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## REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

### Peaceful use of nuclear energy for economic and social development

#### Report of the Secretary-General

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 33/4 of 2 November 1978 concerning the peaceful use of nuclear energy for economic and social development, the General Assembly, inter alia, invited all States to continue to consider the convening, at an appropriate stage, of an international conference or conferences, under the auspices of the United Nations system, aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy in accordance with the objectives of General Assembly resolution 32/50. The resolution further requested the Secretary-General to urge all States to communicate to him their views, observations and suggestions on such a conference and requested him to report thereon to the Assembly at its thirty-fourth session.

2. It will be recalled that, in pursuance of the request made by the General Assembly at its thirty-second session, the Secretary-General, on 15 June 1978, had addressed a note verbale to all States inviting them to present their views, observations and suggestions on the convening of such a conference. The 32 replies received were reproduced in the report of the Secretary-General of 26 October 1978 (A/33/332). In pursuance of the Assembly's request, the Secretary-General, on 15 May 1979, forwarded a second note verbale to all States once more inviting them, unless they had already done so earlier, to communicate to him their views, observations and suggestions on the convening of the international conference or conferences in question. As at 15 October 1979 the Secretary-General had received replies from 24 States to the second note verbale. 1/ Of these States, 10 had already responded to the first note verbale. 2/ Thus, inclusive of the initial set of replies received from 32 States in response to the first note verbale, replies have now been received from a total of 45 States.

3. The views, observations and suggestions received from Governments in response to the Secretary-General's second note verbale are reproduced in section II below.

4. The replies received can be classified generally into three broad groups. First, a number of States supported the convening of such a conference at an appropriate stage, expressing their support for all initiative that could enhance

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1/ Australia, Austria, Barbados, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

2/ Australia, Austria, Barbados, Denmark, German Democratic Republic, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy for economic and social development. A number of those countries which are in favour of convening such a conference made observations on the scope, agenda, timing and preparatory work. A second group of countries qualified their support for the consideration of holding such a conference subject to the results of a number of ongoing and planned activities, such as the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 1980, the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE) and so forth. According to those States, the question of convening such a conference could be considered after the results of these major international initiatives have been properly evaluated.

5. A third group of countries indicated lack of support for the holding of such a conference in view of the adequacy of present and planned activities under the auspices of IAEA.

6. Based on the views received so far from States, the Secretary-General notes that a consensus has yet to emerge in respect of the convening of an international conference or conferences under the auspices of the United Nations system on the peaceful use of nuclear energy for economic and social development, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/50 of 8 December 1977. Under the circumstances, the information included in section II below is herewith submitted to the Assembly for its consideration and for any further action it may deem necessary.

## II. ADDITIONAL REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

### AUSTRALIA

/Original: English/  
/28 August 1979/

1. Australia provided views on a possible international conference on nuclear energy in its reply of 26 July 1978 to the request for comments from the Secretary-General pursuant to the terms of General Assembly resolution 32/50.
2. Australia has frequently reiterated its concern that there should be the widest possible agreement on an appropriate framework for the management and operation of the nuclear fuel cycle, including the further development over time of a consensus among both nuclear-supplier countries and nuclear-importing countries on the non-proliferation conditions to apply to the world nuclear industry. Extensive consideration of issues having a direct bearing on international trade and co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy is now drawing to a conclusion in the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE). There are also several related studies under way under the aegis of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Furthermore, the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons will take place in 1980. Until these meetings, particularly INFCE, have been concluded, it will not be possible to make firm judgements about those international arrangements, including appropriate forums, which would most effectively facilitate the further development of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, while providing firm assurances against the further spread of nuclear weapons.

### AUSTRIA

/Original: English/  
/18 July 1979/

1. The Austrian Government has on various occasions in the past expressed its support for efforts to develop international consensus and co-operation in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, including the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons. In the view of the Austrian Government, such a consensus should be built upon the following main elements:

(a) General agreement on the dangers of any form of proliferation, both vertical and horizontal;

(b) Elaboration of generally acceptable, non-discriminatory safeguards;

(c) An unequivocal undertaking of the nuclear-weapon States to engage in nuclear disarmament;

(d) Recognition of the legitimate right of many industrialized and developing countries, to take advantage, if they so wish, of the various possibilities offered by the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

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2. The Austrian Government considers that a conference aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy should be held under the auspices of the IAEA and should benefit and draw appropriate conclusions from ongoing similar efforts in this field, such as the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation, as well as the forthcoming international conference on nuclear power and its fuel cycle, which is scheduled to be held under the auspices of IAEA at Salzburg in 1981.

BARBADOS

/Original: English/

/21 September 1979/

The Government of Barbados has no comments to add to those submitted on 28 July 1978.

CUBA

/Original: Spanish/

/21 August 1979/

1. The Government of the Republic of Cuba recognizes the important task of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in promoting the role of nuclear energy in the economic progress of countries, and particularly of developing countries; the conference in question would make a valuable contribution to that end.

2. In that connexion, the Government of the Republic of Cuba supports the convening of such a conference under the auspices of the United Nations system and in particular, considers that the conference should be held at the headquarters of IAEA in Vienna on the date mentioned in view of the fact that IAEA is a specialized agency dealing with the matter and that General Assembly resolution 32/50 recognizes the need to strengthen the role of IAEA.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

/Original: English/

/24 July 1979/

1. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic attaches great importance to the development of international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy for economic and social development, as recommended for consideration by General Assembly resolution 32/50. It is of the opinion that the holding of the proposed conference under the auspices of IAEA would be appropriate and useful for the solution of the related questions: an active utilization of that organization

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and of its experience is fully in keeping with the efforts to achieve progress in the given field. This was confirmed by the positive results of earlier similar conferences. This procedure would also be in accordance with the need for the strengthening of the non-proliferation régime of nuclear weapons and materials and, at the same time, the IAEA system of safeguards.

2. The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic believes that these questions must be consistently taken into account when developing the peaceful use of nuclear energy and the respective international co-operation.

DENMARK

/Original: English/  
/13 July 1979/

The Danish Government continues to be of the opinion that the question of convening an international conference aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy should await the outcome of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation and the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as well as the IAEA conference planned for 1981.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

/Original: Spanish/  
/21 May 1979/

With reference to General Assembly resolution 33/4 on the peaceful use of nuclear energy for economic and social development, the Dominican Republic considers it appropriate to convene an international conference or conferences aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy and therefore supports any action the Secretariat may take to that end.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

/Original: English/  
/3 August 1979/

The position of the German Democratic Republic (see A/33/332 of 26 October 1978) remains unchanged.

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GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF

/Original: English/

/6 September 1979/

1. In its note No. 317/78 of 31 July 1978, the Federal Republic of Germany stated that it is in favour of close international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development, in accordance with the objectives of resolution 32/50. Furthermore, the Federal Republic of Germany expressed the opinion that it is important that such co-operation be undertaken with due consideration for the work that has already been done multilaterally and bilaterally in this field. Without such due consideration, there would be a possibility of confusion, delay or wasteful duplication.

2. With this in mind, the Federal Republic of Germany deems it preferable not to consider the question of holding a conference as referred to in resolution 32/50 before the conclusion of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE) and the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. In this respect, the established role of IAEA as the proper forum for discussions on questions of international co-operation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be taken into account, and it should be noted that IAEA plans to hold another international conference on nuclear power and its fuel cycle in Salzburg in 1981, which will cover much of the subject matter of resolution 32/50.

HUNGARY

/Original: English/

/17 July 1979/

The Hungarian People's Republic has a fundamental interest in the peaceful use of nuclear energy and, accordingly, supports the convening of a conference under the auspices of the United Nations, as proposed by General Assembly resolution 33/4. A Salzburg-type international conference would be the most appropriate forum for discussion of the relevant questions under the aegis of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

INDONESIA

/Original: English/

/8 June 1979/

1. One of the pressing challenges confronting the international community is the strengthening of the régime against the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the need to ensure that the benefits of peaceful uses of nuclear energy is conferred on all nations. Measures in this regard must be consistent with the

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rights of all States, without discrimination, to develop nuclear technology for peaceful uses and to determine their peaceful nuclear programmes in accordance with their national needs. As nuclear technology and materials are unevenly distributed, access to nuclear energy has become a major international issue. At the same time, there is an increasing awareness that the spread of nuclear technology must not lead to the proliferation of nuclear weapons with attendant dangers to international peace and security. In Indonesia's view, a wider use of nuclear energy and the prevention of nuclear proliferation were complementary and should be pursued simultaneously. Thus, it is committed to the central role of IAEA in its efforts to improve and develop a safeguards system and to enhance international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

2. The role of IAEA in the development of nuclear energy for economic and social development, however, needs to be strengthened. Furthermore, the question of the development and transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes has become one of the key elements in the development of many nations. It is in this context that the Government of Indonesia favours the convening of an international conference, at an appropriate time, under the auspices of the United Nations aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Although a number of conferences held so far had greatly contributed towards the clarification of issues and facilitated agreements, and others are planned in the future, there are, none the less, a number of other outstanding issues, the solutions of which would greatly contribute to the further strengthening of international co-operation in this field.

3. In Indonesia's view, the conference should deal, among others, with the following:

- (a) Measures guaranteeing access, without discrimination, for all States to technology concerned with the peaceful application of nuclear energy;
- (b) Economic aspects of nuclear energy;
- (c) Legal aspects of development and utilization;
- (d) Questions relating to safety and environmental protection;
- (e) Scientific and technical co-operation, including a substantial increase in aid and technical assistance both in quantity and quality, to the developing countries;
- (f) An improved safeguards system;
- (g) The role of the United Nations and IAEA.

IRAQ

/Original: English/

/19 July 1979/

The Government of the Republic of Iraq supports the convening, at an appropriate stage, of an international conference or conferences, under the auspices of the United Nations, aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 33/4.

ITALY

/Original: English/

/9 and 14 August 1979/

The Italian Government is in favour of the broad objectives of General Assembly resolutions 32/50 and 33/4 and can therefore support, in principle, the proposal to convene such a conference, subject to a more precise definition of its object and purposes. However, in view of the fact that the calendar of meetings on international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, which includes work on the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation, the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the IAEA Conference to be held in Salzburg, is already very full for the near future, the Italian Government maintains its opinion that the conference proposed by the General Assembly in resolution 32/50 should be convened only at a later stage, namely, after the conclusion of the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

JAMAICA

/Original: English/

/25 June 1979/

The Jamaican Government supports the convening, at an appropriate stage, of an international conference or conferences, under the auspices of the United Nations system, aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

NETHERLANDS

/Original: English/  
/17 July 1979/

1. The Government of the Netherlands have considered again whether the convening in the near future of an international conference, or conferences, under the auspices of the United Nations, as referred to in General Assembly resolutions 32/50 and 33/4, would be needed.
2. Last year, the Government of the Netherlands informed the Secretary-General that it had come to the conclusion that there would be no need for a conference as referred to in resolution 32/50. It was argued that such a conference would duplicate other, ongoing and future, multilateral activities in the same field.
3. However, certain developments in the nuclear field, as well as the evolutionary character of the process of working out a new international consensus with regard to the peaceful application of nuclear energy, would make it desirable that efforts towards reaching this consensus be continued after the conclusion of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation and the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.
4. Additional consultations and negotiations will be needed in 1981 and thereafter with a view to reaching internationally agreed decisions, which might constitute a new consensus on international nuclear co-operation under adequate non-proliferation arrangements. It is to be expected that such consultations will be needed on a bilateral as well as on a multilateral level. Therefore, it might be appropriate also to hold such negotiations within the United Nations system. The Government of the Netherlands will give further consideration to the proposal, contained in General Assembly resolutions 32/50 and 33/4, taking into account the views expressed above.

NORWAY

/Original: English/  
/19 June 1979/

1. As referred to in a note of 24 August 1978, the Norwegian Government is of the opinion that one should await the outcome of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation and the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as well as the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Energy Resources and the IAEA Conference planned for 1981 before any decision is taken on the question of convening a United Nations conference aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy.
2. It is further the opinion of the Norwegian Government that such a conference should, in case it is decided upon, be held under the auspices of IAEA.

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PAKISTAN

/Original: English/

/26 June 1979/

1. One of the vital problems facing the international community today is the rapid depletion of conventional sources of energy. In particular, the prodigal use of petroleum by the industrialized countries threatens to bring about the complete exhaustion of this unique and valuable raw material in the foreseeable future and has affected both its price and availability, thereby giving a serious set-back to the economic situation and prospects of the developing countries.
2. It is well known that the sources of energy, be it hydrocarbons hydro-electricity or uranium, are unevenly distributed in the world. Countries, such as Pakistan, which do not have adequate reserves of conventional fuel, have no alternative to using nuclear energy. Furthermore, expert studies and projections indicate that hydro-electricity, solar energy, wind power and other such renewable sources of energy cannot bridge the widening gap, during the next several decades, between declining reserves of hydrocarbons and increasing world demand. There can be no doubt, therefore, that in the immediate and foreseeable future there will be an absolute need for nuclear power.
3. For developing countries, with their present extremely low consumption of energy, the use of nuclear energy is even more important than it is for the industrialized countries. This is the conclusion reached at two international conferences on the subject, held in 1977 at Persepolis, Iran, and Salzburg, Austria, as well as the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, held at Buenos Aires from 30 August to 12 September 1978.
4. The thirty-second session of the General Assembly unanimously adopted, in resolution 32/50, a set of principles to govern international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear technology. Those principles, which uphold the right of all States to develop their programmes for the peaceful use of nuclear technology in conformity with their own priorities, interests and needs, and to have access to and be free to acquire technology, equipment and materials for this purpose, under agreed appropriate international safeguards on the transfer of nuclear technology, are being replaced by onerous and unjustifiable restrictions or outright prohibitions. In particular, there is outright discrimination against developing countries. The existing monopoly in the supply of nuclear technology and fuels is being consolidated and perpetuated by the establishment of cartels like the London Club.
5. Unfortunately, questions relating to the peaceful use of nuclear energy have become clouded by concern over the danger of proliferation of nuclear weapons. The objectives of non-proliferation and the development of the peaceful use of nuclear energy are entirely compatible, as is conclusively demonstrated by the successful operation of the IAEA safeguards system. On the other hand, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons failed to achieve its purpose

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because of its intrinsically discriminatory charter and because it ignored the prevailing realities. If the non-proliferation régime is to be fully developed and strengthened, it must be based on the principles of universality and non-discrimination. It should be complemented and reinforced by security guarantees, both negative and positive, to non-nuclear-weapon States and should create a more equitable balance in the rights and obligations of nuclear and non-nuclear-weapon States. Pakistan also believes that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones constitutes the most effective measure of disarmament and non-proliferation. Pakistan hopes that negotiations to this end will be continued in the General Assembly and subsidiary bodies responsible for disarmament questions, as well as bilaterally.

6. Pakistan considers that the issues relating to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy concern all countries and therefore require the closest attention of all Member States, developed as well as developing. In order to resolve these issues, it is necessary to enlist the willing co-operation of all States. Consequently, Pakistan favours the proposal to convene an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the objective of promoting international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The approach of the conference should be action-oriented. The conference should address itself, inter alia, to the following issues:

(a) The global energy situation, with particular emphasis on the role of nuclear energy in meeting the shortfall between supply and demand;

(b) Co-operation among developing countries, as well as at regional levels, for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy;

(c) Transfer of nuclear technology, bearing in mind the relevant United Nations resolutions and article IV of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which embodies an obligation to contribute to the fullest development of the applications of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes with due consideration for the needs of the developing areas of the world;

(d) The role of IAEA in promoting the development of nuclear energy for peaceful uses in developing countries and evolving a universal and non-discriminatory system of safeguards against nuclear proliferation;

(e) The question of assured and adequate supply of nuclear fuels to developing countries at a reasonable price;

(f) Problems relating to waste disposal, safety of operation and environmental questions;

(g) Establishment of a comprehensive programme of action embracing scientific and technical co-operation in the nuclear field;

(h) Establishment of a fund within IAEA to finance the programme of action.

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7. In view of the importance of this subject for the development of a large number of developing countries, it is essential to organize an international conference, under the auspices of the United Nations, at a very early date. Pakistan would suggest that an appropriate time to hold this conference would be in 1981. A decision to that effect could be taken by the thirty-fourth session of the General Assembly, which could also set up the necessary preparatory mechanism for the conference.

PERU

/Original: Spanish/  
/20 February 1979/

The Government of Peru supports the convening of an international conference or conferences, under the auspices of the United Nations system, aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy in accordance with the objectives of the relevant General Assembly resolutions.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

/Original: English/  
/11 July 1979/

1. The Government of the Republic of Korea supports in principle the convening of an international conference or conferences, under the auspices of the United Nations system, aiming at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, in accordance with the objectives of General Assembly resolution 32/50.

2. The Government of the Republic of Korea also hopes that the above-mentioned conference or conferences, if and when convened, would include for its consideration the following subjects:

(a) Safety measures to prevent danger in the operation of the nuclear power plant;

(b) Broad utilization of radio-isotopes in the fields of industry, agriculture and medicine.

SWITZERLAND

/Original: French/  
/25 July 1979/

The development of nuclear power stations is currently creating serious technical, economic and political problems in both developed and developing countries. The Swiss authorities accordingly doubt whether, given the present atmosphere of uncertainty, such a conference could achieve practical results.

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

/Original: Russian/

/26 July 1979/

1. The Soviet Union attaches great significance to, and promotes in every possible way, the development of international co-operation in the peaceful use of atomic energy. It endeavours to ensure that the benefits of the peaceful use of this energy source serve the cause of the economic and social development of peoples and the strengthening of international peace and security. These aims can be attained only if everything possible is done to ensure that the international exchange of nuclear technology, which is resulting in the emergence in many countries of a scientific, technological and industrial nuclear potential, does not turn into a dangerous channel for the spread of nuclear weapons.
2. It is with this approach in mind that the Soviet Union analyses and evaluates any proposals concerning particular measures on an international scale with regard to the peaceful use of nuclear energy, including the convening of a conference aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy.
3. It is well known that the United Nations system possesses a competent and authoritative international body, the International Atomic Energy Agency, which, under its statute, concerns itself with the problems of the peaceful use of nuclear energy in all its aspects. It is our view that matters arising in connexion with General Assembly resolution 33/4 could be effectively discussed at the appropriate political and technical level within the framework of the international conference on nuclear power and its fuel cycle, which is to be convened by IAEA in 1981.
4. The idea of holding an international conference on the peaceful use of atomic energy in isolation from the technological and economic aspects of the nuclear fuel cycle, and without regard to the aim of establishing a régime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, might be used less in the interests of ensuring the development of nuclear energy in the developing countries than with the aim of amending the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the non-proliferation system based on it, which has been fully proving its worth. Furthermore, the convening of such a conference within the framework of the United Nations at a time when preparations for the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons were under way might prejudice the success of this important international meeting.
5. The Soviet Union feels that all States concerned with expanding fruitful international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, which would pose no threat to world peace and security, have an obligation to block all attempts to modify the régime governing the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

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UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

/Original: English/  
/31 July 1979/

1. The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland attach importance to strengthening international consensus on ways to secure the benefits of nuclear power while avoiding the danger of nuclear weapons proliferation.
2. They hold in high regard the work that has already been done multilaterally and bilaterally to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development.
3. They would wish in particular to draw attention to the central role in this endeavour of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Furthermore, the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE) is concerned with much of the subject matter of General Assembly resolution 32/50. The Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in June 1980 will provide a further opportunity for discussion of co-operation on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.
4. They believe that there are a number of issues relating to nuclear trade and non-proliferation which will need further international discussion after the conclusion of INFCE. It will be necessary in the coming months to consider how best this should be organized. The holding of a special conference within the United Nations system, as envisaged in the General Assembly resolution 32/50, would be one option. Other options should, however, also be carefully considered before any final decision is reached, as it is desirable to secure the widest possible agreement on the issues involved.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

/Original: English/  
/13 September 1979/

The views of the Government of the United States of America are substantially unchanged from those submitted in August 1978 in accordance with resolution 32/50.

1. The United States continues to favour the strengthening of co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in a manner that takes non-proliferation considerations fully into account.
2. With regard to paragraphs 1 and 2 of General Assembly resolution 33/4, the United States could not at the present time support the convening of such a new special conference. Preparations have begun for the Review Conference of the

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Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be held in the summer of 1980. Discussions at that conference will offer one important opportunity to carry on a dialogue on this subject. In addition, the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE) is still under way and will extend into early 1980. This provides another forum for exchanging views on the subject of the resolution. Until the results of these activities are known, it will be difficult to determine what arrangements or procedures will be most conducive to enhancing international co-operation on nuclear energy consistent with non-proliferation.

3. Further, it should be noted that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) continues to offer a variety of programmes, meetings and conferences aimed at fostering peaceful uses of nuclear energy with particular focus on the developing world. The United States believes that IAEA provides the best continuing international mechanism for promoting peaceful nuclear co-operation. The annual IAEA General Conference, which is held each autumn, and the IAEA Board of Governors, which has significant representation from the developing countries offer fora for discussion of this subject and provide opportunities for influencing programmes aimed at contributing to the legitimate nuclear energy needs of the developing countries. The United States believes that the objectives underlying resolution 32/50 could be effectively promoted through utilizing IAEA, which is the only existing international institution within the United Nations system established for this purpose.

4. It is therefore the United States view that, should any conference take place pursuant to this resolution, it should be held under the auspices of IAEA. In that connexion, IAEA is proceeding with plans to hold a second international conference on nuclear power and its fuel cycle in 1981. Such a conference would serve as a forum for the consideration of issues similar to those raised in resolution 33/4.

5. In conclusion, while supporting in general the objectives such a conference would promote, the United States believes there are adequate opportunities in other fora for discussion of these issues and that establishment of another conference would be unnecessary and duplicative.

URUGUAY

/Original: Spanish/  
/12 July 1979/

In accordance with express instructions, I wish to state that the Government of Uruguay supports the convening of an international conference or conferences, under the auspices of the United Nations system, aimed at promoting international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/50 and with the operative part of resolution 33/4 adopted at the last regular session of the General Assembly.

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