, the Preparatory Committee will submit its report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

Notes

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

2/ See the report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy on its second session (A/37/48 (Part I)).

3/ Paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 32/50 reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"...

"1. Declares 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;

"(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;

"(d) International co-operation in the field covered by the present resolution should be under agreed and appropriate international safeguards applied through the International Atomic Energy Agency on a non-discriminatory basis in order to prevent effectively proliferation of nuclear weapons;

"... "

4/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/37/48).

5/ To be issued during the third session in the light of the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee at that session.
