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PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY

- (a) THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
- (b) PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR THE PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY: REPORTS OF GOVERNMENTS

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Carlos ECHEVERRI-CORTES (Colombia)

1. The General Assembly, at its ninth session, adopted, on 4 December 1954, resolution 810 (IX) on "International co-operation in developing the peaceful uses of atomic energy", in which it (a) expressed the hope that an International Atomic Energy Agency would be established without delay; and (b) decided that an international technical conference should be held, under the auspices of the United Nations, to explore means of developing the peaceful uses of atomic energy through international co-operation and, in particular, to study the development of atomic power and to consider other technical areas in which international co-operation might most effectively be accomplished.
2. On 14 September 1955, pursuant to the above resolution, the Secretary-General submitted a report (A/2967) concerning the International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, which had been held in Geneva from 8 to 20 August 1955.
3. On 18 August 1955, the United States of America requested the inclusion in the supplementary list of items for the agenda of the tenth session of the General

Assembly of an item entitled "Progress in developing international co-operation for the peaceful uses of atomic energy: reports of Governments" and forwarded an explanatory memorandum (A/2938).

4. At its 102nd meeting, on 21 September, the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 18 of the provisional agenda, "The International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy: report of the Secretary-General" and the item proposed by the United States of America should be included in the agenda as sub-items (a) and (b) under a general heading "Peaceful uses of atomic energy". At its 521st meeting on 23 September, the Assembly decided to accept this recommendation and, at its 530th meeting on 30 September, included the item in its agenda referring it to the First Committee for consideration and report.

5. The First Committee considered the item at its 757th to 772nd meetings, held between 7 and 28 October 1955.

6. At its 757th meeting on 7 October, the Committee decided to invite Dr. Homi J. Bhabha, President of the International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, to address the Committee and, at the 760th meeting on 12 October, Dr. Bhabha made a statement on the work of the Conference.

7. At the 757th meeting, the representative of the United States introduced on behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, a joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.129). Later, Australia associated itself with the draft resolution as a co-sponsor (A/C.1/L.129/Add.1). Under the proposal, the General Assembly would, inter alia:

(1) Recall the hope expressed in resolution 810 A (IX) that the International Atomic Energy Agency would be established without delay;

(2) Vote with satisfaction that substantial progress had been made toward negotiation of a draft statute establishing the Agency and that the draft had been circulated to Governments for their consideration and comment;

(3) Expresses its satisfaction with the proceedings of the Technical Conference convened in accordance with resolution 810 B (IX), and commend the participants therein for the high scientific quality of papers and discussions and for the spirit of co-operation which prevailed at the Conference;

(4) Express its appreciation of the work of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee in preparing and organizing the Conference;

(5) Recommend that a second international conference for the exchange of technical information regarding the peaceful uses of atomic energy should be held under the auspices of the United Nations in about three years' time;

(6) Decide that, in order to provide for adequate advance planning for such a conference, the Advisory Committee established by resolution 810 B (IX) should be continued in existence with the same terms of reference;

(7) Request the Secretary-General, acting upon the advice of the Advisory Committee, to determine an appropriate place and date to issue invitations to the conference in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 7 of resolution 810 B (IX), to prepare and circulate an agenda and to provide the necessary staff and services;

(8) Suggest to the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee that they should consult with the appropriate specialized agencies in the course of these preparations.

8. On 6 October, India, joined subsequently by Yugoslavia, Burma, Egypt, Indonesia and Syria as co-sponsors, submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.130 and Add.1 and 2) concerning part (a) of the item, namely, "The International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy: report of the Secretary-General". The draft resolution provided that the General Assembly would, inter alia:

(1) Express its satisfaction at the impressive results achieved by the Conference in facilitating the free flow of scientific knowledge relating to the production and peaceful uses of atomic energy;

(2) Believe that the Conference had laid a foundation for the fuller exchange of information on the development of atomic energy for the ends of human welfare;

(3) Deem it desirable that further international conferences on the peaceful uses of atomic energy should be convened when appropriate;

(4) Decide to continue the Advisory Committee established under paragraph 5 of resolution 810 B (IX);

(5) Request the Secretary-General, acting upon the advice of the Committee, to make proposals for the convening of future conferences;

(6) Further request the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Committee, to consider the holding of seminars on the various aspects of the peaceful uses of atomic energy and to consider whether measures could usefully be taken to encourage the dissemination of knowledge on the subject;

(7) Request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly as appropriate on the matters covered by paragraphs (5) and (6) above.

At the 771st meeting on 27 October, the sponsors of the six-Power draft resolution indicated that, in view of the vote (see paragraph 21 below) on the eighteen-Power joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.129/Rev.2), they did not press for a vote on their draft resolution.

9. Also on 6 October, India, joined subsequently by Yugoslavia, Burma, Egypt, Indonesia and Syria as co-sponsors, submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.131 and Adds. 1 and 2) concerning part (b) of the item, namely, "Progress in developing international co-operation for the peaceful uses of atomic energy: reports of Governments". This draft resolution provided that the General Assembly would, inter alia:

(1) Consider that the constitution and functions of the proposed International Atomic Energy Agency should be based upon the consensus of views expressed in the Assembly and the comments of interested Governments and should be approved by the Assembly;

(2) Decide that the relationship of the proposed Agency with the United Nations should provide for (a) submission to the General Assembly of annual reports and other information as required, relating to the work of the Agency; and (b) consideration by the Agency and its Governing Body of resolutions of the General Assembly relating to the Agency and submission of reports thereon to the Assembly;

(3) Appoint a Committee consisting of representatives to be nominated subsequently to implement the purposes of the resolution.

At the 771st meeting on 27 October, the sponsors of the six-Power draft resolution indicated that, in view of the vote on the eighteen-Power joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.129/Rev.2), they did not press for a vote on their draft resolution.

10. At the 759th meeting on 11 October, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics introduced a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.132) which provided that the General Assembly would, inter alia:

(1) Call upon all States to continue their efforts to reach an agreement on the prohibition of atomic weapons;

(2) Express the hope that an international agency for the peaceful uses of atomic energy would be established within the framework of the United Nations at an early date;

(3) Consider it desirable that conferences should be convened periodically for the exchange of experience in the extensive use of atomic energy in science, industry, agriculture, medicine and other spheres, and request the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to convene a conference not later than 1957;

(4) Consider that it would be useful to found an international periodical organ of atomic scientists, devoted to the problems connected with the peaceful uses of atomic energy, and request the Secretary-General to arrange for the publication of this periodical in 1956.

11. On 14 October, China submitted an amendment (A/C.1/L.133) to the joint draft resolution submitted by Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States (A/C.1/L.129 and Add. 1). The amendment provided for the addition of a new paragraph, according to which the General Assembly would recommend that the United Nations, in its programmes of assistance, and the specialized agencies in their respective fields, should give wherever possible special emphasis to the promotion of the applications of atomic energy. This amendment was withdrawn on 20 October.

12. On 18 October, the USSR submitted a revision of its draft resolution (A/C.1/L.132/Rev.1), which would add to its previous proposal provisions according to which the General Assembly would:

(1) Consider that it would be useful to convene a conference of experts designated by the Governments of the States concerned, for the joint consideration of questions relating to the drafting of the statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency; and

(2) Decide to continue the Advisory Committee established under paragraph 5 of resolution 810 B (IX).

At the 771st meeting on 27 October, the representative of the USSR informed the Committee that his delegation did not press for a vote on the revised draft resolution submitted by it.

13. At the 765th meeting on 19 October, a revision of the three-Power joint draft resolution (see paragraph 7 above) was introduced, which was co-sponsored by the following additional Members: Belgium, Brazil, Canada and the Union of South Africa (A/C.1/L.129/Rev.1). Subsequently, Israel, Mexico, the Netherlands, Argentina, Norway, Peru, Denmark, Iceland and Sweden also became co-sponsors (A/C.1/L.129/Rev.1 and Adds. 1 to 4). The operative part of the revised joint draft resolution dealt separately with international conferences on the peaceful

uses of atomic energy (section A) and an International Atomic Energy Agency (section B). In section A, the provisions noted in paragraph 7 above were modified so that:

(1) The Secretary-General would act in consultation with the appropriate specialized agencies, as well as on the advice of the Advisory Committee, in connexion with arrangements for a future conference;

(2) The specialized agencies would be invited to consult with the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee with a view to ensuring proper co-ordination between the proposed second international technical conference and such technical conferences as they or their affiliated non-governmental scientific organizations might convene on more specialized aspects of the peaceful uses of atomic energy; and

(3) The Advisory Committee would be continued in order that it might assist the Secretary-General in carrying out the provisions of the resolution.

In section B the revised joint draft resolution added provisions whereby the General Assembly, in addition to noting with satisfaction the substantial progress made towards negotiation of a draft statute, would:

(1) Recommend that the Governments sponsoring the Agency should take into account the views expressed on the Agency during the present session of the General Assembly, as well as the comments transmitted directly by Governments, and that they should take all possible measures to establish the Agency without delay;

(2) Welcome the announced intention of the Governments sponsoring the Agency to invite all Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies to participate in a conference on the final text of the statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

(3) Request the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, to study the question of the relationship of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the United Nations, and to transmit the results of their study to the Governments sponsoring the Agency before the conference referred to in the previous paragraph was convened.

14. On 20 October, India submitted amendments (A/C.1/L.134/Rev.1) to the revised joint draft resolution sponsored by Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Israel, Mexico, the Netherlands, the Union of South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States (A/C.1/L.129/Rev.1 and Adds. 1 and 2). The amendments would have the general effect of dividing the draft resolution into two distinct sections,

each with its own preamble. In section A, concerning international conferences, the amendments would:

(1) Insert a new paragraph under which the General Assembly would note the impressive results achieved by the Conference in facilitating the free flow of scientific knowledge relating to the production and peaceful uses of atomic energy and in laying a foundation for the fuller exchange of information on the development of atomic energy for the ends of human welfare;

(2) Add to the recommendation for a second conference the recommendation that seminars on the various aspects of the peaceful uses of atomic energy should be held as appropriate and that measures should be taken to encourage the dissemination of knowledge on the subject;

(3) Remove the provision that the Secretary-General should act in consultation with the specialized agencies in connexion with arrangements for a future conference; and

(4) Include among the matters in which the Advisory Committee might assist the Secretary-General such other tasks and functions in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy as might become vested in him.

In section B, besides proposing two additional preambular paragraphs, the amendments would:

(1) Modify the first operative paragraph so that the General Assembly would note that progress had been made toward negotiation for establishing an International Atomic Energy Agency and that a draft statute had been circulated to Governments for their consideration and comment;

(2) Add a paragraph under which the General Assembly would suggest that the group of sponsoring countries should be established on an expanded basis;

(3) Add to the recommendation concerning the establishment of the Agency without delay the provision that this should be done in accordance with the procedures set out in the resolution;

(4) Change the terms concerning the agency conference so that it would take place to establish the final text of the statute; and

(5) Add a request that the sponsoring Governments should report to the General Assembly as appropriate.

At the 771st meeting on 27 October, the representative of India indicated that he did not press for a vote on the amendments submitted by his delegation.

15. At the 768th meeting on 25 October, a second revision (A/C.1/L.129/Rev.2) of the sixteen-Power joint draft resolution was introduced, with the additional co-sponsorship of Turkey and, later, Luxembourg. This revision, besides adding two paragraphs to the preamble, modified section A, concerning international conferences on the peaceful uses of atomic energy, as follows:

(1) By inserting the provision in the Indian amendment concerning the results achieved by the Conference;

(2) By stating that a second conference should be held in two to three years' time, rather than in about three years.

In section B, concerning an International Atomic Energy Agency, the revised eighteen-Power joint draft resolution included the following changes:

(1) A paragraph was added whereby the General Assembly would welcome the extension of invitations to the Governments of Brazil, Czechoslovakia, India and the USSR to participate as Governments concerned with the present sponsoring Governments in negotiations on the draft statute of the Agency;

(2) Consequential on the foregoing, the word "the" was deleted before the phrase "Governments sponsoring the Agency" and elsewhere the phrase "Governments concerned" was substituted for "Governments sponsoring the Agency";

(3) The recommendation that the Governments concerned should take all measures to establish the Agency without delay was qualified by adding the phrase "bearing in mind the provisions of this resolution"; and

(4) A paragraph was added requesting the Governments concerned to report to the General Assembly as appropriate.

16. At the 769th meeting, Pakistan and the Philippines submitted a joint amendment (A/C.1/L.135) to the revised eighteen-Power joint draft resolution, whereby the General Assembly would recommend that the present sponsoring Governments would invite a few under-developed countries which might not at present have atomic materials and advanced scientific knowledge and equipment to participate with them in the negotiations on the draft statute of the Agency.

At the 771st meeting on 27 October, the sponsors indicated that they did not press for a vote on their joint amendment.

17. At the 770th meeting, the USSR submitted amendments (A/C.1/L.136) to the revised eighteen-Power joint draft resolution whereby:

(1) Invitations to the proposed second international technical conference would be issued to all States and interested specialized agencies, rather than under the formula contained in paragraphs 3 and 7 of General Assembly resolution 810 B (IX);

(2) Invitations to the intended conference on the final text of the statute of the Agency would be extended to all States, rather than to all Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies; and

(3) The Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee, in studying the relationship of the Agency to the United Nations, would bear in mind that the Agency would be established within the framework of the United Nations.

18. Also at the 770th meeting, Czechoslovakia submitted an amendment (A/C.1/L.137) to the joint amendment of Pakistan and the Philippines, whereby the proposed additional invitations to participate in negotiations on the draft statute of the Agency would be extended to "some other countries including a few under-developed countries...".

At the 771st meeting on 27 October, the representative of Czechoslovakia withdrew the amendment submitted by his delegation.

19. At the 771st meeting, the co-sponsors of the revised eighteen-Power joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.129/Rev.2) orally submitted a new paragraph to be included as paragraph 7 of section B, suggesting that the International Atomic Energy Agency, when established, should consider the desirability of arranging for an international periodical devoted to the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

20. At the same meeting, the Committee proceeded to vote on the revised eighteen-Power joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.129/Rev.2) and on the USSR amendments thereto (A/C.1/L.136).

21. The results of the voting were as follows:

Preamble:

The preamble of the revised joint draft resolution was adopted by 53 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Section A:

Paragraphs 1 - 4 of section A were adopted by 53 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

The USSR amendment to paragraph 5 was rejected by 32 votes to 15, with 10 abstentions.

Paragraph 5 was adopted by 45 votes to none, with 14 abstentions.

Paragraphs 6 and 7 were adopted by 53 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Section B:

Paragraph 1 of section B was adopted by 53 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

The USSR amendment to paragraph 2 was rejected by 33 votes to 14, with 12 abstentions.

Paragraph 2 was adopted by 46 votes to none, with 13 abstentions.

Paragraphs 3 and 4 were adopted by 53 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

The USSR amendment to paragraph 5 was rejected by 40 votes to 11, with 8 abstentions.

Paragraph 5 was adopted by 46 votes to none, with 13 abstentions.

Paragraphs 6 and 7 were adopted by 53 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 53 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

22. The First Committee accordingly recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY

The General Assembly,

Desiring that mankind should be enabled to make the fullest use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes,

Desiring to promote energetically the use of atomic energy to the end that it will serve only the peaceful pursuits of mankind and ameliorate their living conditions,

Recognizing the deep interest of all Members of the United Nations in achieving these ends,

Recalling its resolution 810 (IX) concerning international co-operation in developing the peaceful uses of atomic energy, and recognizing that, in accordance with this resolution, significant progress is being made in promoting international co-operation for this purpose,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/2967), submitted pursuant to paragraph 8 of the above resolution, on the Conference held in Geneva from 8-20 August 1955,

Recognizing the necessity of ensuring that the facilities of the International Atomic Energy Agency and fissionable material which may be placed at its disposal are not used for, or diverted to, other than peaceful purposes,

Believing that continuing international co-operation is essential for further developing and expanding the peaceful uses of atomic energy,

A

CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ON THE PEACEFUL
USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY

1. Expresses its satisfaction with the proceedings of the Technical Conference convened in accordance with resolution 810 (IX), and commends the participants therein for the high scientific quality of papers and discussions, and for the spirit of co-operation which prevailed at the Conference;
2. Notes the impressive results achieved by the Conference in facilitating the free flow of scientific knowledge relating to the production and peaceful uses of atomic energy and in laying a foundation for the fuller exchange of information on the development of atomic energy for the ends of human welfare;
3. Expresses its appreciation of the work of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee in preparing and organizing the Conference;
4. Recommends that a second international conference for the exchange of technical information regarding the peaceful uses of atomic energy should be held under the auspices of the United Nations in two to three years time;
5. Requests the Secretary-General, acting upon the advice of the Advisory Committee referred to in paragraph A 7 of this resolution and in consultation with the appropriate specialized agencies, to determine an appropriate place and date, to issue invitations to the Conference in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 7 of resolution 810 B (IX), to prepare and circulate an agenda, and to provide the necessary staff and services;
6. Invites the specialized agencies to consult with the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee with a view to ensuring proper co-ordination between the Conference referred to in paragraph A 4 of this resolution and such technical

conferences as they or their affiliated non-governmental scientific organizations may convene on the more specialized aspects of the peaceful uses of atomic energy;

7. Decides to continue the Advisory Committee established under paragraph 5 of resolution 810 B (IX) in order that it may assist the Secretary-General in carrying out the provisions of this resolution.

B

CONCERNING AN INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

1. Notes with satisfaction that substantial progress has been made toward negotiation of a draft statute establishing an International Atomic Energy Agency and that this draft has been circulated to Governments for their consideration and comment;

2. Welcomes the announced intention of Governments sponsoring the Agency to invite all Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies to participate in a conference on the final text of the statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

3. Further welcomes the extension of invitations to the Governments of Brazil, Czechoslovakia, India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to participate as Governments concerned with the present sponsoring Governments in negotiations on the draft statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

4. Recommends that the Governments concerned take into account the views expressed on the Agency during the present session of the General Assembly, as well as the comments transmitted directly by Governments, and that they take all possible measures to establish the Agency without delay bearing in mind the provisions of this resolution;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Advisory Committee referred to in paragraph A 7 of this resolution, to study the question of the relationship of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the United Nations, and to transmit the results of their study to the Governments concerned before the Conference referred to in paragraph B 2 of this resolution is convened;

6. Requests the Governments concerned to report to the General Assembly as appropriate;

7. Suggests that the International Atomic Energy Agency, when established, consider the desirability of arranging for an international periodical devoted to the peaceful uses of atomic energy.
