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INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN DEVELOPING THE PEACEFUL USES OF
ATOMIC ENERGY: REPORT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Oscar THORSING (Sweden)

1. On 23 September 1954, the United States of America requested the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda of the ninth session of the General Assembly entitled "International co-operation in developing the peaceful uses of atomic energy; report of the United States of America" and forwarded an explanatory memorandum (A/2734). On 25 September, the United States transmitted copies of communications exchanged between the Governments of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the peaceful uses of atomic energy (A/2738). At the 478th plenary meeting on 25 September, the General Assembly decided to include the item in the agenda of the session and referred it to the First Committee for consideration and report.

2. The First Committee considered the item at its 707th to 725th meetings held between 5 and 23 November 1954.

3. At the 708th meeting, the representative of the United States introduced, on behalf of Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, the Union of South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, a joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.105) whereby the General Assembly would, inter alia:

A. Concerning an international atomic energy agency

1. Suggest that, once the agency is established, it should negotiate an appropriate form of agreement with the United Nations, similar to those of the specialized agencies;

2. Transmit to the States participating in the creation of the agency, for their careful consideration, the record of the discussion of this item at the present session of the General Assembly; and

3. Suggest that Members of the United Nations should be informed as progress is achieved in the establishment of the agency;

B. Concerning the international conference on the peaceful uses of atomic energy

1. Declare the interest and concern of the General Assembly in helping in every feasible way to promote the peaceful applications of atomic energy;

2. Decide 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 - such as biology, medicine, radiation protection; and fundamental science - in which international co-operation might most effectively be accomplished;

3. Invite all States Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies to participate in the conference and to include among their representative individual experts competent in the atomic energy field;

4. Suggest that the international conference should be held no later than August 1955 at a place to be determined by the Secretary-General and by the advisory committee provided for in paragraph 5;

5. Request the Secretary-General, acting upon the advice of a small committee composed of representatives of, to issue invitations to the conference, to prepare and circulate to all invitees a detailed agenda, and to provide the necessary staff and services;

6. Suggest to the Secretary-General and the advisory committee that, in making plans for the international conference, they should consult with competent specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

7. Invite the interested specialized agencies to designate persons to represent them at the conference; and

8. Request the Secretary-General to circulate for information a report on the conference to all Members of the United Nations, and to other Governments and specialized agencies participating in the conference.

4. At the 717th meeting, the Secretary-General introduced a paper entitled "Summary of internal Secretariat studies of constitutional questions relating to agencies within the framework of the United Nations" (A/C.1/758) prepared by the Secretariat pursuant to a request made in the Committee at its 710th meeting.

5. At the 722nd meeting, the representative of the United States introduced, on behalf of the sponsors a revised text of their joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.105/Rev.1) containing the following modifications: In the preambular section a new second paragraph was inserted to state the desire of the General Assembly to promote energetically the use of atomic energy to the end that it would serve peaceful purposes only. The subsequent paragraph was rephrased to emphasize the urgency of the problem.

In section A:

1. The second paragraph of the original text was modified so that the General Assembly would note not only that negotiations for the establishment of the agency were in progress but also the intention that they should continue.

2. A new operative paragraph 1 was inserted and the other operative paragraphs were renumbered accordingly. The new paragraph would have the General Assembly express the hope that the international atomic energy agency would be established without delay.

3. New paragraph 2 was modified by the deletion of the phrase "similar to those of the specialized agencies".

4. New paragraph 4 was modified by the addition, after the words "the agency", of the phrase "and that the views of Members who have manifested their interest be fully considered".

In section B:

1. In paragraph 2, the words "of Governments" were inserted after the words "international technical conference".

2. In paragraph 5, the membership of the advisory committee, which was not indicated in the original text, was given as follows: "Brazil, Canada,

France, India, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America".

6. At the same meeting, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics introduced an amendment (A/C.1/L.106) to the revised joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.105/Rev.1) whereby, in paragraph 3 of section B, the General Assembly would invite all States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies, as well as all other States which expressed their desire to do so, to participate in the conference and to include among their representatives individual experts competent in the atomic energy field.

7. At the 723rd meeting, India introduced amendments (A/C.1/L.107) to the revised joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.105/Rev.1) which would:

1. Insert a new operative paragraph 3 in section A according to which the General Assembly would suggest to Member States able and willing to participate in such an agency to co-operate in its early establishment by entering into consultations and negotiations with those States which were already so engaged.

2. In paragraph 4 of section A for the words "views of", substitute the words "States now engaged in negotiations should seek to consult" and insert the words "and that the views of States so consulted should" between the words "their interest" and the words "be fully considered".

3. Renumber existing paragraph 3 of section A as paragraph 5.

8. At the 724th meeting, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics introduced revised amendments (A/C.1/L.106/Rev.1) to the revised joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.105/Rev.1) which would:

1. Replace operative paragraph 2 of section A so that the General Assembly would recommend that the agency should be established as an agency responsible to the General Assembly and, in the cases provided for by the Charter of the United Nations, to the Security Council.

2. Replace paragraph 3 of section B so that the General Assembly would invite all States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies, as well as all other States which expressed their desire to do so, to participate in the conference and to include among their representatives individual experts competent in the atomic energy field.

At the same meeting, Lebanon introduced amendments (A/C.1/L.108) to the revised joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.105/Rev.1) which would:

1. Add to the operative part of section A a fifth paragraph whereby the General Assembly would invite the Secretary-General to communicate to the States participating in the establishment of the agency, or to the agency if it had at that time been established, the results of the work of the conference to be convened under section B of the resolution, so that they might be taken into consideration.

2. Amend paragraph 7 of the operative part of section B so that the General Assembly would invite the interested specialized agencies, and also the international atomic energy agency if it had at that time been established, to designate persons to represent them at the conference.

10. At the 7²⁵th meeting, the representative of India declared that his delegation was not pressing its amendments (A/C.1/L.107) to a vote.

11. At the same meeting, the representative of Lebanon withdrew his amendments (A/C.1/L.108). He stated that their intent had been met by the clarification given by the Secretary-General and by the acquiescence of the United States representative to the interpretation by Lebanon of the relevant parts of the seven-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.105/Rev.1).

12. At the same meeting, the Committee proceeded to vote on the revised joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.105/Rev.1) and the USSR revised amendments (A/C.1/L.106/Rev.1).

The preambular section of the revised joint draft resolution was approved unanimously.

The preamble and operative paragraph 1 of section A were approved unanimously.

The USSR amendment relating to operative paragraph 2 of section A was rejected by 43 votes to 5, with 12 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 2 of section A was approved by 55 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Paragraphs 3 and 4 of section A and paragraphs 1 and 2 of section B were approved unanimously.

The USSR amendment relating to paragraph 3 of section B was rejected by 36 votes to 6, with 18 abstentions.

Paragraph 3 of section B was approved by 54 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Paragraphs 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of section B were approved unanimously.

The revised joint draft resolution as a whole was approved unanimously.

13. The First Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN DEVELOPING THE PEACEFUL
USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY: REPORT OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

The General Assembly,

Believing that the benefits arising from the momentous discovery of atomic energy should be placed at the service of mankind,

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 importance and the urgency of international co-operation in developing and expanding the peaceful uses of atomic energy to assist in lifting the burdens of hunger, poverty and disease,

Believing also that all nations should co-operate in promoting the dissemination of knowledge in the realm of nuclear technology for peaceful ends,

A

CONCERNING AN INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Recalling the initiative of the President of the United States embodied in his address of 8 December 1953,

Noting that negotiations are in progress, and the intention that they should continue, for the establishment as quickly as possible of an International Atomic Energy Agency to facilitate the use by the entire world of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, and to encourage international co-operation in the further development and practical application of atomic energy for the benefit of mankind,

1. Expresses the hope that the International Atomic Energy Agency will be established without delay;
2. Suggests that, once the Agency is established, it negotiate an appropriate form of agreement with the United Nations;

3. Transmits to the States participating in the creation of the Agency, for their careful consideration, the record of the discussion of this item at the present session of the General Assembly;

4. Suggests that Members of the United Nations be informed as progress is achieved in the establishment of the Agency and that the views of Members which have manifested their interest be fully considered.

B

CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE PEACEFUL USES
OF ATOMIC ENERGY

1. Declares the interest and concern of the General Assembly in helping in every feasible way to promote the peaceful applications of atomic energy;

2. Decides that an international technical conference of Governments 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 - such as biology, medicine, radiation protection; and fundamental science - in which international co-operation might most effectively be accomplished;

3. Invites all States Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies to participate in the conference and to include among their representatives individual experts competent in the atomic energy field;

4. Suggests that the international conference should be held no later than August 1955 at a place to be determined by the Secretary-General and by the Advisory Committee provided for in paragraph 5;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, acting upon the advice of a small committee composed of representatives of Brazil, Canada, France, India, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America to issue invitations to this conference, to prepare and circulate to all invitees a detailed agenda, and to provide the necessary staff and services;

6. Suggests to the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee that, in making plans for the international conference, they consult with competent specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Organization, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

7. Invites the interested specialized agencies to designate persons to represent them at the conference;

8. Requests that the Secretary-General circulate for information a report on the conference to all Members of the United Nations, and to other Governments and specialized agencies participating in the conference.
