

**ADDENDUM**  
**TO 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.**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 48 A (A/37/48/Add.1)



**UNITED NATIONS**



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New York, 1983

#### NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

[19 April 1983]

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Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation  
in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy on its fourth  
session, held at United Nations Headquarters from  
28 March to 8 April 1983

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 35/112 of 5 December 1980, the General Assembly decided to convene in 1983 a United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, reaffirming the objectives of its resolution 32/50 of 8 December 1977, and to establish a Preparatory Committee for the Conference 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 Assembly to appoint the members of the Committee, in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation.

2. In its resolution 36/78 of 9 December 1981, the General Assembly decided that the Conference would be held at Geneva from 29 August to 9 September 1983 and 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 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 the same resolution, the Assembly repeated its invitation to the International Atomic Energy Agency to fulfil its appropriate role within the scope of its responsibilities, and particularly in relation to the progress of the work of the Committee on Assurances of Supply. Further, it invited the specialized agencies and other relevant organizations in 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.

3. In its resolution 37/167 of 17 December 1982, the General Assembly expressed concern at the lack of progress and recognized the pressing need to speed up and complete substantive preparations for the Conference, its provisional agenda, its documentation and its rule of procedure, so as to ensure a successful Conference which would achieve the objectives envisaged in General Assembly resolutions 32/50 and 35/112. The Assembly decided, inter alia, that the Preparatory Committee would hold its next session early in 1983 in New York. Further, it requested the Preparatory Committee and the Secretary-General of the Conference, in order to speed up substantive preparations, to make appropriate arrangements, including as necessary through inter-sessional work by States members of the Committee under the guidance of its Chairman and also through regional efforts and appropriate public information activities, with a view to ensuring meaningful results from the Conference. In the same resolution, the Assembly also decided to take suitable decisions with regard to the date of the Conference in the light of the results of the session of the Preparatory Committee to be held early in 1983. The Assembly also reiterated that the aim of the Conference was to promote international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and, to this end, to establish universally acceptable principles for such co-operation in accordance with the objectives contained in resolution 32/50, and it urged all States to co-operate actively in the preparation and the holding of the Conference and to respect and observe the principles set forth in resolution 32/50.

4. The Preparatory Committee held its first three sessions at Vienna from 3 to 7 August 1981, 21 to 30 June 1982 and 27 October to 2 November 1982, respectively.\* It held its fourth session in New York from 28 March to 8 April 1983.

## II. ORGANIZATION OF THE FOURTH SESSION

### A. Opening and duration of the session

5. At its fourth session, the Committee held 11 meetings (24th to 34th meetings). A number of informal contact group meetings were also held during that period.

### B. Membership and attendance

6. In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 35/112 of 5 December 1980 and 36/78 of 9 December 1981, the following 65 Member States have been appointed by the President of the General Assembly as members of the Preparatory Committee:

Algeria	Indonesia
Argentina	Iraq
Australia	Ireland
Austria	Italy
Belgium	Ivory Coast
Brazil	Japan
Bulgaria	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Malaysia
Canada	Mauritania
Chile	Mexico
China	Morocco
Colombia	Netherlands
Costa Rica	Niger
Cuba	Nigeria
Czechoslovakia	Norway
Denmark	Pakistan
Ecuador	Peru
Egypt	Philippines
Finland	Poland
France	Romania
German Democratic Republic	Saudi Arabia
Germany, Federal Republic of	Senegal
Ghana	Spain
Greece	Sri Lanka
Guatemala	Sweden
Hungary	Syrian Arab Republic
India	Thailand

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\* For the report of the Committee on its first session, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/36/48); for the report of the Committee on its second and third sessions, see ibid., Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/37/48).



Turkey  
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic  
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics  
United Arab Emirates  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and  
Northern Ireland

United Republic of Cameroon  
United States of America  
Uruguay  
Venezuela  
Yugoslavia  
Zaire

7. The following members of the Committee were represented at its fourth session:

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

Ivory Coast  
Japan  
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya  
Mexico  
Morocco  
Netherlands  
Nigeria  
Norway  
Pakistan  
Peru  
Philippines  
Poland  
Romania  
Saudi Arabia  
Senegal  
Spain  
Sri Lanka  
Sweden  
Thailand  
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

8. The following States also participated as observers at the fourth session:

Holy See	Republic of Korea
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Switzerland

9. The following specialized agencies were also represented:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
International Labour Organisation  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization  
World Health Organization

10. The International Atomic Energy Agency was also represented.

11. The following United Nations bodies were represented:

Economic Commission for Europe  
Economic Commission for Latin America  
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific  
Economic Commission for Western Asia  
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization  
United Nations Development Programme

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

13. The following intergovernmental organizations were also represented:

Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee  
Commission of the European Communities  
Organization of African Unity  
Organization of American States

#### C. Officers of the Committee

14. The officers of the Committee, as elected by the Committee at its 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 8th and 17th meetings, on 3, 4 and 5 August 1981 and 21 and 30 June 1982, were the same as at the second and third sessions namely:

Chairman: Mr. Novak Pribicević (Yugoslavia)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. F. K. A. Allotey (Ghana)  
Mr. Augusto Arzubíaga Rospigliosi (Peru)  
Mr. Essam El-Din Hawas (Egypt)  
Mr. L. A. Olivieri (Argentina)  
Mr. Miroslav Opit (Czechoslovakia)  
Mr. B. Skala (Sweden)  
Mr. Suror Merza Mahmoud (Iraq)  
Mr. Frans J. A. Terwisscha van Scheltinga (Netherlands)

Rapporteur: Mr. Dalindra Aman (Indonesia)

#### D. Adoption of the agenda

15. At its 24th meeting, on 28 March, the Committee adopted the following agenda for the session, as contained in document A/CONF.108/PC/8:

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 fifth session of the Committee.
7. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

E. Documentation

16. The Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) 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 and third sessions (A/37/48); 1/

(b) Note by the Secretariat on the draft provisional rules of procedure of the Conference (A/CONF.108/PC/5);

(c) Provisional agenda for the fourth session (A/CONF.108/PC/8);

(d) Letter dated 28 March 1983 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations Office at Vienna and Resident Representative of India to the International Atomic Energy Agency addressed to the Secretary-General, enclosing relevant excerpts from the Political Declaration and the Economic Declaration of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi from 7 to 12 March 1983, relating to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy (A/CONF.108/PC/9); 2/

(e) Note by the Secretariat on suggestions made on the draft rules of procedure of the Conference as contained in document A/CONF.108/PC/5 (A/CONF.108/PC/III/CRP.1);

(f) Notes by the Secretariat on documentation for the Conference (A/CONF.108/PC/III/CRP.2 and Add.1 and A/CONF.108/PC/4/CRP.1 and Add.1);

(g) Draft report of the Committee on its fourth session (A/CONF.108/PC/L.5).

F. Adoption of the report

17. At its 34th meeting, on 8 April, the Committee adopted the draft report of the Committee on its fourth session (A/CONF.108/PC/L.5), as orally revised by the Rapporteur and as amended.

### III. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE AT ITS FOURTH SESSION

#### A. General discussion

18. At the opening meeting of the fourth session, on 28 March, the Chairman of the Committee made a statement (see annex II). The Secretary-General of the Conference also made a statement (see annex III). At the same meeting, the Committee decided to hold a general discussion on the substantive agenda items before it. Such a general discussion took place from the 25th to 28th meetings on 29 and 30 March. The Committee also decided to annex to the present report the relevant excerpts from the Political Declaration and the Economic Declaration of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi from 7 to 12 March 1983 (see annex IV).

19. In expressing support for the concerns underlined in the statements by the Chairman of the Committee and by the Secretary-General of the Conference, many representatives stated that a sincere spirit of compromise and mutual trust alone would enable the Committee to resolve the difficult issues before it. Some representatives expressed the belief that universally acceptable principles of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, as well as the ways and means for implementing these principles, constituted the major objectives of the Conference and that the provisions contained in General Assembly resolution 32/50 of 8 December 1977 - which had been adopted by consensus - formed the basis for the Conference. Some other representatives felt that the Conference could successfully promote co-operation in the interest of both the producers and the consumers of nuclear technology, equipment and material only if there were reaffirmation and strengthening of the existing principles relating to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices and the provisions of the safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency. While sharing the concern over proliferation, both horizontal and vertical, some other representatives stressed, in accordance with the Declaration of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, that non-proliferation considerations should not be made a pretext for preventing States from exercising their sovereign rights to acquire and develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes in accordance with their national needs and priorities. A view was expressed that nuclear disarmament issues, such as non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, would be better dealt with in an appropriate forum such as the Committee on Disarmament.

20. Reference was made to the relevant activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency and its Committee on Assurances of Supply. Many representatives felt that since the Committee on Assurances of Supply had made little progress in its work so far, it would be difficult for it to fulfil the role of an efficacious instrument for building broader international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. A view was expressed that the Conference to be held under the aegis of the United Nations would be more universally representative than the International Atomic Energy Agency and would thus be a more appropriate forum to draw up universally acceptable principles for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/50. Other representatives, however, made a more positive assessment of the work of that Committee and felt that the serious endeavours of its members had contributed to the acceptable formulation of principles which underlined aspects of assurances of supply.

21. Many representatives emphasized that any principle for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, as well as the ways and means for promoting such co-operation, should be universally acceptable in order to avoid any sense of insecurity among nations based on the concern that nuclear capabilities might extend beyond the power generation needs and the social and technological applications. They, therefore, believed that decisions of the Conference on all substantive issues should be by consensus. On the other hand, many other representatives, while recognizing the merit of consensus and the need for the Conference to reach all substantive decisions by consensus to the fullest extent possible, considered that an institutionalized procedure of consensus might set a precedent which could adversely affect future United Nations conferences. They also expressed the concern that such a procedure might be used by a very small minority to block decisions which would benefit the overwhelming majority of the international community. In this connection, a view was expressed that decision-making by consensus could be of limited applicability and could be recorded in a manner which, while binding in character, would be less formal than inclusion in the rules of procedure of the Conference.

22. Many representatives observed that, while they felt that the Conference should not be unduly postponed, owing to the continuing lack of agreement on such basic issues as the provisional agenda for the Conference, it would be difficult to determine the framework and the schedule for the preparatory work which was essential for the Conference. On the other hand, it would not be advisable to convene such an important conference without serious, in-depth and detailed preparations. The dates previously set for the holding of the Conference, therefore, needed to be reconsidered.

23. The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency informed the Committee of the state of the Agency's preparations for the Conference, indicating that the Agency's input would take into account the observations made and the reservations expressed concerning the outline of topics submitted by the Agency at the third session of the Committee.

#### B. Preparations for the Conference

24. At its 24th meeting, on 28 March, the Committee decided that an informal contact group should meet during the session to take up the consideration of the substantive questions before the Committee. At its 29th to 33rd meetings, from 4 to 8 April, the Committee was informed about the progress of the work of the Contact Group.

25. At the 32nd meeting of the Committee, on 7 April, the Chairman, in his personal capacity, suggested the following formulation for item 5 of the draft provisional agenda of the Conference proposed by the Group of 77 for the consideration of the Committee: 3/

"Universal principles to be negotiated and agreed on mutually acceptable terms for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and appropriate ways and means for the promotion of such co-operation."

26. At the 33rd meeting of the Committee, on 8 April, the Chairman of the Contact Group made the following statement on the work of the Group during the fourth session of the Committee:

"1. The Preparatory Committee set up a Contact Group charged with the task of negotiating outstanding issues. The group held a series of meetings between 29 March and 7 April 1983.

"2. The Contact Group was established on an open-ended basis. A large number of countries participated in its work.

"3. In its deliberations, the Contact Group devoted its attention mainly to the substantive issues of the agenda and, to a certain extent, discussed the decision-making process and future preparatory work for the Conference. In discussing the agenda, particular attention was given to the formulation of item 5 of the draft provisional agenda proposed by the Group of 77 during the third session of the Preparatory Committee. In that connection, a number of proposals were made. All the proposals were meant to be additional to the existing formulation of item 5, 3/ and were made in the following chronological order:

"(a) The Group of 77 proposed: ', in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/50 and the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly'.

"(b) The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, supported by a number of like-minded countries, proposed: ', in accordance with considerations of non-proliferation'.

"(c) The Group of 77 proposed: ', bearing in mind considerations of non-proliferation as reflected in General Assembly resolution 32/50 and in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly'.

"(d) The United States of America, supported by a number of like-minded countries, proposed: ', in accordance with considerations of non-proliferation, including those reflected in General Assembly resolution 32/50'.

"(e) The Eastern European Group proposed: ', in accordance with universally acceptable principles on non-proliferation bearing also in mind the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 32/50 and the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly'.

"(f) The delegation of China proposed: ', taking into account those considerations of non-proliferation as reflected in General Assembly resolution 32/50'.

"(g) The Group of 77 accepted the proposal of China.

"(h) The Federal Republic of Germany, supported by a number of like-minded countries, proposed: ', taking into account considerations of non-proliferation, inter alia, those reflected in General Assembly resolution 32/50'.

"(i) The delegation of Sweden proposed: ', taking into account considerations of non-proliferation', with a foot-note attached to the same item in which reference would be made to various sources containing these considerations. He specifically mentioned in this context General Assembly resolution 32/50, the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the deliberations of the Committee on Assurances of Supply of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

"(j) The Eastern European Group proposed: ', taking into account considerations of non-proliferation, inter alia, those reflected in General Assembly resolution 32/50'.

"4. Agreement on this question of the agenda was not possible at this stage of the work of the Contact Group. Therefore, the Group is not in a position to report that it agreed on a draft agenda.

"5. As regards the decision-making process, a general exchange of views was held during which suggestions were made that this problem might be solved through an appropriate statement made by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee and/or the President of the Conference and agreed upon beforehand by all the parties concerned. The Contact Group did not reach an agreement on that issue."

27. At its 33rd meeting, the Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should:

(a) Decide, at its resumed thirty-seventh session, that the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy not be convened in 1983;

(b) Decide, at its thirty-eighth session, on the date and venue of the fifth session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference (see annex I, decision 5 (IV)).

28. At the same meeting, the Committee also decided that the Conference secretariat should proceed as far as practicable with the preparations for the Conference in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly (see annex I, decision 6 (IV)).

#### Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/37/48).

2/ For the complete text, see A/38/132-S/15675, annex.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/37/48), part two, annex II, sect. A.

## ANNEX I

### Decisions adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its fourth session

#### 5 (IV). Arrangements for the Conference and the Preparatory Committee

The Preparatory Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should:

(a) Decide, at its resumed thirty-seventh session, that the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy not be convened in 1983;

(b) Decide, at its thirty-eighth session, on the date and venue of the fifth session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference.

#### 6 (IV). Preparations for the Conference

The Preparatory Committee decided that the Conference secretariat should proceed as far as practicable with the preparations for the Conference in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.



## ANNEX II

### Statement by the Chairman of the Committee at the opening of the fourth session on 28 March 1983

1. I should like to address you at the outset of our renewed effort to reach the necessary agreements and understanding which are essential for the preparations of a fruitful and constructive United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. I am convinced that we all share the feeling of responsibility for the final results of our work.
2. This Committee has met thrice already in unsuccessful attempts to decide upon such fundamental prerequisites for a workable arrangement for the Conference as, its draft agenda outlining the substance of our future deliberations, its draft rules of procedure for guidance of its proceedings and the nature and form of documents which should conclude its endeavours. In other words, the real, substantive preparations for the Conference have not actually taken off the ground and much valuable time has been lost. Now, it would not be correct to maintain that efforts have been lacking. We have had lengthy and sometimes strenuous sessions where much energy has been invested in discussions and negotiations aimed at reaching such formulations which would be acceptable to all members of the Committee. That this was not attainable is obviously due to the finality with which many of the participating delegates defended their positions and views. This determination is, to a degree, surely the consequence of the importance we all attach to this vital and also sensitive field of international co-operation. But, I believe I may be allowed to say that a measure of intransigence was also the result of an assessment that there exists a delicate or vulnerable balance which must be safeguarded against upheavals and supposedly dramatic changes. But, there can be no denying that the present status quo is not satisfactory and does not enhance the dynamic promotion of nuclear technology as a means of satisfying growing needs in the social and economic field and that changes are, therefore, necessary and perhaps overdue: changes that would lead to more international co-operation and trade on a wide and non-discriminatory basis, favourable to full and unrestricted access to nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and respecting the interests of all countries. Such a development should in no way lead to the encouragement of proliferation of nuclear weapons and to endangering international security and stability.
3. It may be true that our failure to reach any conclusive agreement on substantive issues in preparations for the Conference is partially the consequence of insufficient mutual understanding and confidence. It is true that there were ample opportunities for the elaboration of various, sometimes conflicting, positions and views but perhaps the ultimate motives, the cherished goals, indeed the philosophy encompassed in proposals and initiatives, have not been sufficiently understood and properly evaluated, primarily from the vital point of whether they truly correspond to and reflect the goals and objectives expressed in resolution 32/50 which, unanimously adopted by the General Assembly, is, after all, the corner-stone of the edifice we are trying to help build together and the basis of our Committee's mandate.

4. In continuation of our work during the fourth session of our Committee, I think that we have to have in mind the unanimous political will expressed by the General Assembly in launching the preparations for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. In doing so, I think due respect should be given to positions, interests and concerns of all countries participating in our deliberations, indeed of the international community as a whole.

5. We are entering into a crucial phase of our work. On the results we are able to achieve, depend not only the timing, structure and substance of the Conference, but its very destiny. I am sure we all want to participate in creating the most favourable conditions for a meaningful and productive Conference. A positive accomplishment in its framework would surely leave a lasting impression on all international dealings in the field of the peaceful use of nuclear energy, strengthening the necessary confidence of all participating partners and enhancing the posture of existing institutions and instruments, especially the International Atomic Energy Agency. If, on the other hand, the Conference does not fulfil justified expectations, the negative repercussions would seriously hamper all international activity in this field for a longer period to come. I think we all have reason to unite our efforts towards a common platform. I should like to invite you all to take an active and constructive position.

## ANNEX III

### Statement by the Secretary-General of the Conference at the opening of the fourth session on 28 March 1983

1. The Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy is starting its fourth session today. As this is the first occasion that the Committee is meeting in New York and some new representatives are present, I believe it might be useful if I were to begin by attempting a short résumé of the course of developments leading up to the present situation as background information for those who are with us for the first time.

2. The idea of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations system, aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development, was first mooted in 1977 at the thirty-second session of the General Assembly. On that occasion, the General Assembly, in resolution 32/50 adopted on 8 December 1977, spelled out the following four principles on the subject:

- "(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."

3. In further consideration of the matter at the following sessions, the General Assembly, in resolution 35/112 adopted on 5 December 1980, decided to convene in 1983 the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, in accordance with the objectives of its resolution 32/50, and established a Preparatory Committee for the Conference composed of 70 Member States and, on an equal footing, other Member States expressing interest in participation in the work of the Committee.

4. The first session of the Preparatory Committee was held from 3 to 7 August 1981 at Vienna. Many delegations were of the view that even though that session was intended to deal primarily with organizational matters, the Committee should exchange views on the substantive matters concerning the Conference, particularly on the agenda of the Conference. Other delegations, however, felt that the Committee should concentrate its work at that session on organizational

matters and should only begin substantive work at its next session. The main outcome of that session was the recommendation that the Conference be held at Geneva from 29 August to 9 September 1983.

5. The second session of the Preparatory Committee was held from 21 to 30 June 1982 at Vienna. To facilitate its work, the Committee had before it a summing-up of an informal meeting of the bureau of the Committee held in April 1982, mainly centred on two issues: (a) the content of the agenda for the Conference; and (b) the nature, type and preparation of documents for the Conference. During the session, extensive informal consultations were held on the agenda for the Conference on the basis of various proposals submitted to the Committee and, in the end, although there was a degree of convergence of views, no agreement could be reached. The Committee also took up the question of the rules of procedure of the Conference but here again, it was not able to finalize the matter.

6. The third session of the Preparatory Committee was held from 27 October to 2 November 1982 at Vienna. Unfortunately, in spite of lengthy negotiations, it failed once again to reach any agreement. In the situation, the matter was left for further consideration at the General Assembly in New York.

7. In New York, negotiations were resumed amongst various groups with a view to exploring the possibility of agreeing on the text of a resolution which could be adopted by consensus as had been the case with all previous General Assembly resolutions relating to the Conference. Prolonged inter-group consultations, aimed at ironing out differences, however, still failed to produce common ground, much less yield an agreement. You are familiar with these developments and the latest General Assembly resolution 37/167, submitted by Bangladesh on behalf of the Group of 77, and adopted on 17 December 1982 by 111 votes in favour, 26 votes against and 7 abstentions. The general sense of the position of those supporting the resolution was that nuclear energy could play a significant role in the economic and industrial progress of the developing countries and to this end, therefore, the establishment of universally acceptable principles for co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be the main purpose of the Conference and that non-proliferation concerns, howsoever legitimate, should not be an overriding issue. Those opposed to the resolution, on their part, emphasized the importance of the non-proliferation aspects and considered the resolution as unbalanced, not properly reflecting non-proliferation considerations and, in essence prejudging the outcome of the Conference.

8. In that resolution, no doubt bearing in mind the realities of the situation with the Preparatory Committee not being able so far to reach agreement on the basic matters which must be resolved to enable meaningful preparations to be undertaken, the General Assembly decided to reconsider at its resumed session the position on the timing of the Conference. In accordance with paragraph 3 of that resolution, the Assembly is expected to take suitable decisions in regard to the date of the Conference in the light of the results of the present session of the Committee.

9. It may be recalled that at the second session of the Preparatory Committee, it was agreed that the Committee should be provided with a list of topics on which the concerned organizations of the United Nations system could contribute inputs to the Conference, together with an outline of the relevant material wherever possible, for consideration at its next session. The topics and the outline of the material

as provided by various organizations are contained in the conference room papers before the Committee. However, as already pointed out in my statement at the last session, it is extremely difficult for the organizations to proceed with the preparation of substantive contributions without knowing the precise content and substance of the agenda and the conceptual orientation of the Conference. For the same reason, a number of important and essential activities, including regional efforts and arrangements for meetings at a regional level to review relevant activities and consider possible ways of co-operating regionally and internationally, and meetings of expert groups, bringing together eminent specialists in the field who, in an individual capacity, could discuss the issues relevant to the Conference and suggest ways and means of fostering international co-operation, which could make an extremely useful contribution to the Conference, all remain in abeyance. The same applies to the programme of public information activities, so essential to highlight the goals and purposes of the Conference and generate the widest possible interest and support for it. Non-governmental organizations and Foundations intending to organize activities, such as seminars, symposia, exhibitions, on subjects relevant to the Conference are also unable to proceed with their arrangements until the Committee is able to decide on the agenda and there is a clear picture of the conceptual framework of the Conference.

10. Turning now to another aspect, the General Assembly, in paragraph 4 of its resolution 36/78, 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. This provision is reaffirmed in paragraph 5 of the Assembly's latest resolution 37/167. In this connection, it may be recalled that this matter was discussed in the informal meeting of the bureau of the Committee in April 1982 and, as indicated in paragraph 7 of annex II to the report on the second session of the Committee (A/37/48, part one), it was pointed out that the primary responsibility for drafting the documents incorporating possible conclusions of the Conference lay with the Committee. The Chairman felt that, since this was a time-consuming process, it should be necessary to give early consideration to arrangements for inter-sessional work by the Committee through appropriate inter-governmental working and drafting groups, etc. However, in the absence of agreement on the agenda, the Committee has not yet been able to consider this question. The General Assembly, in paragraph 2 of its resolution 37/167, specifically requested the Preparatory Committee and the Secretary-General of the Conference, in order to speed up substantive preparations, to make appropriate arrangements, including as necessary through inter-sessional work by States members of the Committee under the guidance of its Chairman. I expect that all of us in this Committee would recognize that the Secretary-General of the Conference has not been able to proceed towards setting up meetings, etc. for inter-sessional work in the absence of a clear agreement within this Committee on the agenda of the Conference and the preparatory framework which provides for inter-sessional work by the members of the Committee.

11. This in effect is the background of the situation in which the Committee resumes its work today. The fact that the Committee has not found it possible as yet to reach agreement on such basic matters as the content and substance of the agenda of the Conference, its rules of procedure, and the preparatory framework shows the exceptional importance and the highly sensitive and complex nature of the theme of the Conference. In the absence of agreement in the Committee on questions on which would rest the entire foundation of the preparatory process, meaningful

preparations for the Conference are extremely problematical as it means only groping in the dark, a vacuum as it were, without any clear direction or orientation. This is the sombre reality of the situation. Given the necessary political will and a more flexible and positive approach on all sides in a spirit of greater mutual understanding and accommodation of each other's concerns, I trust it will be possible for the Committee to reach agreement on these questions at this session so that the Committee then has the time to devote to other matters needing its guidance and we can proceed with substantive preparations for the Conference.

12. As I have already mentioned, the attention and the time the Committee has devoted to the consideration of questions like the content and substance of the agenda of the Conference testify to the importance and the complexities of the Conference. To ensure the success of the Conference and meaningful results from it, it is equally important that there should be very careful, comprehensive and thorough preparations for it. I am sure the Committee well understands that this is not something which can be disposed of in a superficial or casual manner in a short span of time, particularly concerned as we are with a highly sensitive area and extremely complex issues involving both technical and political aspects with wide-ranging ramifications.

13. As the Committee might recall, the General Assembly, in its resolutions 35/112 and 36/78, expressed its conviction that progress in the work of the Committee on Assurances of Supply would greatly contribute to the success of the Conference. This is a Committee which was established by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency in June 1980, to consider and advise the Board of Governors of the Agency on ways and means in which supplies of nuclear material, equipment and technology and fuel-cycle services could be assured on a more predictable and long-term basis in accordance with mutually acceptable considerations of non-proliferation and the Agency's role and responsibilities in this regard. This Committee has so far held seven sessions. From the latest report on its last two sessions, regrettably there seems to be no evidence of any significant progress. It is evident that the movement in the Committee's work has so far been slow and a great deal remains to be done.

14. Again, in regard to the information needed from Member States, as I mentioned in my statement at the last session of the Committee, the essential objective of our Conference is to look into the future for ways and means of promoting international co-operation in this field. Accordingly, apart from scientific and technological achievements and practical experiences which naturally reflect the existing position, what is particularly essential is information concerning national programmes, future priorities, projections of needs and activities, etc. The material provided, to be worth while, would also have to include some information, ideas or suggestions specifically oriented to the purposes and objectives of the Conference. This applies equally to inputs from the organizations of the United Nations system and information to be supplied by the Member States. The Committee will appreciate that preparation and gathering of relevant material, quite apart from proper evaluation and compilation, processing, etc. is a laborious and time-consuming process. This is just one example amongst a variety of essential activities, some of which I have just mentioned, so that there is proper comprehension on a real level of awareness of the magnitude and dimensions of the preparatory work and the time needed for it.

15. To dispel any mistaken impression about the time requirements for the preparatory work, it may be relevant also to mention that, from experience of other similar United Nations conferences, it normally takes a minimum of two to three years of preparatory work following the determination of the basic questions and the preparatory framework. To give an example of a recently held Conference, namely, the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the Preparatory Committee for that Conference, at its first meeting in June 1979, when suggesting that the Conference be convened in the second half of 1982, had already worked out the entire framework of the Conference which included its agenda and a detailed definition of the theme of the Conference, details concerning the form of the Conference and the procedures and schedule for the preparatory work for the Conference. That Conference was held in August 1982 and over three years were thus utilized for preparations. The Secretary-General of that Conference has lately submitted an evaluation report on the preparations and organization of that Conference with the conclusion that a preparatory period of about three years is necessary for any major United Nations conference.

16. Several distinguished representatives present here have just returned from the Non-Aligned Summit at New Delhi where Heads of State or Government of over 100 nations representing two thirds of the membership of the United Nations, in their final declaration, have attached particular importance to our Conference and have urged that serious, detailed and in-depth preparatory work must be done before the Conference is held. An international conference of such importance certainly needs time and effort to prepare. The Committee may, therefore, wish to address itself to an assessment of the nature and complexities involved in the preparatory work and the time that such work must necessarily need. I have already drawn attention to some of these aspects. If adequate time for proper preparations is not made available, the result could be a conference which serves nobody's purpose and has no practical value for the future.

17. Before I conclude, I should like to mention a particularly distinctive feature of our Conference which gives it a singular importance. This Conference represents the first international effort of its kind designed exclusively for the purpose of promoting international co-operation for peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development and for no other purpose. This being so, the Conference should be looked upon as a collective endeavour of the international community as a whole and not in a spirit of mutual mistrust or suspicion as if it were designed to serve the interest of any particular side.

18. In the contemporary world, modern science and technology have deeply and irreversibly altered the pattern of our lives. In stimulating change and innovation, in promoting the birth of new industries and projects, science and technology have brought unprecedented prosperity to the northern part of the globe and, at the same time, raised hopes in the less fortunate and more populous part of the world that it may also aspire to a tolerable standard of human life. Nuclear science and technology can play a significant part in meeting this aspiration.

19. Our Conference represents indeed a truly pioneering effort at the international level with a worthy goal. If it succeeds in laying the foundation of even a modest beginning in fostering international co-operation in this field, it would have rendered a valuable service to the comity of nations as economic and social development and improvement in the conditions of human life is so desperately needed in the greater part of the world. A successful outcome of this

Conference could also have a positive psychological impact and help build bridges of mutual confidence and trust. These in turn, one hopes, would help generate not only a more favourable climate for further steps towards broadening the scope of international co-operation, progressively, in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, but also help create a similar co-operative spirit in other areas of endeavour for the benefit and welfare of all mankind.

20. I have taken some of your time this morning; I have done so in the sincere belief that it is my duty to give you as realistic and objective a picture as I can. I do hope this will help you in the difficult task ahead.



## ANNEX IV

Relevant excerpts from the Political Declaration and the Economic Declaration of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi from 7 to 12 March 1983\*

### Political Declaration

#### XXII. Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

166. The Heads of State or Government reiterated that full and unrestricted access to nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, under non-discriminatory conditions, is an inalienable right of every State. They stressed the need to respect the options and decisions of each State in this sphere, without jeopardizing or affecting related policies and programmes regarding the nuclear fuel cycle, or international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

167. The Heads of State or Government deplored the pressures and threats directed against the developing countries to prevent them from accomplishing their programmes for developing nuclear energy. In this connection, it was reiterated that non-proliferation should not be made a pretext for preventing States from exercising their full rights to acquire and develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes geared to economic and social development, in accordance with their priorities, interests and needs.

168. Likewise, they supported the convening of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, after adequate preparation, with a view to adopting universally acceptable principles of international co-operation in this field on an equitable and non-discriminatory basis.

### Economic Declaration

#### XXIX. Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

143. It is the inalienable right of all States to develop their programmes for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for the economic and social development of their peoples and in conformity with their developmental needs. International co-operation has a crucial role in this field. The policies of certain nuclear-supplier countries aimed at denying the legitimate requirements of developing countries for their own programmes for peaceful uses of nuclear energy deserve condemnation from the entire international community.

144. The Heads of State or Government expressed their concern that the preparatory work required before holding the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, as envisaged in United Nations General Assembly resolution 32/50, continued to be obstructed.

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\* For the complete text, see A/38/132-S/15675, annex, sects. I and III.

International co-operation in this field would be to the advantage of both developed and developing countries. They urged that serious, detailed and in-depth preparatory work must be done before the Conference is held. All non-aligned and other developing countries should take an active part in the preparatory work with a view to obtaining positive results, including those relating to unhindered access to technology, equipment, material and services required for the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy on an equitable and non-discriminatory basis.



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