



*President:* Mr. Paul J. F. LUSAKA  
(Zambia).

**AGENDA ITEM 14**

**Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency**

1. The PRESIDENT: I invite the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Mr. Hans Blix, to present the report of the Agency for the year 1983.<sup>1</sup>

2. Mr. BLIX (Director General, International Atomic Energy Agency): The General Assembly has before it the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency for 1983, describing the Agency's activities in that year. In this statement I will supplement the report by commenting upon developments that have occurred in the nuclear field since the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly. The Agency's two principal tasks are to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to assist in the efforts to prevent a further spread of nuclear weapons. In both respects the Agency's specific tasks are technical. They relate, for example, to the safe operation of nuclear installations, to the safe disposal of nuclear waste, to the utilization of nuclear techniques in agriculture and to the verification of the whereabouts and use of fissionable material. As these objectives touch on the broader aims of supplying the world with energy, of increasing food supplies, promoting industry and helping in arms control efforts, our activities, technical though they are, attract a good deal of attention at the economic and political levels.

3. In the past year the economic recession and efforts to save energy have led to a continuation of the trend towards lower energy demands. The most conspicuous impact lies in the lower demand for oil. It is noteworthy that despite the fact that demand for energy in the industrialized world generally is stagnating or shrinking, electricity demands continue to rise. However, because these demands have by no means grown as fast as predicted a number of years ago, there have been many cancellations or deferments of orders for electricity-generating stations in some countries. Among these are also many nuclear power stations. Nevertheless, with more nuclear power plants beginning operation at present and in the coming years, there is world-wide a steady growth in the production of nuclear power, which accounted for 12 per cent of all electricity generated in 1983. In France nuclear power already represents more than 50 per cent of the electric power, in Belgium and Finland more than 40 per cent and in Bulgaria,

Sweden and Switzerland 30 per cent or more. In France and Belgium this percentage is expected to rise to as much as 70 per cent and 50 per cent respectively by 1990.

4. The nuclear industry, like other industries, is seeking ways of becoming more efficient and more economical. The search has not been in vain. Efforts to reduce construction times and thereby to contain construction costs by standardizing nuclear plants have met with success in countries like France and Japan. There has also been marked improvement in the performance of nuclear power plants, for example in the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan. IAEA's computerized Power Reactor Information System, which provides a systematic analysis of operating experience in member States, shows that operating time lost through planned or unplanned outages has been reduced in several countries. This is important for the economy of nuclear plants, with their high capital cost.

5. Nuclear power is now being increasingly considered in the area of low temperature heat application, where it can be a substitute for fossil fuels. In several member States considerable efforts have already been made to develop nuclear reactors for heat production or for co-generation of heat and electricity. One advantage of such plants is that they would help to reduce the present air pollution problem in cities.

6. Another potentially important development encouraged by IAEA is that manufacturers are showing interest in the possibility of building small and medium-sized nuclear plants. Such sizes could make the plants useful in developing countries, where electrical grids are often too small for large-capacity nuclear power plants. Moreover, industrialized countries, too, seem to be taking an interest in smaller plants.

7. It is too early to predict what these developments may bring. However, it is relatively safe to predict that the demand for electricity will continue to rise and that orders for nuclear plants will pick up again, especially if construction times can be reduced through streamlined regulatory procedures, standardization and factory production of power plant elements.

8. The application on an industrial scale of any new technology to generate energy has a very long lead time. Scientists and engineers are continuing to work on new generations of power reactors. Advanced prototypes, such as the fast breeder reactor, are already in operation in some countries and being constructed in others. The experience gained in these countries will be of use to the whole world. For future energy provision for the world, the success of these prototypes is important. Just to give one figure, let me mention that the introduction of a breeder can

result in the production of up to 60 times more energy from 1 kilogram of uranium than a conventional nuclear plant. IAEA provides a forum in which experience can be exchanged concerning the development and operation of these plants.

9. International co-operation in the field of fusion might, in the more distant future, be of even greater importance, as the taming of nuclear fusion for the generation of electricity would offer the world almost boundless energy. However, extremely costly research and development still have to be done in this field. Co-operation across national and political frontiers could reduce these costs and improve the chances of achieving thermonuclear fusion. Under IAEA auspices scientists from the United States, the Soviet Union, the Common Market countries and Japan are jointly studying the next major step in fusion research and development. A co-operative scheme to harness fusion power for peaceful purposes would serve as a sign of the will of major States jointly to provide keys to the future energy provision of the world and would demonstrate their conviction that long-term large-scale co-operation between them is necessary.

10. Let me turn now to the question of the safety of nuclear installations and the management of radioactive wastes and to the Agency's engagement in these areas.

11. Responsibility for nuclear safety rests primarily with each Government. However, much can be and is gained by an exchange of experience between countries. Guidelines and standards can be distilled from collective experience rather than from the more limited national background. Countries with small programmes can benefit from the experience of those that have been long in the field. Trade and commerce can flow more easily when all the countries concerned apply similar concepts and principles.

12. IAEA serves as a forum for exchanging experience and for drawing up internationally agreed criteria and guidelines. Data collection and advisory service have also increased in this field. Our third annual review of nuclear safety, covering the year 1983, showed that with more than 300 nuclear power plants in operation there were no radiation accidents at any nuclear power plant that endangered human health or the environment.

13. During 1983 IAEA also on several occasions, at the request of Governments, sent expert teams to examine the operational safety of nuclear power plants, identifying both problems and good practices and bringing them to the attention of the authority responsible for nuclear safety in the country visited. IAEA has also begun operating, together with the Nuclear Energy Agency [NEA] of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development [OECD], an international system whose aim is to ensure that all accidents and incidents with safety implications at nuclear power plants around the world are reported to it. Significant events are evaluated so that the experience acquired may be used by all nuclear power plant operators.

14. There is a broad consensus in the scientific and technological community that nuclear waste can be safely managed and finally disposed of by means that are now available to us. No technological breakthrough is needed. Three requirements have been placed on any system that is to be deemed acceptable: namely, that the internationally agreed radiation

protection recommendations must be observed; that future generations must not be exposed to levels of radiation higher than those which the present generation is prepared to accept; and that the generation that derives benefit from nuclear power must bear the cost of safely disposing of its waste and not leave that cost to succeeding generations.

15. IAEA's role in this, as in other safety and environmental protection matters, is to serve as a centre where an international consensus may be reached on guidelines, codes and standards. As nuclear power expands, the amount of waste to be dealt with will grow correspondingly. Moreover, some reactors are now reaching the end of their useful lives, and international guidelines on decontamination and decommissioning of nuclear plants will be of assistance.

16. The dumping of low-level radioactive wastes into the deep ocean is a controversial matter which is currently under review by a panel of experts set up by parties to the 1972 Convention on the prevention of marine pollution by dumping of wastes and other matter.<sup>2</sup> Under that instrument IAEA is asked to redefine radioactive wastes unacceptable for sea disposal. The current revision will be completed in 1985 and submitted to the parties to that Convention. In formulating its definition and recommendations, IAEA makes use of the collective expertise in oceanography of the joint Group of Experts on Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution.

17. While the rapid transfer of science and technology is viewed by many as a key element of development, another philosophy stresses the need for so-called appropriate technology—that is, technology appropriate for the recipient's capacity of absorption.

18. Nuclear technology is sometimes criticized as being hard or high technology, unsuitable for developing countries because it is too advanced or because it supposedly does not respond to basic needs. In IAEA the approach to these matters is more nuanced. First, it is recognized that every country should make full use of the best technology available, be it hard or soft, if cost-benefit considerations justify it and adequate conditions for using it exist or can be created. While nuclear power plants are more complex and require a more developed infrastructure, more specialized manpower and higher initial capital investment than conventional plants, some developing countries are in a position to make good use of this source of electricity even now. Others may only be in a position to begin introducing nuclear power later, but may already wish to start preparing for its future use. The lead times are very long. Both groups may be assisted through IAEA in the areas of energy planning and infrastructure development, especially manpower training.

19. The majority of developing countries will not be introducing nuclear power in the foreseeable future because of a lack of infrastructure or manpower, small grid size or the availability of other energy sources. For these countries other nuclear techniques may well be of use to produce more food or to improve health. Thus, many developing countries are now using radiation techniques to induce mutations and to produce better, larger or more disease-resistant crops. More than 300 new crop plant varieties—over 100 in China alone—have been released to farmers, including rice that matures 40 days earlier than the parent variety and wheat and soya beans

with 15 to 20 per cent higher yields, to give but a couple of examples.

20. With the first commercial plants to preserve food by irradiation now operating in some industrialized countries and some such research plants existing in developing countries, food irradiation is attracting greater interest. It promises, *inter alia*, to reduce the spoilage of food and to facilitate the export of valuable perishable foodstuffs.

21. The use of radioisotopes and nuclear techniques in food and agriculture has been highlighted this year as FAO and IAEA celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the creation of a joint division—the joint FAO/IAEA Division of Isotope and Radiation Applications of Atomic Energy for Food and Agricultural Development—to promote these applications, particularly in developing countries.

22. The introduction of radioisotopes and other nuclear techniques in developing countries calls for adequate radiation protection measures. The IAEA's Basic Safety Standards for Radiation Protection, which have been jointly sponsored by the Agency, the ILO, WHO and the NEA, are the common model for many Government regulations providing such measures. To help incorporate those standards into the national regulatory system of member States and to train radiation protection personnel to implement them, IAEA is now offering to send radiation protection advisory teams on request.

23. Some reflection of the extent to which developing countries are making increasing use of nuclear techniques is found in IAEA's own technical co-operation programme, for which the resources have risen from \$21 million in 1980 to \$35 million in 1983. The total volume of what we might term developing-countries-oriented work in IAEA rose from about \$40 million in 1983 to over \$61 million this year.

24. While the transfer of nuclear techniques in such fields as agriculture is limited only by the resources available, by the need for careful planning and by the absorptive capacity of the country concerned, the transfer of technologies and hardware that make use of or produce fissionable material encounters special problems. Countries that can supply nuclear plants or fuel are not willing to do so unless they are convinced that these will remain in the peaceful cycle. Some of the technologies, notably reprocessing and enrichment, may be of direct use in achieving a capability to produce nuclear weapons material. The suppliers are therefore reluctant to enter into any general undertaking to transfer such types of technology.

25. As we know, this attitude among the suppliers has caused some resentment among importing States, including parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [*resolution 2373 (XXII), annex*], in view of the commitments which they feel they have received under article IV of the Treaty, which calls for the fullest possible exchange of nuclear equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for peaceful purposes.

26. While the surplus of enrichment capacity in the world today and less interest in reprocessing may have reduced somewhat the importance of this matter as a practical problem, the need for security of fuel supplies and for continued services for long periods remains a very practical matter in an industry which is often dependent upon imported fuel and

foreign technology and for which the number of suppliers in the world market is still limited.

27. Assurances of supply are vital for energy planning in any country that wants to use nuclear energy for a substantial part of its electricity production. Such a country will wish to avoid the risk that its industry and its people will be faced with an inadequate supply of electric power. Understandably it will seek assurances that its foreign suppliers will not change their export policies and abrogate supply contracts. At the same time, it is understandable that foreign suppliers seek continuing assurance that importers will respect commitments made not to use nuclear technology and material for weapons development. Since 1980 the IAEA's Committee on Assurances of Supply [CAS] has been seeking to reconcile these two interests. While progress has been made on some matters, the central issue of finding a mutually acceptable accommodation of the respective interests remains unresolved. The CAS continues to provide a forum for this dialogue. Its work will constitute one of the IAEA's inputs to the 1986 United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

28. We know that the transfer of nuclear power technology and provision of fuel cycle services are greatly helped if there exists a commitment by the recipient State not to develop nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and an invitation by it under which it would open all its nuclear facilities to impartial international inspection. Such a commitment can be made bilaterally in a nuclear co-operation agreement with another country or in an agreement with IAEA. However, the large majority of States have made the commitment by adhering to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons or to a regional agreement such as the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco).<sup>3</sup> Verifying these commitments is the responsibility of IAEA, through its safeguards system. Such verification is first and foremost a confidence-building measure. Considering that verification is so often the issue that blocks progress on arms-control measures, it is encouraging that the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty or the Treaty of Tlatelolco are ready to provide continuous and detailed accounts to an international organization on all nuclear material that may be on their territory and to invite that organization to verify by inspection that such material is not being diverted. IAEA is thus acquiring valuable and extensive experience in the techniques and operation of systematic on-site verification which might be of use in connection with future arms control agreements.

29. IAEA has no direct role in the field of nuclear disarmament. Nevertheless, it is not without interest that four of the five nuclear-weapon States have invited the Agency to apply safeguards to some—and in two cases, to all—of their peaceful nuclear activities. I am pleased to report to the General Assembly that we have recently concluded the negotiation of an agreement with the Soviet Union following its voluntary offer to accept IAEA safeguards on some of its peaceful nuclear facilities. We hope that this agreement will soon be approved and signed. Verifying nuclear activities in the nuclear-weapon States is a novel and, in my view, highly significant develop-

ment, even though this verification is still limited to selected civilian plants.

30. It is 14 years since the Non-Proliferation Treaty and 16 since the Treaty of Tlatelolco came into force. Together they have helped to create a non-proliferation régime which has, in fact, helped to prevent the further horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons. Pursuant to these treaties the scope of application of IAEA safeguards has greatly expanded, and States have expressed confidence in the assurances that safeguards have given.

31. As we approach the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be held in 1985, we cannot, however, fail to take note of an attitude of uneasiness among the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty. Their decision to adhere to the Treaty was undoubtedly made because this corresponded to their own security interests. But it was also made with the hope that by their adherence they would promote negotiations on effective measures relating to a cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament and thereby further their own and global security. There is grave disappointment in this area. It must be hoped that the coming year will see at least the beginning of some substantial progress in nuclear disarmament, as well as further efforts to provide the fullest possible access to applications of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, in particular more assistance to developing countries in this field. In spite of the general and regrettable decrease in funds available for technical assistance and co-operation with developing countries, the international transfer of technology in the nuclear field has substantially increased, as called for in article IV of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. IAEA continues to be available to serve as an instrument for such transfer.

32. In substantial documents submitted to the Preparatory Committee of the forthcoming Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the IAEA secretariat has described the Agency's experience in carrying out safeguards and has provided an overview of international co-operation in the nuclear field, including technical assistance in agriculture, medicine and industry.

33. Finally, let me mention some matters before IAEA that have also preoccupied the General Assembly. I am referring to the consequences of Israel's attack on an Iraqi nuclear research reactor in 1981 and to South Africa's nuclear potential. The General Conference of the IAEA at its twenty-seventh regular session again urged both countries to accept comprehensive safeguards so as to allay fears in their respective regions about the nature of their nuclear programmes. Moreover, in both Africa and the Middle East positive steps with regard to IAEA safeguards might open the way to nuclear-weapon-free zones. My report to the Assembly would be less than frank if it did not note that while some aspects, notably the safeguards aspects, of these two questions fall within the Agency's statutory obligations, a perennial consideration of the broader political ramifications of these issues places a strain on an organization which is best equipped to deal with technical questions and whose membership meets in General Conference for only less than a week each year.

34. May I conclude by repeating an observation which I made at the opening of this year's IAEA General Conference. I pointed out that all the IAEA's activities serve the same two aims: to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to help prevent the further spread of nuclear weapons. These two aims are linked. If the spectre of vertical and horizontal nuclear weapons proliferation could be removed, then there would be less hesitation about the acceptance of all the peaceful uses of the atom. At the same time, full access to the tremendous resources of the atom for power and heat generation and for agriculture, medicine and industry would help to create conditions conducive to peace.

35. Mr. SHAKER (Egypt) (*interpretation from Arabic*): It gives me great pleasure to be the first speaker to follow the valuable statement just made by the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Mr. Hans Blix, in which he gave a full description of the activities of the Agency. I had occasion to work closely with Mr. Blix for more than a year during the period 1982-1983, during which time I was able to note his dedication in promoting the activities of the Agency, as well as his deep conviction of its basic role in promoting the peaceful applications of nuclear energy for the benefit of mankind under effective international control. The delegation of Egypt wishes him all success in carrying out his functions in this field of vital importance to the welfare and security of mankind.

*Mr. Moushoutas (Cyprus), Vice-President, took the Chair.*

36. I need not dwell on all the aspects of the IAEA annual report, which was the focus of great interest and scrutiny during the General Conference of the Agency held at Vienna in September, when my delegation had occasion to express its views regarding the various activities of the Agency.

37. As the General Assembly is studying the report at the current session, I should like to draw attention to some specific aspects which are of great significance to us, in view of the important forthcoming period. We are on the eve of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which is expected to be held in August-September 1985. We are confident that the Agency will participate fully and thoroughly in the preparatory process, as it did during the two previous review conferences.

38. I wish to take this opportunity to say that Egypt, which will participate for the first time in a review conference as a full party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to which it acceded in February of 1981, will spare no effort to make the Third Review Conference a useful and effective experience to enhance horizontal non-proliferation, to promote vertical non-proliferation and to enrich international co-operation in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy without hindrance or restriction.

39. IAEA is making commendable efforts to promote technical co-operation and the application of nuclear technologies. In this respect, we wish to thank the Agency for its role in implementing the project for the eradication of the Mediterranean fruit fly in Egypt, as well as its part in the joint project with WHO for the treatment of womb cancer in Egypt. In this respect, we request once again an increase in voluntary contributions to the Technical

Assistance and Co-operation Fund, in order to enable the Agency to finance more vital activities in this field, especially on behalf of developing countries.

40. We wish to express our thanks for the efforts made by Mr. Hans Blix in finding new resources for the implementation of projects in the developing countries.

41. I also take this opportunity to welcome the study prepared by the Joint Inspection Unit on the activities of the Agency in the field of development assistance, which study contains a number of recommendations directed towards enhancing the effectiveness of the services provided by the Agency to the developing countries. We are pleased to note that the Agency paid attention to this study during its General Conference last September and expressed its readiness to make full use of those recommendations.

42. Technical co-operation and applications of nuclear technology are not the end of the road. Indeed, these activities mark the first steps on the road towards undertaking ambitious investment projects in the field of nuclear energy. In this respect, the developing countries face a number of problems, such as that of financing, to which the annual report of the Agency refers.

43. We have to think seriously of finding solutions to those problems within the framework of constructive international co-operation. Perhaps we can build upon the progress made by the CAS in the establishment of emergency and back-up mechanisms within the Agency, and the formulation of principles for international co-operation in the field of nuclear energy.

44. Regarding the other aspects of the activities of the Agency, namely, the safeguards system, we notice that the Agency has expanded its activities in this field without reducing its effectiveness. We are pleased to note in the annual report that the effectiveness of the safeguards system increased in 1983. The important role of the Agency in implementing the safeguards system within the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Treaty of Tlatelolco equips it to play a similar role regarding the establishment of other nuclear-weapon-free zones, such as we have called for in the Middle East, and also to take part in the verification of the implementation of international agreements in the field of disarmament and armaments agreements, such as the non-production of fissionable materials for military purposes.

45. The long experience of the Agency in the field of safeguards constitutes an asset which should be put to good use when political will permits concrete and serious steps to be taken in the field of disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament. Such steps would help to enhance the non-proliferation system which the Agency helped build.

46. On behalf of Australia, the German Democratic Republic and Egypt I now introduce draft resolution A/39/L.15 regarding the Agency's report for 1983.

47. The draft resolution consists of seven preambular paragraphs and four operative paragraphs. The first two preambular paragraphs are of a procedural nature; in the second the General Assembly takes note of the statement of the Agency's Director General, which provides additional information on the Agency's activities during 1984. In the third preambular paragraph the Assembly recognizes the importance of the Agency's work to promote the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

as envisaged in its statute, and to improve further its technical assistance and promotional programmes for the benefit of developing countries. The fourth preambular paragraph underscores the importance of the work of the Agency in the implementation of the safeguards provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and other international treaties, conventions and agreements designed to achieve similar objectives, as well as ensuring, as far as it is able, that the assistance provided by the Agency or at its request or under its supervision or control is not used in such a way as to further military purposes, as stated in article II of its statute. In the fifth preambular paragraph the Assembly recognizes the importance of the Agency's work on nuclear safety, which increases public confidence in nuclear power. In the sixth preambular paragraph the Assembly recalls that 1984 marked the twentieth anniversary of the establishment by FAO and IAEA of the joint Division of Isotope and Radiation Applications of Atomic Energy in Food and Agricultural Development as well as of the establishment of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics of Trieste. Lastly, the seventh preambular paragraph refers to a number of resolutions adopted by the Agency's General Conference on 28 September 1984 at its twenty-eighth regular session. This formulation is similar to that mentioned in resolution 38/8, which the Assembly adopted last year.

48. As regards the operative portion of the draft resolution, in paragraph 1 the General Assembly takes note of the Agency's report, while in paragraph 2 it affirms its confidence in the role of the Agency in the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Paragraph 3 deals with the substantive activities of the Agency. In it all States are urged to strive for effective and harmonious international co-operation in carrying out the Agency's work, pursuant to its statute, in promoting the use of nuclear energy and the application of nuclear science and technology for peaceful purposes; in strengthening technical assistance and co-operation for developing countries; in ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the Agency's safeguards system; and in promoting nuclear safety. As is customary, in the last paragraph the Assembly requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of its thirty-ninth session relating to the Agency's activities.

49. In conclusion, on behalf of the sponsors of the draft resolution, I would like to express our full confidence that it constitutes a constructive and balanced basis for the continuance of the positive development of the Agency's activities in all fields. We hope that the General Assembly will adopt the draft resolution without a vote.

50. Mr. PETROVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*interpretation from Russian*): The Soviet delegation listened most attentively to the statement of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Mr. Blix, and has also studied the report of the Agency for 1983. In reading the report on the activities of IAEA in 1983, it is impossible not to be conscious of the paradox connected with the impact on today's international relations of the nuclear factor, a factor which gives a specific nature to the entire activity of the Agency.

51. On the one hand, the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes offers inexhaustible opportunities

for the solution to many problems facing mankind today.

52. On the other hand, it is impossible not to recognize that nuclear energy is being used at an ever more frightening rate for the creation of increasingly sophisticated means of mass destruction. Moreover, this danger threatens not only States which are directly dragged into nuclear missile confrontation, but all countries and peoples without exception and life on Earth itself.

53. Never before has the arms race spiralled upwards so sharply. The danger of a nuclear catastrophe would increase enormously if there were simultaneously at work a gradual increase of nuclear weapons on the planet and the acquisition of those weapons by new countries. This would result in a serious destabilization of the world situation, the growth of the nuclear threat and the stepping up of the nuclear-arms race, particularly in the event of the emergence of nuclear weapons in regions of heightened military danger. In this context, great concern is aroused by the nuclear aspirations of such countries as South Africa, Israel and Pakistan.

54. Given such conditions, an important element in cutting off the nuclear threat and ensuring peace and international security is the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

55. It is by no means an easy task to ensure the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. Efforts to achieve this must take into account the different interests of States, large and small, developed and developing, nuclear and non-nuclear. It is, however, our profound conviction that what should transcend all such interests and dominate all considerations as the most important element in overcoming the dangerous paradox of a nuclear missile age is the use of nuclear energy for constructive purposes and not to destroy civilization on Earth.

56. It is from this point of view that we should consider the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and also the non-proliferation régime based on it. During the 14 years of its existence, the Treaty has proved to be an agreement of exceptional significance. It is a most important international instrument which determines the obligation of States to act in the interest of averting nuclear war, and it lays down an international legal basis for collective efforts in this sphere. It is noteworthy that this Treaty is also the most universal of all existing international agreements aimed at restraining the arms race. The Treaty already unites more than three fourths of the States of the world, and in the last few years alone such countries as Viet Nam, Egypt, Uganda, Papua New Guinea and a number of others have become parties to it. We welcome the accession of new States to the Treaty.

57. At the same time, a further expansion of the number of States parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty remains a very important task, the fulfilment of which would be a guarantee that a dangerous nuclear confrontation would not involve additional countries and that the means to achieve nuclear disarmament would not become even more complex. It is obvious that the interests of world security and strict compliance with and the strengthening of the non-proliferation régime would be met by the adoption of practical measures to curb the nuclear-arms race and bring about nuclear disarmament, in accordance with article VI of the Treaty.

58. The Soviet Union is fully aware of its responsibility as a nuclear Power for the destiny of the world and does everything it can to erect a reliable moral, political and material barrier to the nuclear threat.

59. In the view of the Soviet Union, it is of great significance and a matter of principle that States which possess nuclear weapons observe specific norms in their relations, as proposed by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, Konstantin Chernenko. These norms are perfectly natural in the light of the objective of peace. Thus it is logical to propose that those countries which bear particular responsibility for preserving peace should consider the prevention of nuclear war to be the major objective of their foreign policy.

60. The Soviet Union has shown an example of good will by undertaking the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. We believe that this strengthens considerably the security of non-nuclear States as well. The adoption by all nuclear Powers of a commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons would be a major step towards excluding the possibility of nuclear war.

61. The Soviet Union believes that the time has come to stop the nuclear conveyor belt. A simple and effective step in this area would be a freeze on all nuclear arsenals, first and foremost those of the USSR and the United States. The USSR favours the resumption and completion of the earlier trilateral negotiations on the general and complete prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests and the establishment of a moratorium on such tests. We also propose the ratification of the treaties already signed by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America in 1974 and 1976, that is, the Treaty on the Limitation of Underground Nuclear Weapon Tests<sup>4</sup> and the Treaty on Underground Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes.<sup>5</sup>

62. The Soviet Union is absolutely determined to achieve on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security the limitation and reduction of nuclear weapons until such time as they are totally eliminated. Were such determination to be demonstrated by other nuclear-weapon countries, work towards nuclear disarmament could be begun immediately. We should like to note that we fully share the concern at the lack of progress in the area of nuclear disarmament. At the same time we believe that such concern does not provide a justification for belittling the significance of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, which has already made a great contribution towards the real limitation of nuclear threats.

63. In this connection it is important to stress that the positive results achieved in preventing nuclear proliferation strengthen and supplement efforts aimed at reversing the nuclear arms race. It is necessary constantly to increase efforts in both those areas. Attempts to represent progress in one area as a pre-condition of progress in another can only make the entire process more difficult. Given the already complex state of international relations, there is a greater need than ever before not for linkage, but for cutting through international problems, resolving one after another the problems related to averting nuclear war.

64. Of particular significance at the present time are the preparations for the Third Review Confer-

ence of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which is to take place in 1985. We believe that that Conference must be carefully prepared in order to ensure that it will mark a new stage in the strengthening of the non-proliferation régime, and we shall do everything possible to ensure a positive outcome. The Soviet Union is prepared to enter into the closest co-operation with other States to ensure the success of the Conference, and it attaches great importance to the active participation of IAEA in those preparations for and in the conduct of that important forum.

65. With the widespread development of atomic energy throughout the world, one element of great significance is the implementation by IAEA of its twofold task—namely, the further strengthening of the régime of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the promoting of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

66. In this connection it is necessary to work for further improvement of IAEA safeguards and to increase the Agency's effectiveness, strengthen the system's technological basis and improve the verification machinery.

67. The experience in the application of IAEA safeguards acquired over the years in which the Non-Proliferation Treaty has been in effect has convincingly demonstrated that the functioning of control machinery does not in any way violate the sovereign rights of States or impede their peaceful activities in the atomic field. With regard to the problem of increasing the effectiveness of IAEA controls, we believe that the Agency should concentrate its efforts on safeguards, first of all in those areas in which there is the greatest danger of a diversion of nuclear materials for the creation of nuclear weapons. In this connection, the problem also arises of increasing the effectiveness of IAEA control in the nuclear-threshold States, particularly those States which have not acceded to the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

68. We have already had occasion to stress from this rostrum the unique nature of the activity of IAEA, which is the only international, universal body of its type engaged in control activity in one of the areas of the limitation of nuclear weapons. In considering possible machinery for verification of compliance with future agreements in the disarmament area, particular attention is paid to the considerable experience that IAEA has already gained. The Soviet Union also believes that with regard to specific measures of nuclear disarmament use could be made, in particular, of IAEA experience in control activities.

69. The Soviet Union has given and will continue to give whole-hearted support to IAEA in carrying out its function of ensuring the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. We also support the Agency's secretariat in its task of developing the safeguards system and organizing the activities of the Department of Safeguards. Our country plans to spend in 1985 in excess of 800,000 roubles on programmes in the Soviet Union for the scientific and technical support of IAEA safeguards. The total expenditures planned for the safeguards programme for the period 1983-1985 is 2.2 million roubles.

70. In line with the wishes of many non-nuclear States and as an act of good will, the Soviet Union has expressed its readiness to place under IAEA safeguards part of its own peaceful nuclear activity.

In so doing, we have in mind the strengthening of confidence between nuclear and non-nuclear States, the enhancement of the authority of the Agency and the further improvement of its safeguards system. We have been in negotiation with the secretariat of the Agency on the conclusion of an appropriate agreement, and a draft agreement has been arrived at.

71. There is active support within the Soviet Union for other areas of IAEA activity connected with the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. In CAS we promote the establishment of an international system of supply. We are convinced that recognition by all members of CAS of the close link between reliably ensuring the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and nuclear supply on a long-term, guaranteed basis is one of the most important elements for that Committee's success. Measures to strengthen the non-proliferation régime and to establish a system of nuclear supply must be taken in a spirit of co-operation and dialogue, on a basis of equality, and not in a spirit of confrontation or the juxtaposition of the interests of various countries. That is the earnest of fruitful international co-operation in the area of the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

72. The Soviet Union considers that the role played by IAEA in working out the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials has been a positive one. We favour the rapid entry into force of the Convention and the accession to it of the greatest possible number of States, for we regard it as an important international legal instrument that will help to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. It is necessary that all, or at least the majority, of the parties to the Convention be countries that are engaged in the international shipment of nuclear materials or through whose territories such shipments are carried out.

73. The Soviet delegation would like to stress in particular that the consistent strengthening of the non-proliferation régime is only one of the important areas of the struggle against the nuclear threat. We believe that another very important element is the fact that only through a lasting, universal non-proliferation régime can genuine, fruitful co-operation among States be assured in ensuring the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. The less danger there is of nuclear war, the broader the horizons for such co-operation and the greater the human and material resources released for creative pursuits through the use of nuclear energy. Here we see truly inexhaustible opportunities of solving many of the problems facing mankind.

74. A mere 30 years ago, on 27 June 1954, the Obninsk atomic electric power plant first fed power into the Moscow energy system, thus laying the foundation for the use of a new source of electrical energy. Since energy derived from splitting the uranium atom was first placed at the disposal of man for peaceful, constructive purposes, nuclear energy in our country, and in many other countries, has moved from a basic research and scientific experiment stage to that of a rapidly developing sector of the economy. There has been simultaneous rapid development of the use of atomic energy in industry, agriculture and in scientific studies. Nuclear medical techniques have begun to take their place among clinical, diagnostic and healing tools.

75. The Soviet Union is actively engaged in international co-operation in this area, on both a multilater-

al and a bilateral basis. Along with other socialist countries—which have already established unprecedented co-operation within the framework of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance [CMEA]—the Soviet Union will gladly share its knowledge and experience with all interested countries, including co-operation through IAEA. That Agency has proved to be an effective instrument for fruitful co-operation among States with differing economic and political systems and differing levels of economic and social development. Maintenance of a normal, businesslike atmosphere in IAEA should serve to guarantee the continued success of its future activities.

76. Through the medium of IAEA there has been a systematic, broad exchange of experience, research results and developments in various aspects of nuclear energy, as well as the mastery of such new energy sources as controlled thermonuclear fusion; there has been an exchange of scientific and technical information in the area of atomic science and technology through the International Nuclear Information System [INIS]; and recommendations on nuclear safety and environmental protection on an international scale have been drafted.

77. One of the most important programmes is that which promotes the development of nuclear energy and nuclear reactors, in which Soviet specialists participate actively. Also under way is a programme on nuclear safety and environmental protection, whose goal is to ensure the safe use of atomic energy and to protect man and his environment from the harmful effects of radiation and of radioactive and non-radioactive wastes from nuclear installations.

78. The Soviet Union has attached and continues to attach great significance to the IAEA's work in the area of technical co-operation. This is reflected in the continuing increase in our voluntary contributions to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund, which usually exceed the figures recommended by the secretariat. The contribution of the USSR for 1985 will be 2,250,000 roubles, intended for deliveries to developing countries which are members of the Agency of Soviet equipment, devices and installations; for the organization in the USSR of training courses; and for making available the services of Soviet experts. Moreover, 1 million roubles have been allocated for 1984–1985 for technical assistance through IAEA to States parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and 150,000 roubles for financing activities carried out in the USSR in connection with IAEA technical assistance.

79. The Soviet Union is in favour of the successful convening of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy and is actively participating in preparations for it. We note that the Agency has been effectively carrying out its obligations under resolution 35/112 regarding this Conference, which will consider approaches to further expansion in the nuclear sphere within the framework of the non-proliferation régime. The IAEA's experience in co-operation and its knowledge of the situation regarding the peaceful uses of nuclear energy will be useful for participants in the Conference and will assist them in finding the correct approach to solving the problems before them.

80. The Soviet delegation wishes to associate itself with those delegations that have made a positive assessment of the Agency's report for 1983. In this

connection, we think it is appropriate to point out the effective and fruitful work carried out last year by the Director General, Mr. Blix, and his colleagues in the IAEA secretariat.

81. The Soviet delegation is confident that IAEA will continue to be a reliable instrument for the development of international co-operation in the field of the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, in conditions consistently designed to ensure the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

82. Mr. McDONAGH (Ireland): Speaking on behalf of the 10 member States of the European Community, I should like to thank the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the informative and interesting annual report which the Agency has presented on its work during 1983. I should like also to express our appreciation of his comments on recent developments within the Agency in his introductory statement.

83. Before making detailed comments, I should like first to reaffirm the continuing full support of the 10 member States of the European Community for the twin objectives of the Agency: the promotion of nuclear energy's contribution to universal peace, health and prosperity, and the prevention of nuclear proliferation.

84. It is noted in the 1983 annual report that, despite economic recession, nuclear electrical generating capacity has maintained consistent growth. Although expansion has been slow in recent years, nuclear power now accounts for 12 per cent of the world's total electricity production. That figure is much higher in a number of States, including several members of the European Community. It is clear from this that nuclear power has a major and increasing role to play as a source of stable and long-term energy supplies. It is also clear that, as a corollary, the Agency will continue as the primary international organ for co-operation between Governments for the promotion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

85. One of the principal roles the Agency has is to respond to the main concerns of public opinion about the use of nuclear power, in particular its concern about nuclear safety, radioactive waste management and the risk of nuclear proliferation.

86. We appreciate and support the considerable amount of worthwhile work the Agency has been doing in the area of nuclear safety, such as the incident reporting system, the operational safety review of nuclear power plants and the revision of the IAEA regulations for the safe transport of radioactive materials. We take note of the guidelines for mutual assistance among States in the event of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency. We also take note of the initiative to set up an international nuclear safety advisory group. In this context, we recognize that the regulatory responsibility for nuclear safety lies with each individual member State.

87. The Agency has provided a great deal of useful data and guidance over the years on radioactive waste management. We appreciate the fact that it is now concentrating on the elaboration of international guidelines and standards for waste disposal.

88. The Ten would like to reaffirm their confidence in the IAEA safeguards system and to pledge their support for the acceptance of IAEA safeguards by all member States on all their peaceful nuclear activities. A geographical extension of the safeguards inspection



coverage is essential if all nations are to be provided equally with a high measure of assurance of the peacefulness of nuclear programmes of other States. The Agency's safeguards system is an essential element of non-proliferation policy. The Ten repeat their appeal to those non-nuclear-weapon States having nuclear facilities which are not under IAEA safeguards to place these facilities under safeguards in order to increase confidence and ease international political tensions.

89. We are pleased to note that in 1983 the Agency has been able to report that all material under safeguards was duly accounted for. The safeguards system thus continues to provide the international community with the assurance that the materials under its supervision are being used solely for peaceful purposes. In the view of the Ten, the confidence that the Agency's safeguards role is being fully and properly carried out is a necessary precondition for the development of technical exchanges and nuclear trade. Consequently, the safeguards system is as indispensable to the development of nuclear energy as that power is itself crucial to the fulfillment of the world's energy needs.

90. We are satisfied that the safeguards system is working well. Following a period of rapid growth it is now entering a new phase of consolidation and progressive refinement necessary in order to match itself to the highest standards of efficiency and to keep pace with technical developments within the nuclear industry. Both the European Atomic Energy Community [*EURATOM*] and individual member States, I am happy to say, are playing their part in this process by helping the Agency to design improved instruments and to work out improved techniques.

91. The great importance which the member States of the European Community attach to the work of the Agency relates as much to its promotional activities, particularly the technical co-operation and assistance programme, as to its regulatory work. In spite of serious domestic budgetary constraints, Community member States are continuing to support this programme, both directly through contributions to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund and through extrabudgetary and in-kind support. Last year alone the Agency, through the programme, handled more than 700 projects involving expenditure of over \$26 million, while the total resources available reached nearly \$35 million. Almost two thirds of this expenditure derived from the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund. Although contributions to the Fund are voluntary, the introduction of three-year indicative planning figures has brought about a situation where funding is more predictable and assured, and the overall size of the Fund has maintained a rapid growth. Moreover, the introduction of a system of dynamic programming within the past year and the placing of increased emphasis on regional and interregional projects should enable a more effective utilization of existing resources.

92. It often goes unrecognized that almost 50 per cent of the Agency's technical assistance programmes involve the application of nuclear techniques in agriculture, medicine and industry. Developing countries derive great benefits not only from these direct technical assistance programmes, but also from the Agency's research and other activities in these same fields. Together they represent a vast area of activities which will in time have significant beneficial

effects on the economies and living standards of developing countries. I should like to pay particular tribute to these aspects of the Agency's work as well as its activities in the field of nuclear physics at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics at Trieste and in marine research work at the International Laboratory of Marine Radioactivity in Monaco.

93. The complex relationship between assurances of non-proliferation and assurances of supply has been at the heart of many debates on ways and means of encouraging international nuclear trade and co-operation. The CAS has now completed its fourth year of work. Its main achievement so far has been agreement on the design of an emergency and backup mechanism. It has proved more difficult to reach consensus on mutually acceptable principles assuring supply and guaranteeing non-proliferation, but the Ten remain confident that with a little more perseverance and good will on all sides, this can be achieved.

94. During the last year, no agreement was reached on the question of a generally acceptable arrangement for international plutonium storage. The requirement for an international plutonium storage system is covered in the statute. It is our sincere hope that the Board of Governors will agree early next year to pursue attempts to solve this important question.

95. We are pleased that the Agency has recently launched a study on small and medium power reactors. We appreciate the need for this study as this type of reactor could offer advantages for many countries.

96. Before closing, I should like to state that it is the firm desire of the Community that the close co-operation between the Agency and the European Community and its member States in the field of safeguards and other fields of peaceful nuclear activities should be maintained and strengthened. Only by strengthening co-operation and avoiding needless confrontation will it be possible for the international community to achieve the common goal of promotion of the power and manifold talents of the atom within an exclusively peacefully framework. We, the Ten, will strive for harmonious and effective co-operation with all other Member States in fulfilling these objectives through the work of the Agency.

97. Mr. FISCHER (Austria): Let me first of all express our gratitude to the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Mr. Hans Blix, for his lucid and comprehensive introduction of the report of the Agency for the year 1983.

98. I would also like to take this opportunity to emphasize once again the importance Austria attaches to IAEA. At a time of growing spread of nuclear technology and of high international tensions, the Agency's safeguards activities are ever more crucial for the prevention of a further proliferation of nuclear weapons. The future development of the world economy will call for a fuller use of various non-conventional forms of energy, including nuclear energy. The Agency, therefore, plays a vital role both for the maintenance of peace and for the promotion of economic progress. Austria will support all efforts which would strengthen the Agency's capability to meet these growing challenges.

99. We have noted with interest that in 1983, 25 nuclear power plants went into operation, bringing the total to 313, representing a world-wide electrical power-generating capacity of about 12 per cent of the

electricity generated in 1983. On the other hand, several plants already under construction were cancelled and other projects postponed. This reflects the attenuation of world nuclear capacity growth. Reasons for that phenomenon are manifold. One of them is certainly the relatively moderate growth of demand for electricity due to a more rational public attitude towards energy consumption, as well as the international economic situation. Public attitudes regarding nuclear energy also have decisive repercussions on national energy concepts and the pace of their realization.

100. Hence, one must be aware that public acceptance is closely connected to the amount and quality of information accessible to the public. Better information for more people is the best way to create the conditions for sound policy decisions.

101. As for the problem of waste management, it was stated that there were no technical barriers to the adequate and safe management of nuclear wastes and that the subject remains a highly controversial issue in public opinion. Therefore an essential goal is to show that this problem not only can be but is being solved. In this connection, we note with satisfaction that a code of practice on the management of radioactive wastes from nuclear power plants has been completed recently.

102. Over the next few years the dimensions of another problem will be growing. Older nuclear power plants are approaching the end of their economic or technical lifetime and must be shut down. With regard to this development, endeavours have to be made to solve the questions of decontamination and decommissioning. Austria supports the respective activities of the secretariat.

103. Concerning nuclear safety, Austria has taken note with satisfaction that there were no major accidents at any nuclear power plant in 1983 that jeopardized human health or the environment. Since Austria has always encouraged efforts to improve nuclear safety, we support the proposal to set up an international nuclear safety advisory group which will review and analyse safety information, provide a forum for an exchange of information and formulate concepts in this field.

104. As stated on previous occasions, Austria is interested in the trans-frontier aspects of nuclear power stations. It is with great satisfaction that I can inform the Assembly that negotiations on this subject between the Republic of Austria and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic have been concluded successfully and that an agreement on questions of mutual interest in connection with nuclear facilities entered into force last June. That agreement is an example of fruitful co-operation between neighbouring States in the nuclear field.

105. Austria is already having, or intends in due time to have, talks on this matter with all its neighbours.

106. Let me now elaborate briefly on the Agency's safeguards system. The main function of the Agency's verification system is to create confidence among States in a way that guarantees that all nuclear activities submitted to that system serve exclusively peaceful purposes. This is essential to remove anxieties whose consequences would hamper the development of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

107. It is our conviction that nothing can provide a more fruitful climate for the promotion of nuclear

energy than a highly effective system of verification measures. We are pleased to note that further negotiations between member States and the Agency's secretariat on the submission of nuclear installations to safeguards have started, or have been continued, in order to increase the number of facilities inspected.

108. We are convinced that the Agency, in administering the system of verification of the non-proliferation régime, fulfils an essential task for the international community. The allocation of resources to that task and to the programmes of technical assistance should not be the object of competitive demands. Rather, an equitable balance must be established between these two legitimate and important goals.

109. We regret that the Agency's CAS has made little progress in reconciling the conflicting positions of free access to nuclear technology on the one side and concern about proliferation on the other. We hope that the Committee will continue to work towards a mutually acceptable solution reflecting the requirements of both nuclear trade and nuclear non-proliferation.

110. One of the most important tasks of the Agency is the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy in developing countries through technical assistance and co-operation.

111. It is therefore appreciated that all indicators of the Agency's technical assistance—the number of expert assignments, resources spent for technical equipment and the number of fellows in the field—show a clear upward trend. It is encouraging to see that since 1982 there have been substantial increases in the resources made available for the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund.

112. In conclusion, I wish to affirm that Austria, conscious of its special responsibilities as the host country, will continue to make every effort to facilitate the Agency's activities and to contribute to the speedy and efficient solution of any problem which may arise. I would also like to express our appreciation of the outstanding co-operation and assistance which Austria receives from the Agency.

113. Mr. TOMASZEWSKI (Poland): At the outset, my delegation would like to thank Mr. Hans Blix, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, for his able presentation of the very informative report of the Agency for 1983. An overall assessment of the Agency's work in that period by the Polish Government was given during the twenty-eighth regular session of the General Conference, held at Vienna from 24 to 28 September. Therefore, besides reaffirming once again Poland's strong support for the Agency and commitment to its principles and objectives, I shall confine myself to several remarks and comments concerning some aspects of the Agency's activities and also the conditions in which the Agency is to fulfil its obligations under its mandate.

114. The question of the proper use of nuclear energy in today's world is one of the most important issues that could decide the fate of tomorrow's world. The growing spread of nuclear energy for military purposes, the continuous testing of nuclear weapons in different parts of the globe, the development of new types of nuclear weapons and, even more alarming, the installation of the most recent types of nuclear weapons in the heart of Europe by the most powerful North Atlantic Treaty Organization

[NATO] countries for the sake of the mirage of obtaining unilateral supremacy are of most direct concern to the people of my country, and not to them alone. Several generations in Poland still remember that twice in our lifetime tragedy originated in the very heart of Europe. A third tragedy is simply unthinkable.

115. But if that is not to happen, all nations, all Governments and international organizations have to work unceasingly. It gives me particular pleasure to list IAEA as one of the most active and most productive in that direction. After 27 years of activities the Agency has fully confirmed the justification for its establishment, and today it has gained unequivocal international recognition. It has become a universal co-ordinating centre of co-operation in the field of the peaceful and safe use of atomic energy. Its universal character has been additionally confirmed by the fact that China became a member of the Agency on the first day of this year. China's membership has enabled the Agency to state formally in paragraph 2 of its report for 1983, which we have before us today, that "with China as member, all States with significant nuclear programmes and activities are now members of the Agency and participate in its work".<sup>1</sup> Nobody can overestimate this fact and, needless to say, its real significance goes far beyond the formal statement.

116. Poland traditionally extends its support to the main areas of activities of the Agency: first, to its function of strengthening the régime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons as an important component of the system of measures aimed at preserving peace and creating confidence between States; secondly, to its function of promoting broad international co-operation in the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes; and, thirdly, to its function of multiple application of radiation technology and nuclear methods, particularly in agriculture, health protection and scientific research—that is to say, in areas in which nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is widely used also in Poland.

117. The Agency's report states that in 1983 nuclear power plants accounted for about 12 per cent of the world's total electricity generation and that new power plants are constantly under construction. It is expected that by the year 2000 the share of world electricity generation accounted for by nuclear plants will amount to 20 per cent. Those figures testify to the fact that the significance of the nuclear power plant is still growing. In connection with that, some aspects of the activities of the Agency are of particular significance. The first aspect is the activity of the operational safety review teams, initiated in 1983, which at the request of member States are reviewing and assessing all aspects of the safe operation of nuclear power plants. In our opinion, it is important that this new aspect of activity of the Agency could at the same time reinforce the role and the level of work of national nuclear safety organs. The second aspect is the incident reporting system, which in 1983 was in its very initial stage of implementation. Poland has advocated the establishment of the system and considers that it can become a very important instrument of collection and analysis of information concerning incidents occurring in operating nuclear power plants. The third and last aspect is the Power Reactor Information System, which collects a wide range of data from all operating nuclear power plants,

thus making possible the best use of energy in those nuclear power plants.

118. Poland attaches particular importance to the safeguards system. Therefore, our delegation notes with satisfaction the progress made by the Agency in fulfilling its programme of safeguards applications. It is particularly satisfactory that in carrying out that obligation in 1983 the Agency did not detect any anomaly which would indicate the diversion of a significant amount of safeguarded nuclear material or the misuse of facilities or equipment subject to safeguards for the manufacture of any nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or for any other military purpose which would be contrary to the declaration concerning their exclusively peaceful use. This prompts us once again to extend our full support to all Agency activities aimed at strengthening the credibility and effectiveness of the application of the safeguards system.

119. At the same time, my delegation hopes that the Agency will actively participate in the preparatory work of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which is to be held next year.

120. One of the most important aspects of the Agency's activity is the valuable work of CAS, which, according to the IAEA report, made further progress in 1983. We extend our support also to that important sphere of IAEA activity in the formulation of the principles of international co-operation concerning the transfer of technology and nuclear materials.

121. My delegation also finds it important to note with satisfaction that the resources devoted to technical assistance offered by the Agency to the developing countries during the period under review grew, as the report shows, by 25 per cent as compared with the previous year. In this connection, my delegation expresses its deep conviction that, like those resources, the effectiveness of the programme of technical assistance will increase as well.

122. In conclusion, I should like to inform the General Assembly that the Polish Government accepts the report of the Agency. At the same time, we express our appreciation to the Director General of the Agency, Mr. Hans Blix, and its staff for the dedicated work they performed during the period being reviewed by our General Assembly and to wish them further success in their work, so important for the future of the world.

123. Mr. ENDREFFY (Hungary): The Hungarian delegation has carefully studied the Agency's 1983 report and has listened attentively to the concise but informative introductory statement by the Director General, Mr. Hans Blix. We agree with the main aspects of both the report and the statement. I should like to thank the Director General and the Agency's secretariat particularly for the very substantive and thought-provoking study entitled "Review of the Agency's Activities" which they have prepared in accordance with resolution GC(XXVI)/RES/399,<sup>6</sup> of the twenty-sixth regular session of the General Conference, and which offers a comprehensive analysis of the Agency's activities during the past 25 years.

124. I do not wish to dwell on the review and the report, since our representatives had the opportunity to express their views thereon at both the meeting of the Board of Governors and at the twenty-eighth regular session of the General Conference. Rather, I will limit myself to making some general remarks.

125. As is known, the Agency's safeguards activity is based directly on its statute. Guaranteeing the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is inseparable from increasing the related role of the Agency. At the same time, IAEA is the generally recognized international organization created to co-ordinate and to promote the success of efforts by various countries for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. My Government will continue to give every support to such two-way activities based on the statute.

126. For our part, we note with regret that there are views which, so to speak, set safeguards costs against funds for the promotion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and for related technical co-operation. I should like, on this score, to express our agreement with the statement made by Director General Blix at the twenty-eighth regular session of the General Conference, as follows:

“Given the vital interest that the world has in having a verification system that functions well and provides confidence, I submit that the costs of safeguards are relatively small. I would also submit that, if we are to err in our ambitions, it would be wiser to set them a bit too high than a bit too low”.

127. We welcome the announcement that negotiations concerning an agreement under which the Soviet Union will place under Agency safeguards some of its nuclear installations used for peaceful purposes have come to a successful conclusion. We find it desirable that nuclear-weapon States which have not yet done so should follow suit.

128. Hungary attaches great significance to the Agency's due participation in the preparations for and the work of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. This holds true also for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, whose success will, in our view, be largely influenced by the outcome of the Third Review Conference.

129. I do not intend to praise here the significance and overriding importance of the Non-Proliferation Treaty because we have done so several times before. I would, however, call attention to another international instrument which appears to have slipped somewhat into the background. I refer to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. The latest session of the General Conference, by a resolution co-sponsored by Hungary, called attention to its importance. After more than four years, only 10 out of the 21 instruments of ratification required for the entry into force of the Convention were deposited before the General Conference in September last. Six out of the ten instruments of ratification were deposited by socialist countries, including Hungary. It would be desirable to speed up the procedure of ratification in other countries as well.

130. The entry of the People's Republic of China into the Agency is of outstanding importance for the continuing success of the Agency's activities. As is known, my delegation co-sponsored those proposals which resulted in the adoption of resolution GC(XXVII)/RES/405<sup>7</sup> according a rightful seat to the People's Republic of China on the Board of Governors.

131. Hungary is supported in its belief, not only by the Agency's report but also by its own experience,

that nuclear energy is assuming growing significance in meeting the energy demands of the economy. Last year the Hungarian representative informed the General Assembly of the entry into operation of the first unit of Hungary's first nuclear power plant. Now I can add that only a few weeks ago the second unit was put into operation, which is expected to produce 3 billion kilowatts of energy in 1984 and will continue to be expanded in co-operation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Our experience so far has been excellent regarding production, efficiency and safety standards alike, and we have every reason to be convinced that future operations will also not present any problems.

132. The twenty-eighth regular session of the General Conference solemnly commemorated the twentieth anniversary of the institutionalization of full co-operation between IAEA and FAO. As agriculture and the food industry are extremely important to our national economy, we especially welcome the Agency's activity in these fields and believe that it is of increasing importance for the developing countries as well.

133. The Agency's report contains impressive figures on the results of its activity in the field of technical co-operation. Unfortunately, the role of UNDP in financing this activity is decreasing, but fortunately the funds from voluntary contributions are growing in both relative and absolute terms. The amount of voluntary contributions for 1985 rose from \$16 million to \$26 million in 1982, representing an increase of 60 per cent in four years. Therefore, we continue to favour the current system of technical assistance financing.

134. Without seeking to be exhaustive, let me pinpoint some other areas of the Agency's activities. For instance, we attach great significance to the development of INIS and to the elaboration and application of the Basic Safety Standards for Radiation Protection, and we are interested in participating in the incident reporting system. This partial reference does not mean that we do not appreciate, according to their merits, other areas of the Agency's multifaceted and indispensable activities.

135. My Government is therefore resolved to continue to promote, within its means, the further improvement and development of the Agency's activities, in which we wish Director General Blix and his able colleagues every success.

136. Mr. KOVAČIČ (Czechoslovakia) (*interpretation from Russian*): The Czechoslovak delegation has studied the report of the Agency for 1983. We have carefully listened to the statement of the Agency's Director General, Mr. Hans Blix, who analysed the work done during the period which has elapsed and who shared with the General Assembly the desire to continue to develop comprehensively IAEA activities in the interests of international co-operation in the sphere of the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

137. In our view, IAEA is among the most important United Nations specialized agencies, not only because it is developing its activities in such a promising and technically complex area as the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, but also because of its role in the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, particularly in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which entered into force in 1970.

138. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic actively supports this Treaty as well as all other measures aimed at preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons. We are aware that if the number of nuclear States grows, that will mean as well the growth of the danger of the use of nuclear weapons, with all the catastrophic consequences for mankind that would flow from such action.

139. In this connection the significance of the universal nature of the Non-Proliferation Treaty increases, as does that of all measures designed to increase the number of States parties to the Treaty. We support the view that IAEA and the Non-Proliferation Treaty, of which the Agency is the major guarantor, offer good opportunities for consideration of a broad range of issues linked with political and technical aspects of the comprehensive peaceful use of nuclear energy, nuclear exports and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

140. Next year, at Geneva, the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons will be held. Czechoslovakia is playing an active part in the preparations for the Conference, and the representative of Czechoslovakia presided over the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference. This session of the Preparatory Committee revealed the great interest of the parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty in strengthening the Treaty, achieving progress in the sphere of nuclear disarmament and ensuring that in the future also the Treaty would serve as a means of strengthening international peace and security.

141. It is our intention to participate actively in the work of the Conference, which we expect to lead to the further strengthening of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, so that in the future also it may play a positive role in strengthening security and creating the conditions for broad international co-operation in the sphere of the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

142. It is our view that the time has already come to begin the preparation of the final documents of the Conference. The officers of the Preparatory Committee should take the initiative in this respect and become the pivot of all initiatives aimed at strengthening the régime of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and ensuring the maximum expansion of peaceful co-operation among all the States parties in this important scientific and technical sphere, thus promoting the economic and political *rapprochement* of regions of the world for which nuclear energy can provide positive solutions to important economic and social problems.

143. Czechoslovakia has consistently devoted great attention to the effectiveness of IAEA work in the area of safeguards—the unique system of international control designed to ensure non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. This system has demonstrated its usefulness, and it attests to the will and desire of sovereign States to co-operate in ensuring the necessary control. We support the efforts of the IAEA secretariat to further improve and enhance the effectiveness of work on safeguards.

144. Czechoslovakia is also taking an active part in the Agency's work in the sphere of nuclear energy and nuclear safety, as well as in other areas concerned with the use of nuclear power for purposes other than the production of energy. The Agency is

carrying out very important work in the exchange of scientific and technical information, which is one of the fundamental pillars of international co-operation in this area.

145. In connection with the development of nuclear energy there is a great concentration of nuclear material, which raises the question of the handling of such material and its shipment beyond the borders of individual countries. We believe that if other States acceded to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, the Convention could enter into force before the Third Review Conference on the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

146. To the extent that it is able to do so, Czechoslovakia is participating in technical assistance to developing countries through the appropriate IAEA programmes. Such assistance includes both deliveries of various types of installations and participation in the training of specialists. In this connection, I wish to announce that the Government of Czechoslovakia has allocated the sum of 2.8 million koruny for this purpose for 1985. In addition to that contribution, Czechoslovakia will make available to IAEA in 1985 various types of fellowships for people from the developing countries and will host a number of special IAEA meetings.

147. Czechoslovakia is also actively participating in preparations for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, which is scheduled for 1986. The representative of Czechoslovakia is one of the Vice-Chairmen of the Preparatory Committee. We are convinced that IAEA will play a significant part in ensuring a constructive outcome of the Conference. The Conference must tackle in depth such issues as the development of international co-operation in the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, the strengthening of the non-proliferation régime and efforts to ensure strict compliance with IAEA safeguards, in keeping with the interests of all countries.

148. Czechoslovakia is developing its nuclear energy programme within the context of international co-operation among the countries members of CMEA, in accordance with the principles of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy formulated by IAEA.

149. Our positive experience reaffirms that even a relatively small country can play a significant role in a sphere of such scientific, technical and economic importance as that of nuclear energy.

150. Therefore, we naturally support all the efforts made by various United Nations bodies, including IAEA, to ensure that nuclear energy is used for peaceful purposes and to safeguard nuclear installations established for such purposes. This includes protection against both civilian and military attacks, which represent the greatest danger and can cause significant losses and have consequences which go far beyond the boundaries of the State in which the object of the attack is located.

151. Last year, as a result of aggressive actions of imperialist forces, the international situation continued in a dangerous course of deterioration, and the threat of nuclear war increased. In that connection I should like to draw attention to the large number of constructive proposals advanced by the Soviet Union and other socialist States. Such proposals were aimed at curbing the arms race, first and foremost the nuclear-arms race, and at strengthening confidence

and security. We would mention, in particular, the Declaration entitled "Maintenance of Peace and International Economic Co-operation", adopted by the countries members of CMEA on the occasion of the Economic Summit Conference of the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, held in Moscow from 12 to 14 June 1984, and of the thirty-fifth anniversary of the creation of that organization [A/39/323, annex II].

152. Czechoslovakia is among the States that are actively broadening the scope of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. We are doing so within our own economy and within the context of international co-operation. We feel bound, therefore, to condemn the activity of those imperialist forces that are promoting tensions throughout the world. Through the deployment of nuclear weapons on our very borders, such forces are whipping up the nuclear-arms race, and by furnishing daily examples of the use of such energy for unsavoury purposes in physics and nuclear technology they may bring things to such a pass that all efforts aimed at ensuring the prosperity of mankind through the peaceful uses of nuclear energy will be reduced to naught.

153. It is clear from the IAEA report and from the statement of its Director General, Mr. Blix, that the Agency is now faced with problems whose solution requires a constructive atmosphere and broad international co-operation. I should like to express the hope that peace-loving forces will be able to call a halt to the present dangerous trend and the conviction that IAEA, through its widely varied activities, will find ways to eradicate the nuclear threat and promote the increasing use of nuclear energy for the well-being of all mankind, thereby ensuring that this great human achievement will never be used for the grisly purpose of destruction and annihilation.

154. For its part, Czechoslovakia is ready, in that same spirit, to participate actively in the future activities of IAEA. The Czechoslovak delegation therefore supports draft resolution A/39/L.15, which contains an assessment of, and an expression of support for, the activity of IAEA.

155. Mr. SHANKAR (India): My delegation has listened with interest to the presentation of the IAEA report for 1983 by its able Director General. We would like to congratulate him for his efforts to expand the Agency's activities to promote the use of atomic energy for the generation of electric power, in spite of the many difficulties he faces owing to ill-informed and sometimes misguided public opinion in some countries. His difficulties may also arise from the fact that, while the Agency could do much more to promote the use of nuclear power in developing countries, restrictions of various kinds are successively introduced. These restrictions have been imposed on developing countries that have peaceful nuclear programmes, while countries which can potentially destroy the world several times over have not made the slightest progress towards nuclear disarmament.

156. India has never opposed reasonable safeguards. It has always co-operated with the Agency and has accepted improvements in its implementation measures. But it is our view that implementation should concentrate on the real purpose as enshrined in the statute. The Agency should have a closer look at these matters and not be influenced by the views of a few member States. A sense of balance and realism

is lacking in such Agency documents as the report for 1983 and the safeguards implementation report, on which our views have already been clearly expressed in the meetings of the Board of Governors and at the General Conference at Vienna. I should like to reiterate them here in the General Assembly. We expect that the safeguards implementation report and the report for 1984 will reflect greater balance and objectivity.

157. In conclusion, I should like to recall that the primary objective of the Agency is to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world. Many countries have embarked upon an atomic-energy programme to meet their growing energy requirements within the framework of their overall economic development plans. The Agency has the responsibility of making a positive and effective contribution in this context without getting mired down in the pursuit of so-called non-proliferation goals.

158. Mr. KORHONEN (Finland): It is a great pleasure for me and for my delegation to commend the Director General and the IAEA upon their efficient performance. I should also like to thank the Director General for his interesting and informative report on the work of the Agency in 1983.

159. The overall task of IAEA—to enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity on a universal basis and to do so under effective safeguards—requires a world-wide approach and widest possible participation by all States. With the People's Republic of China as a member, all States with significant nuclear programmes and activities are now members of the Agency. In our view, the universality of IAEA must, on the one hand, be maintained and, on the other, be further widened.

160. IAEA has successfully maintained its high standard based on its ability to adapt its programme to the changing needs of member States. This goes for safeguards, technical co-operation, waste management and nuclear safety, as well as other activities of the Agency.

161. In paragraph 33 of its report the Agency is once again able to record that "it is considered reasonable to conclude that nuclear material under Agency safeguards in 1983 remained in peaceful nuclear activities or was otherwise adequately accounted for".<sup>1</sup> This is encouraging. We have to remember, however, that some non-nuclear-weapon States continue to have nuclear activities outside the safeguards system. In our view all nuclear material in all non-nuclear-weapon States should be placed under safeguards implemented by the Agency.

162. Various conferences and meetings under IAEA auspices have addressed issues related to radioactive waste management and the environmental aspects of nuclear energy. This is a matter where international solutions are needed. We encourage the Agency to play its central role in finding them.

163. The Agency has greatly intensified its work in the field of technical co-operation. We support the expansion of these activities, and we have advocated a substantial increase in the annual target for that purpose. The Government of Finland has again pledged its share of next year's target for the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund and is willing to continue to provide resources for the extra-budgetary technical co-operation activities of the Agency.

The growth of technical activities should not, in our view, obscure the need to keep these activities under continuous and strict review so that they will remain efficient, respond to the changing needs of the developing countries, and reflect overall technical development.

164. IAEA has an essential contribution to make in the preparations for the 1986 United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, as well as in the Conference itself. The results of the work of CAS will be especially decisive in this respect.

165. The work of the Agency will be equally indispensable for the success of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be held in 1985. The Government of Finland sees that Treaty as one of the most important single achievements in the field of disarmament. Expanded international co-operation and trade in the nuclear field presuppose a credible and efficient non-proliferation régime. Therefore, every effort should be made to contribute to the positive outcome of the Third Review Conference. We are pleased to note that the Agency has lived up to our expectations and has prepared high-quality background papers for the consideration of the Review Conference.

166. IAEA as a whole is a vital instrument for the promotion of the safe and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and it deserves the full support of all of us, as does draft resolution A/39/L.15.

167. The PRESIDENT: The representative of Pakistan has asked to speak in exercise of the right of reply.

168. Mr. AHMAD (Pakistan): The Pakistan delegation is surprised that the representative of the Soviet Union, in the course of his statement this afternoon, once again expressed concern over the peaceful nuclear programme of Pakistan. A similar reference had been made earlier, in the First Committee, by the

Soviet representative, and my delegation made an appropriate reply to it: It is indeed most regrettable that the Soviet representative has chosen to raise this matter again in a plenary meeting.

169. Pakistan's abiding and resolute commitment to the goal of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and to the promotion of the peaceful application of nuclear technology has been reiterated at the highest level on a number of occasions. Pakistan has taken the initiative in proposing the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia. Pakistan has been in the forefront of efforts in the Conference on Disarmament and other international forums, calling for nuclear disarmament, the cessation of the nuclear-arms race, a ban on the use of nuclear weapons, and the prevention of nuclear war. This should establish beyond any doubt the sincerity of Pakistan's commitment. The Pakistan delegation is therefore perplexed that the representative of the Soviet Union should have felt compelled to express concern despite the facts that I have just enumerated.

*The meeting rose at 5.35 p.m.*

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#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup>International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 1983*, Austria, July 1984 (GC(XXVIII)/713 and Add. 1 & 2); submitted to members of the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/39/458 and Add.1).

<sup>2</sup>United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1046, No. 15749.

<sup>3</sup>*Ibid.*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

<sup>4</sup>*Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27*, annex II, sect. 13, document CCD/431.

<sup>5</sup>*The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. I: 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.IX.2), appendix III.

<sup>6</sup>See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference*, twenty-sixth regular session.

<sup>7</sup>*Ibid.*, twenty-seventh regular session.