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President: Mr. Rüdiger von WECHMAR
(Federal Republic of Germany).

In the absence of the President, Mr. Oumarou (Niger), Vice-President, took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 14

Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency
(*continued*)

1. Mr. KLESTIL (Austria): First of all, I should like to express to Mr. Eklund our sincere appreciation for his lucid and comprehensive introduction of the report of IAEA for the year 1979.¹ We are particularly grateful for his most interesting assessment of the international energy situation and for the valuable information he supplied about events of the current year [52nd meeting, paras. 2-45].

2. Indeed, there can be no doubt that the prevailing developments emphasize the crucial role played by IAEA in today's international relations and the constantly growing relevance of the manifold tasks which the Agency so admirably performs.

3. Since the Austrian delegation has had the opportunity to present its position on non-proliferation in a recent statement in the First Committee,² I shall restrict myself to a few remarks on this subject.

4. The prevention of a further spread of nuclear weapons remains one of the most urgent items on the international agenda. Austria attaches the utmost importance to this problem and has therefore actively participated in the International Fuel Cycle Evaluation which was concluded on 27 February this year. We appreciate the valuable support that IAEA has lent to this exercise. In our view, the Evaluation was a very useful effort in that it brought together consumer and supplier nations for a pragmatic exchange of views and information on the nuclear fuel cycle.

¹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 1979* (Austria, July 1980); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note of the Secretary-General (A/35/365).

² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, First Committee, 5th meeting*, and *ibid.*, *First Committee, Sessional Fascicle*, corrigendum.

One of the major conclusions to be drawn from this work is the fact that, while there exist significant differences in the proliferation risks of different types of nuclear programmes, there does not exist a truly proliferation-resistant fuel cycle.

5. In the absence of a "technical fix", efforts to prevent proliferation have to concentrate on strengthening the political incentives to forgo the nuclear weapons option. In this connexion the Austrian Government wishes to stress once again its firm commitment to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [*resolution 2373 (XXII), annex*]. It is our conviction that, in spite of certain shortcomings, that Treaty remains the foremost barrier against a further spread of nuclear weapons.

6. While we regret that the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held at Geneva from 11 August to 7 September 1980, has been unable to reach consensus on a final document, we have noted with appreciation that the major principles and objectives of the Treaty were not called into question. Apart from thus proving the essential soundness of the existing non-proliferation régime, the discussions at Geneva have led to a large measure of agreement, in particular with regard to articles III, IV and V of the non-proliferation Treaty. We hope that on the basis of this agreement discussion will continue and eventually lead to concrete measures enhancing and strengthening non-proliferation.

7. In this connexion, Austria particularly welcomes the recent establishment of the Committee on Assurances of Supply by the IAEA Board of Governors as a part of the follow-up of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation. Enhanced security of supply and guaranteed access to fuel cycle services have become essential elements of the non-proliferation system. Effective measures in this area not only strengthen the commitment of importing Member States parties to the non-proliferation Treaty but also greatly increase its attractiveness to those countries which have so far chosen to remain outside. In this context the Austrian delegation attaches great importance to the elaboration of criteria for preferential treatment of the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the non-proliferation Treaty which have already accepted full scope safeguards. This applies especially to scientific and technical co-operation in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

8. I should like to emphasize, however, that the problem of assured supply is closely linked to the issue of safeguards. There is general agreement today that the safeguards system administered with great ability by IAEA has proved effective in the past. In the view of the Austrian Government this highly satisfactory record warrants an extension of its

coverage. Austria has therefore supported the proposal put forth at the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to require, as a pre-condition of all future nuclear supply commitments to non-member States, the application of safeguards to all sources of special fissionable material. A truly universal safeguards system would go a long way towards allaying the persistent fears of a further spread of nuclear weapons. I am pleased to report that IAEA, in carrying out its responsibilities in the field of safeguards, is now able to use the Safeguards Analytical Laboratory on the premises of the Austrian Research Centre. In addition to being the host country of IAEA, Austria is happy to contribute in such a way to the work of the Agency in the important field of safeguards.

9. My comments on non-proliferation would not be complete if I did not mention the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material of 26 October 1979. Austria, which was among the first signatories, considers that agreement to be an important step forward in improving international co-operation and developing common standards for the use, storage and transport of nuclear materials.

10. Technical assistance and promotion of the use of nuclear techniques are other important functions of IAEA. Apart from the traditional activities in the areas of atomic energy development, nuclear physics and the mining of nuclear materials, we are observing with special interest the fast expanding range of application of isotopes and radiation. From agriculture to medicine to ecology, there seems to be hardly an area where nuclear techniques cannot be employed in the combat against world-wide problems. The invaluable work of IAEA in this field can be continued and developed only if it is based on adequate financial resources. Austria has therefore increased its voluntary contribution to the Technical Assistance Fund by 30 per cent to \$US 93,600.

11. I should now like to turn to the issue of nuclear safety, another important element of the mandate of the IAEA. It has become more and more apparent in past years that the future of nuclear power as a major energy source depends largely on the ability to deal satisfactorily with the safety issues of nuclear power plants and on the development of adequate arrangements for the disposal of nuclear wastes. Since solutions to those problems can only be found through international co-operation, my Government attaches the greatest importance to the relevant programmes of IAEA.

12. As one example of many valuable activities in that field, let me mention the International Conference on Current Nuclear Power Plant Safety Issues that was held at Stockholm from 20 to 24 October this year. That meeting provided an excellent opportunity for an extensive exchange of views on the safety aspects of nuclear power plants and a sharing of information on the various national programmes and regulations. Apart from providing an opportunity for fruitful discussions among experts, the Stockholm Conference has also, through the intensive participation of the media, contributed to a better informed public opinion, which we all know to be crucial for

the further development of nuclear energy. During the course of the Conference, Austria had the opportunity to present the proposal of the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs on initiating a study on trans-frontier aspects of nuclear energy. As a result of the Stockholm Conference, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs will in due course propose to the Director General of the IAEA the establishment of a group of experts within the Agency to deal with questions of the trans-frontier effects of nuclear energy with a view to preparing guidelines and recommendations in that field. Austria is of the opinion that the establishment of such guidelines will render a positive contribution to improving co-operation among nations and to co-ordinating their co-operation in an even better way.

13. In conclusion I should like to reaffirm that Austria, conscious of its special responsibilities as the host country, extends her fullest support to IAEA.

14. One year ago the Agency completed its move to its permanent headquarters, the Vienna International Centre. I trust that it found working conditions that will facilitate the accomplishment of its difficult tasks and allow it to maintain the high standard of excellence and efficiency for which it is well known.

15. I should like to express once again our appreciation of the outstanding co-operation and assistance that the Austrian Government continues to receive from the Director General and the Agency's staff.

16. Finally let me thank Mr. Eklund for the kind words that he addressed to the Austrian Government.

17. Mr. ANDERSON (Australia): It is a pleasure for me to take this opportunity to address this Assembly on the report of IAEA. The Agency is, we consider, one of the more successful organizations within the United Nations system and, in spite of the limited resources available to it, it has an impressive record in meeting its responsibilities. In view of the importance that Australia attaches to the work of the Agency, it is useful to reiterate its two primary responsibilities. The first is the development and application of safeguards required under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and other arrangements; the second is the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy including, in particular, the provision of technical assistance to developing countries.

18. With the growing world energy shortage and the deteriorating international political situation, the role of IAEA is becoming increasingly important. Nuclear energy represents the only developed and proven non-conventional energy source that can make up the anticipated shortfall in energy supply from known reserves of energy from non-renewable sources. Developments in the world in recent years have continued to highlight that fact and give emphasis to the increased responsibility of IAEA.

19. As I have already stated, one of the primary responsibilities of IAEA is the development and application of safeguards required under the nuclear non-proliferation Treaty. We cannot look at the peaceful uses of nuclear energy without taking into account methods to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Universal adherence to the Treaty has long been regarded by the Australian Government

as providing one of the most effective means of preventing the further spread of nuclear weapons. At the same time, we recognize the importance of ensuring that States, including developing States, have adequate opportunities to develop nuclear power for peaceful purposes.

20. We have therefore the important task of achieving compatibility between the peaceful development of nuclear energy and the prevention of nuclear weapon proliferation. The Australian Government is alert to those urgent needs and has taken steps to contribute to meeting that pressing potential problem.

21. Australia has very large reserves of natural uranium and is entering the international uranium market as a major supplier. In deciding policies to govern the export of uranium, Australia paid particular attention to what it considered to be its obligations under articles III and IV of the non-proliferation Treaty. The Australian Government decided accordingly, in 1977, that it would export uranium to non-nuclear-weapon States only if they were parties to the Treaty. Australia also decided that exports of uranium for peaceful purposes to nuclear-weapon States would be made subject to undertakings that the uranium would not be diverted to military or explosive purposes and would be covered by IAEA safeguards. In addition, Australia pursues a policy of giving preference to the States parties to the non-proliferation Treaty in the provision of nuclear technical assistance outside the regular programme of IAEA.

22. Australia plays an active role in and contributes to the work of the Agency. As I have indicated, we attach particular importance to the non-proliferation role of IAEA in implementing effective international safeguards and in refining and improving safeguards techniques. We also support its research into the problem of nuclear technology, such as reactor safety and waste management. In that regard we participate actively in the expert group on international plutonium storage. I might add here that at the June meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors, Australia announced a three-year programme of assistance to the nuclear safeguards capabilities of the Agency. The programme, estimated to cost \$US 625,000, comprises four development projects and a cash contribution to the study on international plutonium storage.

23. Another important related area within IAEA which Australia supports and in which it participates includes the "Recovery" project, a demonstration project designed to improve safeguards containment and surveillance techniques by remote verification.

24. Australia is an active supporter of the role of IAEA in providing technical assistance, particularly through its voluntary fund. In the bilateral sphere our principal activity has been the provision of technical assistance to developing countries. For instance, in the last five years Australia has extended technical assistance in the nuclear sphere by providing training at the Australian Atomic Energy Agency to some 65 persons from 16 developing countries. Coupled with this is Australia's continuing support for IAEA's Asian Regional Co-operative Agreement.

25. Australia has supported measures which would have the effect of narrowing the distinctions and discriminations between nuclear-weapon States on the

one hand and non-nuclear-weapon States on the other. We welcome the steps which the United Kingdom, the United States and France have taken to accept IAEA safeguards for their civil nuclear programmes and we hope that other nuclear-weapon States will follow suit.

26. Earlier this year, in February the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation study was successfully concluded. The importance of that study lies in the opportunity it provided for a detailed examination at government level of the international ramifications of nuclear energy. It set the international community on the road to a new and more effective structure of international nuclear co-operation. A number of building blocks for that structure are already being assembled, for instance, the international plutonium storage system and the international spent fuel management. Other building blocks are being prepared which will play an important role. The Committee on Assurances of Supply is of particular importance in this structure. The initial task of this Committee is to address specific and practical measures to help expand the already considerable measures of international agreement on the non-proliferation conditions of nuclear supply. The elaboration of a common approach in this complex area is vital and will only be possible if we remain within practical bounds and concentrate on particular measures.

27. The second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was held at Geneva from 11 August to 7 September this year. It was a disappointment to Australia that, because of difficulties over nuclear arms control issues, the Conference was not able to reach a consensus in the time available on a final declaration. There were, however, a number of important and positive aspects of the Conference, in particular the near-unanimity reached on most of the issues relating to the application of international safeguards and the arrangements governing the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The results in that area made the Conference worthwhile and will contribute positively to further international discussion in IAEA and elsewhere aimed at enhancing the non-proliferation régime.

28. While the Review Conference was unanimous in its concern to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and thus demonstrate the indispensability of the non-proliferation Treaty, it did sound a warning that the nuclear-weapon States will have to achieve measures limiting their own nuclear arsenals if the Treaty's objectives are to be maintained. Australia shares the substantive concerns which have been expressed about the slow progress of nuclear arms control negotiations and in particular over the delay in achieving a comprehensive test-ban treaty, a treaty which would of course provide an additional and important support for the international non-proliferation régime.

29. Australia will continue to look to the further evolution of co-operative arrangements that are vital to trust and to a safe nuclear world. We are committed to contribute to the efforts of IAEA to improve and develop safeguards systems and enhance international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, especially technical assistance to the developing countries.

30. The practice of this Assembly in adopting the IAEA report by consensus is important for its reflects the universal support which exists for the Agency's activities. We are confident that this practice will be continued this year.

31. Before concluding my remarks on the report of IAEA, I have much pleasure in expressing the Australian Government's appreciation to the Director General of that body, Mr. Sigvard Eklund, for his work throughout the year and for the work of his staff. Together they have helped to ensure the effective development of the Agency.

32. Mr. OKAWA (Japan): At the outset, I wish again this year to reiterate my Government's appreciation of the outstanding contribution that Mr. Eklund has been making over the years as Director General of IAEA. My delegation thanks him for the annual report on the activities of the Agency during 1979 and has listened with keen interest and attention to the statement he delivered to us this morning.

33. It is an inevitable fact that nuclear energy will become progressively more important in meeting the world's energy requirements as the years go by. This is becoming clearer and clearer. Hence the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation ended its work on 27 February this year with a statement in its communiqué reaffirming that "nuclear energy is expected to increase its role in meeting the world's energy needs and can and should be widely available to that end". I think one can say that the closing of the Evaluation signified the opening of a new age for IAEA. The Evaluation also identified ways and means of strengthening assurances of nuclear supply while at the same time minimizing the risk of the proliferation of nuclear weapons. It analysed the special needs of developing countries and pointed to actions that might be taken by States through IAEA and by other means to meet those needs. It recognized the central role that IAEA has played in the past and must continue to play in the future in meeting the problems that were the focus of the Evaluation study.

34. Japan has always highly appreciated the work of IAEA in promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and, as a participant in the Evaluation, it willingly endorses the expectations the Evaluation communiqué placed on the Agency.

35. In the years ahead, continuous and intensive discussion and international co-operation will be required to deal with the many problems that await solutions in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, notably the elaboration of an international order incorporating effective measures for the prevention of nuclear proliferation. My Government considers that IAEA would provide the most appropriate forum for that purpose and is confident that the Agency will live up to our expectations.

36. We all know that important studies on a system for international storage of plutonium and on the international management of spent fuel have been conducted within the framework of IAEA. In addition to those ongoing projects, it was most timely that a Committee on Assurances of Supply was set up in June this year as a subsidiary organ of the Agency's Board of Governors. This was the happy outcome of consultations held in response to the suggestion

made to that effect by Mr. Eklund at last year's session of the General Conference of the Agency.

37. The Committee's establishment was welcomed at the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held at Geneva a few months ago, and at this year's session of the Agency's General Conference, in September.

38. The Committee on Assurances of Supply held its organizational session at the end of September, and is to adopt its work programme, in accordance with its terms of reference, at its second session to be held in early March 1981. Japan hopes that the Committee's discussions will be conducive to the strengthening of mutual confidence among the States concerned and to the smooth progress and further development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

39. The Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was unable to adopt a final declaration of substance, and this was a great disappointment to the Japanese delegation. Fortunately, however, there were no basic challenges made to the non-proliferation Treaty system itself, and the need for and importance of maintaining and strengthening the Treaty were reaffirmed. The fact that the Conference was able to arrive at a more or less general consensus in the field of IAEA safeguards and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy is also worthy of special mention. It goes without saying that Japan continues to believe in the usefulness of the non-proliferation Treaty system and intends to participate actively in international co-operation for maintaining that system. We must not forget, however, that strong appeals were made at the Review Conference for much greater progress in nuclear disarmament, as being essential to strengthening the non-proliferation Treaty régime. If there is little or no progress in that vital field, in spite of the existence of article VI of the Treaty, tremendous damage will be done to the very credibility of the latter.

40. Japan is convinced that the non-proliferation Treaty is the only international legal framework we have within which we can make compatible the prevention of nuclear proliferation and the promotion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. My Government, therefore, strongly appeals again to the nuclear-weapon States to exert greater efforts towards nuclear disarmament which, it maintains, should go hand in hand with international co-operation—with IAEA in the central role—in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

41. Nuclear energy has an enormous potential to contribute to the development and welfare of this planet of ours. And we strongly hope that it will be put to use only for peaceful purposes and that it will not be allowed to continue as a menace to mankind.

42. As to the international conference for the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, which the General Assembly decided last year to hold in principle by 1983, my Government considers that such a conference would provide a useful occasion to search for ways and means of promoting further international co-operation in this field, taking into account the provisions of article IV of the non-proliferation Treaty. We welcome the communication to the Secretary-General by many

Member States of their views on the agenda, date and duration of the conference [A/35/487 and Add.1]. The views of my own country may be found in document A/35/487/Add.1. My Government feels, as is stated in that document, that the conference should be so organized in terms of its agenda, timing and duration as to reflect as much as possible the results of the work of the IAEA's Committee on Assurances of Supply which, incidentally, is expected to continue working until at least 1983. It will also be necessary to take into account the results of the recent non-proliferation treaty Review Conference and other related international conferences and to see that they are fully reflected in our preparations. The second international conference on nuclear power and its fuel cycle, similar to the one held at Salzburg in 1977, which IAEA is planning for late 1982 or early 1983, would also appear to require special attention in view of its likely relevance to the proposed conference; the timing of those two events would therefore need to be carefully co-ordinated. It goes without saying that IAEA—the only international organization in the United Nations system whose area of competence includes the peaceful uses of nuclear energy—should play a central role in all aspects of the preparatory stage of the proposed conference, not to mention in the conference itself.

43. Mr. SUJKA (Poland): I should like, first of all, to express to Mr. Sigvard Eklund our appreciation for his able and lucid introduction of the annual report for 1979 of IAEA. We also recognize and value the dedicated and competent leadership which the Director General continued to give to the Agency during the period covered by his report.

44. The annual debate which the General Assembly holds on the basis of the IAEA reports has come to be regarded, quite appropriately, as an indispensable framework and an important reference point for the assessment by the international community of the major developments with respect to the vitally important objectives of nuclear non-proliferation and the development of nuclear power for peaceful purposes.

45. In the aftermath of the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons held recently at Geneva, and in the light of the sustained and worsening energy crisis, the need actively to promote those two objectives is both urgent and imperative. It is a matter of genuine satisfaction for Poland and, I believe, for many like-minded countries, that as a result of the review of the non-proliferation Treaty, there is a growing understanding of the complementary nature of those objectives. Poland has always held that greater effectiveness of the non-proliferation régime is not at all incompatible with the objective of broad international co-operation in the development and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. On the contrary, they are fully consistent with one another.

46. As my delegation has stressed on many previous occasions, a meaningful development of international co-operation in the peaceful application of nuclear energy to secure a broader availability of the benefits of nuclear power to all nations, especially developing ones, is directly linked to the elaboration and enforcement of workable safeguards which can effectively protect mankind from a peril of possible misuse of

atomic energy for ends which are other than demonstrably peaceful ones.

47. As Poland noted at the Review Conference on the non-proliferation Treaty, the urgency of the strengthening of the non-proliferation régime is a function of the dangers, both military and political, which derive from the aspirations of certain States, especially in or close to areas of open conflicts and tensions.

48. For these reasons, my Government attaches the greatest importance to those activities of the Agency which effectively contribute to arresting the spread of nuclear arms. In this context, we welcome with satisfaction the information contained in the IAEA report that six new States acceded to the non-proliferation Treaty in 1979—another positive step towards the ultimate universalization of the Treaty—and that six more safeguards agreements with States parties to the non-proliferation Treaty entered into force, thus contributing to the objectives of non-proliferation.

49. Poland also notes with satisfaction that in the field of safeguards, according to the IAEA report,

“... the major development during the year was the entry into force of nearly all the remaining ‘Facility Attachments’ for nuclear power plant in the non-nuclear-weapon member States of the European Communities...”³

50. The second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to the preparation and work of which IAEA made a major contribution, confirmed unequivocally that the principal provisions of the Treaty—the prohibitions contained in its articles I and II—were strictly observed and that there was no violation of the Treaty during the five-year period under review.

51. Those positive conclusions are supported in an important way by the Agency's report for 1979, in particular by the statement that the nuclear material under its safeguards was adequately accounted for. At the same time—and this is to the credit of IAEA—the report alerts the international community to a possible grave threat to the fabric of non-proliferation, and hence a threat to world peace and security.

52. Like many other States parties to the non-proliferation Treaty, Poland is gravely concerned over the reports that some non-nuclear-weapon States continued to acquire unsafeguarded enrichment capacity, and hence the capacity to produce nuclear explosive devices or nuclear weapons. Coupled with the earlier reports of the possible explosion of a nuclear device by South Africa, this trend may have ominous consequences for all unless the existing barriers against the spread of nuclear weapons are urgently reinforced by the international community.

53. The inescapable conclusion, in our view, is that no effort can be spared in seeking to strengthen the non-proliferation régime. One important way, as was widely stressed at the non-proliferation Treaty Review Conference, would be the further strengthening of the Agency's safeguards system, especially through the acceptance of full-scope safeguards.

³ See International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 1979*, GC(XXIV)/627, para. 12.

54. Another perhaps more important and more comprehensive approach is the approval and implementation of the important initiatives which the Soviet Union restated in its recent memorandum, especially the proposal for the conclusion of an international convention on the strengthening of guarantees of the security of non-nuclear States and the proposal on the non-stationing of nuclear weapons on territories of States where there are no such weapons at present [see A/35/482, annex, para. 11].

55. My delegation has noted with interest and satisfaction the growth of the Agency's technical assistance to developing countries which, as the report indicates, increased in 1979 from \$15 million to \$17.5 million. Poland attaches major importance to this field of activity pursued by IAEA. Indeed, I have the honour to inform the Assembly that, as in the past, Poland again is making an important voluntary cash contribution for that purpose. While those funds are earmarked for technical assistance purposes, that gesture demonstrates the high value which Poland places upon the Agency's activities in other fields as well, including the environment and nuclear safety, food and agriculture, medicine, information exchange and training.

56. In concluding my statement, I should like to commend the Agency for its role in the preparation of the important International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation study. I also wish to welcome the spirit of understanding with which the Director General approached the task of drawing up a zero-real-growth IAEA budget for 1981.

57. I consider it a privilege to commend for the General Assembly's approval draft resolution A/35/L.10, which was so ably introduced by the representative of Canada.

58. Mr. DOMOKOS (Hungary): The report of IAEA and the introductory statement of the Director General give an account of the Agency's activity with its usual standards of thoroughness and objectivity. We attach great significance and importance to its work.

59. The completion 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 have undoubtedly been the most important developments in the field of international co-operation on nuclear issues since the Agency held its General Conference at New Delhi in December 1979.

60. The Evaluation identified a series of subjects on which international co-operation would be desirable. Two of them, namely international plutonium storage and international co-operation in dealing with the long-term storage of spent fuel, are already being addressed by the Agency.

61. Also, we assign great importance to the setting up by the Board of Governors of a Committee on Assurances of Supply. This subject, which until now was a matter of so much debate between suppliers and recipients, can now be expected to be settled with the help of that Committee in a manner acceptable to all interested parties. We, for our part, agree with those who, also at the twenty-fourth regular session of the General Conference of IAEA, stated

that the assurances of supply and the strengthening of non-proliferation commitments were but two sides of the same coin. My Government proceeded from this position of principle in deciding to participate in the work of the newly-established Committee.

62. Still on the subject of the strengthening of the non-proliferation régime, I may add that, although it was not possible to agree on the text of a final document, the participants in the second non-proliferation Treaty Review Conference agreed on the need to maintain and even strengthen the non-proliferation Treaty and accepted it as a basis for the continuation and expansion of international co-operation in nuclear activities for peaceful purposes. The General Conference was marked by sharp debates and divergent views on a number of issues, but the participants were in agreement on one thing—that is, on commending IAEA's work in the field of non-proliferation Treaty safeguards. We too join others in expressing appreciation of the Agency's activities in this field.

63. In our judgement this complex of problems represents one of the major areas of IAEA's activity which is assuming increasing importance from year to year.

64. We note with satisfaction that, according to the Agency's report,

“In 1979, as in the previous years, the Secretariat, in carrying out the safeguards programme of the Agency, did not detect any anomaly which would indicate the diversion of a significant amount of safeguarded nuclear material for the manufacture of any nuclear weapon, or to further any other military purpose, or for the manufacture of any other nuclear explosive device.”⁴

65. It is also to the credit of IAEA that in 1979 it was applying safeguards in 11 of the non-nuclear-weapon States not parties to the non-proliferation Treaty. At the same time we do not find it reassuring that in some countries there still are unsafeguarded nuclear facilities in operation and that some countries are acquiring unsafeguarded enrichment capacity. We remain convinced that the most effective tool for preventing the further spread of nuclear weapons would be the extension of the application of the non-proliferation Treaty to all countries.

66. The growing problems of energy supply make it imperative to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes on a larger scale and to increase its contribution to the production of electric power.

67. As against that, in the introduction to the report it is stated that the total number of nuclear power plants on order decreased during 1979. At the same time, the expansion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy is put forward as one of the major tasks in the socialist countries, including mine.

68. The first act of the Hungarian Parliament this year was the adoption of the Nuclear Energy Act, which summarizes existing achievements in the field with due regard to the need for uniform legislation. The Act provides, *inter alia*, that, in compliance with obligations undertaken in international agreements, nuclear energy shall not be used for purposes of nuclear

⁴ *Ibid.*, para. 159.

weapons or other devices of mass destruction, and that it shall be used exclusively for peaceful purposes in the Hungarian People's Republic. The application of nuclear energy must serve the interests of society as a whole. This is basically guaranteed by the fact that generally all materials, equipment, apparatus, products and establishments within the scope of application of nuclear energy are social property and that trade in them is a monopoly of the State. It is, further, laid down that the application of nuclear energy shall be allowed only with primary regard for maximum security of human life and health, the human environment, and material goods.

69. Nuclear energy will be playing an increasing role in Hungary's energy supply. The construction of the first nuclear power plant, with four reactor blocks having a capacity of 440 megawatts each, is currently under way in the vicinity of Paks, and its first unit will be put into operation by the end of this year.

70. Our Nuclear Energy Act contains several other safety requirements, including effective protection of the environment and storage of radioactive waste.

71. We attach the utmost importance to international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. My country accordingly co-operates within the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance in nuclear science and production as well as in international co-operation within the framework of IAEA. An important role in the Agency's activities is played by the broad scheme of technical assistance, in which my country takes an active part both as a donor and as a recipient.

72. We can state with satisfaction that the Agency has made effective use of the voluntary contributions for 1979 and is increasingly successful in finding ways of utilizing contributions pledged in non-convertible currencies. My country, too, has had favourable experience in this respect.

73. The constant increase in the amount of technical assistance goes to show that the overwhelming majority of countries share a positive evaluation thereof, which they express by raising their levels of contribution. We feel that the desirable pattern of planned activities in this field can be maintained by continuing the existing practice without changing the voluntary nature of the aid.

74. I should like to conclude by saying that, all in all, my delegation is satisfied with the Agency's activity, its direction and its proportions. For that I wish to express our appreciation to Mr. Sigvard Eklund, the Director General of IAEA, and all senior officials of the Agency's secretariat who have contributed actively to the effective functioning of the Agency.

75. Mr. AHMED (Egypt): First, I should like to congratulate Mr. Eklund, the Director General of IAEA, on his lucid and instructive statement this morning. The achievements of the Agency under his able guidance are an asset highly regarded not only by my country but obviously by the whole international community.

76. The paramount importance of nuclear energy for development is an acknowledged fact which has gained world-wide acceptance. However, the burden

is still quite heavy on the shoulders of small developing countries which are confronted with the paucity of conventional sources of energy, as well as of financial resources. To add to their troubles and to compound their difficulties, many developing countries, in their attempts to use nuclear energy or to introduce the peaceful use of nuclear energy in their national development schemes, aimed at raising the social and economic standards of their peoples, are often thwarted and frustrated by the desire of certain supplier countries not to enlarge the club of users of nuclear energy and by the narrow group mentality often reflected in unilateral actions intended to institutionalize the privileged positions of the few.

77. Here, obviously, the world community has to strike a balance between two seemingly conflicting considerations in what looks like a difficult equation: on the one hand, the fear of the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and on the other hand the legitimate aspirations of developing countries to gain quicker and better access to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, preferably with the help of IAEA and with the acquiescence and, indeed, the support of the nuclear-power States, expressed and pledged in the non-proliferation Treaty.

78. Here it might be pertinent to reiterate my country's very strong belief in the necessity of complying with the aspirations and the increasing demands and needs of developing countries for the peaceful use and application of nuclear technology, and the necessity of enhancing the role of IAEA in that respect.

79. This morning we heard the representatives of Argentina [52nd meeting, paras. 148-161] and India [*ibid.*, paras. 85-97] stress these particular aspirations and needs, which sometimes amount to the only way of assuring the survival of many peoples of the developing world.

80. The argument that the unilateral delaying tactics or holding actions of certain nuclear Powers are justified by the alleged necessity to curb nuclear-weapon proliferation has been invalidated by subsequent events and has proved to be even counter-productive. During the recent second Review Conference on the non-proliferation Treaty the Group of 77 argued, quite reasonably, that the majority of developing countries have complied with the principle of horizontal non-proliferation, while none of the nuclear-weapon States have heeded the self-proclaimed injunctions contained in relevant articles of the non-proliferation Treaty concerning vertical nuclear proliferation or with regard to their pledge to facilitate the access of non-nuclear-weapon States to the various peaceful uses of energy. This obviously does not and cannot augur well for non-proliferation, as it provides a ready pretext for the would-be nuclear-weapon States to go on with their plans and their ambitions in default of nuclear-power assistance and in the absence of abundant technical assistance by IAEA, both of which represent the counterpart to the nuclear weapons option.

81. Now I should like to turn to the subject of financing technical assistance. The system whereby the Agency is faced with financial problems and is often at the mercy of year-by-year unilateral voluntary contributions by each member State is undignified and

woefully inadequate, and therefore should, in the view of my delegation, be terminated. The assurance of an adequate and predictable flow of resources for the Agency is a *sine qua non* if we are to see a solvent, more able Agency, that is better equipped to help non-nuclear-weapon States with the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

82. Is it not ironical and, indeed, discouraging and therefore inimical to the cause of non-proliferation that while hundreds of billions of dollars are being spent each year on vertical and horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons, the voluntary contributions to the technical assistance budget of the IAEA for 1981 amounted to only \$13 million, and only \$16 million and \$19 million respectively are being mentioned as indicative figures of voluntary contributions for the 1982 and 1983 programmes of technical assistance to non-nuclear-weapon States, depending, of course, on future voluntary contributions, to be made mainly by nuclear-weapon States?

83. During the General Conference at New Delhi in December 1979 the Egyptian delegation put on record its position. I shall not reiterate at length what is already a matter of record. However, let me remind the Assembly of the words of the representative of Egypt on the Board of Governors who, on 18 September 1980, lamented the insufficiency of voluntary contributions and the inadequacy of the manner in which these funds are raised—or often not raised—causing both embarrassment and bafflement to the members and to IAEA; plus the lack of timely planning for technical assistance programmes owing to lack of knowledge of estimated budget allocations for technical assistance. Here again, this attitude cannot be of help to IAEA in its task of overseeing and ensuring due respect for the ideals and purposes for which it was established.

84. My Government's delegation at Vienna has presented a proposal to correct the present imbalance in the regional distribution of seats on the Board of Governors for study and review during the next General Conference of IAEA. This proposal tries to correct an imbalance in which Africa is not sufficiently represented on the Board, a position that should be rectified by allocating three additional seats for African States, commensurate with the great increase in their number, which is yet to be reflected by adequate representation on the Board.

85. Egypt is a sponsor of draft resolution A/35/L.10. This emanates from our conviction of the central and crucial role IAEA is playing and the ever increasing and enhanced role it should play in a world more dependent upon and more in need of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. My delegation sincerely hopes that the draft resolution will be unanimously adopted.

86. Mr. PETERS (Luxembourg): On behalf of the nine member States of the European Community, I should like to thank the Director General of IAEA, Mr. Sigvard Eklund, for his highly informative survey of the Agency's activities as contained in the report of the Agency to the General Assembly for the year 1979 and supplemented by the Director General's additional information on developments during 1980.

87. The nine States support the crucial role of IAEA in accelerating and enlarging the contribution of

atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity in the context of an effective non-proliferation policy.

88. We listened with great attention to the statement of the Director General a short while ago. We thank the Director General for having drawn so clear a picture of the possible consequences of the gradual slow-down of the growth in the industrialized world of the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

89. We share his hope that nuclear energy will contribute, together with other forms of energy and under the required conditions, to the energy production needed. In this context, the nine States attach great importance to what Mr. Eklund said about the safety record of the nuclear industry and the supplementary activities of IAEA in that area.

90. Important events stand out over the last year, such as the finalizing of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, concluded on 26 October 1979 at the Agency's Headquarters, the conclusion of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation in February 1980 and its sequel in the establishment of the Committee on Assurances of Supply.

91. The member States of the European Community welcome the finalizing of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material as a necessary international action in the field of nuclear safety. In the meantime, after its opening for signature, the member States of the European Community together with the European Atomic Energy Community signed the Convention on 13 June last and will ratify it as soon as possible.

92. After two years of study, the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation was concluded with a final plenary conference in February of this year. The Agency has played a crucial role in this unique technical exercise in the nuclear field. It was not valuable that participating countries with different backgrounds and standpoints were prepared to discuss and evaluate the different aspects of the various fuel cycle options so as to facilitate international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy. We hope that the spirit of common understanding that characterized the work in the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation will persist in the years to come.

93. We welcome the fact that the discussion by the Board of Governors of IAEA of the possible tasks of the Agency after the conclusion of the Evaluation has led to the decision to establish the Committee on the Assurances of Supply to advise the Board on ways and means by which supplies of nuclear material, equipment and technology and fuel cycle services can be assured on a more predictable and long-term basis, in accordance with mutually acceptable considerations of non-proliferation. The member States of the European Community will participate actively in that Committee and will approach the problems to be discussed there in a flexible and constructive spirit.

94. We believe that the discussions in the Committee on Assurances of Supply are vital in the building of a new consensus in the field of peaceful international nuclear relations on a non-discriminatory basis between suppliers and consumers of nuclear materials.

95. The nine members of the European Community welcome the work of the IAEA expert group on inter-

national plutonium storage, and support efforts directed at the early establishment of an internationally agreed effective scheme for international plutonium storage on the basis of article XII.A.5 of the IAEA statute.

96. In spite of their difficult budgetary situation, the member States of the European Community have supported the objectives set within the FROM of IAEA on the financing of technical assistance.

97. Those decisions will enable the Agency's technical assistance activities over the next three years to be planned with confidence. The higher target for 1981 and the indicative planning figures for 1982 and 1983 will enable an adequate amount of technical assistance to be funded by IAEA. We attach importance to the continuation and strengthening of this programme that plays an important role in spreading the benefits of technology among developing countries.

98. In this context, we should like to acknowledge once more the important role of the IAEA International Centre for Theoretical Physics at Trieste. The nine States would like to record their continuing appreciation of the role the Agency plays in the application of nuclear science in agriculture and medicine for both developing and industrialized countries. We welcome the co-operation of UNDP in financing projects of IAEA.

99. The member States of the European Community reaffirm their full support for the widest possible application of safeguards by IAEA in order to facilitate the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in conformity with the non-proliferation aims which they share.

100. It is important that safeguarding techniques, especially those for the sensitive parts of the fuel cycle, be improved and developed without jeopardizing energy supplies or the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

101. In his statement the Director General pointed to acute problems emanating from the number of non-safeguarded facilities in several parts of the world. The Community countries share this concern.

102. We welcome the statement in the Safeguards Implementation Report for 1979 that the Secretariat did not detect any anomaly which would indicate the diversion of a significant amount of safeguarded nuclear material for the manufacture of any nuclear weapon or any other nuclear explosive device.

103. The stagnation in the growth of the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes shows how important it is to deal with questions related to safety and the disposal of radioactive waste and the fuel cycle back-end techniques. In this connexion, we support the Agency's studies on international spent fuel management and international plutonium storage. In the public discussion on the use of nuclear energy, the question of nuclear safety plays a central role. Although the political decisions concerning the use of nuclear energy and choice of fuel cycle have to be taken by the national Governments, IAEA can serve as an instrument to assist countries in developing international safety standards through programmes of training, advice, research and information. The member States of the European Community welcome

the supplementary activities of the Agency in the field of nuclear safety.

104. In this connexion, the nine member States wish to express their appreciation of the work done by the recent International Conference on Current Nuclear Power Plant Safety Issues, held at Stockholm by IAEA from 20 to 24 October last, in co-operation with the Swedish Government. The Conference provided a useful opportunity to exchange views and experiences in the field of nuclear safety.

105. Mr. KUCERA (Czechoslovakia) (*interpretation from French*): The annual report presented by IAEA and the inspiring statement made by Mr. Sigvard Eklund, its Director General, demonstrate that the multilateral activities of that Agency concerning the application of the IAEA safeguards system, the solution of the problems of nuclear safety, the provision of technical assistance and the work performed in other fields have been very successfully developed in recent months. At its twenty-fourth regular session of the General Conference which was held from 22 to 26 September 1980, the Agency approved a vast programme of work for 1981-1986 in which we believe are reflected all the ever more complex and ever more numerous problems which confront the Agency as a result of the necessity of further developing nuclear energy throughout the world.

106. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, as a State which, in close co-operation with other countries, primarily the Soviet Union and other member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, has been making systematic efforts in order successfully to implement its nuclear power programme, attaches particular importance to the work of IAEA and to the successful performance of its tasks.

107. At present, despite a certain imbalance in development, there can be no doubt that, at least in the immediate future, atomic energy is the sole true alternative source of energy which is susceptible of broad application. According to calculations, in order not to upset the balance between the sources and the consumption of energy on the world scale, it will be necessary to increase at least sevenfold the production potential of nuclear plants. That fact alone indicates the seriousness of the responsibilities of the Agency as well as the essential role which it has to play in the solution of international problems relating to the development of atomic energy in coming years.

108. The most responsible duties of IAEA, in our view, fall within the area of the implementation of a system of guarantees and the strengthening of the régime of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. In that field the Agency is undoubtedly an instrument of particular importance for the strengthening of international peace and security and for averting the threat of nuclear armament getting beyond control. That fact was borne out anew by the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which was held from 11 August to 7 September last at Geneva. Those who took part in the Conference, as is well known, highly commended the activities of IAEA in the specific area of the implementation of a system of international safeguards. At the same time, they were unanimous in recognizing that the Agency is per-

forming its monitoring functions in strict respect for the legitimate rights of member States and without setting up any obstacles to their economic and technical development or to international co-operation in the field of the peaceful use of atomic energy. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic fully supports those activities of the Agency and is strongly in favour of a further enhancement of its effectiveness, in order to ensure the universal application of safeguards and so that secure monitoring procedures can be devised for all nuclear fuel cycle facilities. It is necessary to improve the situation since a great deal of material and numerous nuclear plants are not yet covered by appropriate agreements on safeguards.

109. We support the view expressed, *inter alia*, at the Conference held at Geneva that significant progress in restricting the arms race and in the area of disarmament would be a major contribution to increasing the effectiveness of the régime of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and to ensuring the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

110. In that connexion, the conclusion of an agreement on the general and complete prohibition of nuclear testing has particular importance, since in our view the solution of that problem would strengthen the non-proliferation régime itself. In that context, the Czechoslovak delegation would like once again to express its great appreciation for the constructive proposals made by the Soviet Union, including that for a one-year moratorium on all types of nuclear explosions, which are to be found in the initiative entitled "Urgent measures for reducing the danger of war", submitted for consideration at the present session of the General Assembly [see A/35/241, annex]. A number of proposals by other socialist countries aimed at restricting the arms race in the nuclear field are also an important contribution to preserving peace and security. We might mention, for example, the well-known proposal on the non-stationing of nuclear weapons on the territories of States where there are no such weapons at present.

111. On the other hand, the policy of the United States and other countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO] to step up the arms race and the abrupt swerve which has recently occurred in their policies towards a heightening of tension in all fields of international life will, in the final analysis, undermine the stability of the non-proliferation régime. The postponement of the ratification of the SALT II Treaty,⁵ the decision to install in western Europe new American medium-range missiles and other like steps run counter not only to the spirit of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons but also to the obligations undertaken pursuant to article VI of the Treaty. In the final analysis, that also encourages the militaristic régimes in Israel, in the Republic of South Africa and in other countries which hitherto have not given up their dangerous plans to acquire their own nuclear weapons.

112. We are firmly convinced that it is essential effectively, forthrightly and clearly to oppose those

negative trends and to work constantly for the cessation of the arms race and for progress in the field of disarmament. A major role in such efforts can be played by the General Assembly which has before it a series of constructive proposals on the safeguarding of peace, presented by socialist and other peace-loving countries.

113. The second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons has once again confirmed that international co-operation in the peaceful exploitation of nuclear energy, which is becoming in these days an increasingly important factor for economic and social development, can be pursued successfully only in circumstances where the régime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons can be further strengthened.

114. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic actively supports the programmes of IAEA in this important field and considers that the Agency should continue to play the essential part which properly belongs to it in that field, in full accordance with its mandate.

115. This point of view determines our position on the preparation and holding of an international conference for the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, to be held in 1983. As shown in the report of the Secretary-General [A/35/487], the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and a number of other States are profoundly convinced of the need fully to respect the role of IAEA in this field. Likewise, we feel that the conference to which I have referred should take due account of the results of the second international conference on nuclear power and its fuel cycle, to be convened by the Agency and held in the first half of 1983.

116. We welcome the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material on which work has recently been concluded. We also very much appreciate the contribution made by the Agency to complete work on the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation exercise which, *inter alia*, has very clearly and unambiguously confirmed that guarantees of supply and non-proliferation guarantees are organically interrelated. With regard to future activities of IAEA, we attach primary importance to the work to be accomplished by the new Committee on Assurances of Supply.

117. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic supports the Agency's programmes for the provision of technical assistance, which have been carried out with success, and is in favour of that assistance going as a matter of priority to those countries which are parties to the non-proliferation Treaty and which are the least economically developed. Next year Czechoslovakia will make a voluntary contribution to the Fund for Technical Assistance of 300,000 Czechoslovak korunas, will grant five long-term scholarships and four one-year scholarships for study visits and the training of specialists from developing countries and will organize a number of courses, preference being given to specialists from the developing countries.

118. We also appreciate what has been done by IAEA to find a solution to problems of the application of science and nuclear techniques, in particular in the fields of agriculture, medicine and industry, which are

⁵ Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, signed at Vienna on 18 June 1979.

so vitally important to the economies of developed as well as of developing countries.

119. We are attaching growing importance to our own involvement in the International Nuclear Information System, which pursues its activities under the aegis of IAEA and at present covers approximately 90 per cent of the scientific and technical information in the world and thus contributes to a satisfactory implementation of article IV, paragraph 2, of the non-proliferation Treaty.

120. Even the Agency's activities in the particularly important field of nuclear safety have yielded positive results. In this connexion, a very constructive exchange took place at the International Conference on Current Nuclear Power Plant Safety Issues, which was held at Stockholm under the auspices of the United Nations. Progress has also been achieved in studies designed to set up an international plutonium storage system, in the field of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes and in many other fields of activity covered by the Agency.

121. All that shows that the Agency, in accordance with its statute, continues actively and successfully to perform its main functions and that the use in its work of reserves that still exist will depend in particular on the political will of States to co-operate with it, to contribute actively to the accomplishment of its mission, and to work for the strengthening of the non-proliferation régime and the achievement of progress in the field of disarmament. To that end, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is prepared to participate in every way in the future work of IAEA.

122. We wish to thank Mr. Eklund and his colleagues for the important work that they have done.

123. In conclusion, I should like to state that my delegation fully supports draft resolution A/35/L.10.

124. Mr. PASTINEN (Finland): In the view of the Finnish Government the item which the General Assembly is now considering, the annual report of IAEA, is one of the most important items before this Assembly. For many reasons—which I shall elaborate—this item is of particular importance this year. One of the main reasons was underlined by Mr. Eklund in his introduction when he said that "recent trends indicate, however, that we may be entering a critical phase in the efforts of the international community to prevent the further spread of nuclear weapons" [52nd meeting, para. 31].

125. Once again, Mr. Eklund's introduction and the annual report of IAEA bear witness to the indispensable role of the Agency in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. As before, the annual report shows not only the creditable performance of IAEA but also a basic contradiction, to wit, the benefits of the peaceful atoms, which are the right of every country, and the dangers of the proliferation of nuclear weapons, a threat to all States.

126. The simple fact seems to be that for the foreseeable future nuclear technology will provide an increasingly important energy source in an increasing number of countries. This means that the international community and national Governments will have to tackle the multitude of problems that this development entails—availability of nuclear tech-

nology, equipment and material, reactor safety, nuclear waste management, other environmental implications, and fuel cycle services. Overriding among these problems is the question of non-proliferation.

127. In meeting those challenges, the resources and adaptability of the Agency will be put to the test. The record of the operations of the Agency so far gives reason for confidence. It is up to the member States to see to it that the Agency will be able effectively to discharge its rapidly expanding duties. It is becoming increasingly important that more resources and funds be made available to States that are about to embark on nuclear energy programmes, with special emphasis on the needs of developing countries. We wish to pay a tribute to IAEA for the work it has done in that respect. We also believe that further efforts and ideas on the part of the member States could facilitate the Agency's work in that field.

128. During the past year there have been significant developments relating to international co-operation in nuclear energy. After more than two years of work, the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation was concluded. The Evaluation laid down the material and economic framework for future decisions. Nuclear policies are being reconsidered and revised in a number of countries in the light of the results of the Evaluation.

129. The question of supply of nuclear material was one of the main items identified by the Evaluation as a subject for which international co-operation would be desirable. Finland welcomes the creation of the Committee on Assurances of Supply within the Agency. The Committee provides an appropriate forum for both supply and consumer countries to discuss how nuclear supplies can be assured on a predictable and long-term basis in accordance with strict non-proliferation considerations.

130. The projects on international spent fuel management and international plutonium storage have been under way for some time. We are pleased with the progress achieved within those projects. We also welcome the completion of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

131. In terms of non-proliferation considerations, which should be made paramount in any consideration of peaceful uses of the atom, the ongoing processes within IAEA can make an important contribution by increasing confidence that proliferation is not taking place. Such confidence is a necessary condition for enhanced international nuclear co-operation.

132. In a joint memorandum entitled "Memorandum on the question of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons" circulated in the First Committee, the Nordic countries state, *inter alia*, the following:

"Deliberations in the United Nations, at the second Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, at the International Atomic Energy Agency, and at the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE) reconfirm that non-proliferation policies do not and should not jeopardize the right of any State, accepting effective non-proliferation restraints, to develop its programmes for peaceful, non-explosive uses of nuclear energy, and that international co-operation in this field would be

served by dispelling fears of nuclear weapon proliferation.”⁶

133. As indicated in the report of IAEA, the Agency did not detect any anomaly that would indicate the diversion of safeguarded material for the manufacture of any nuclear explosive device. On the other hand, the report does make mention of indications that in five non-nuclear-weapon States there were unsafeguarded nuclear facilities in operation. The existence of such facilities is a constant reminder why the fear or proliferation is real and justified.

134. In the view of the Government of Finland all non-nuclear-weapon States should undertake a political non-proliferation commitment and accept IAEA safeguards on all of their nuclear facilities, as indeed the overwhelming majority of the international community has already done. We continue to believe that such a commitment should be undertaken, in the first instance, by adherence to the non-proliferation Treaty.

135. With regard to the Agency's activities, it is worth noting that at the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the views expressed on peaceful uses of nuclear energy were similar or converging. Despite the failure of the Conference to produce a substantive final document, it was widely recognized that the non-proliferation Treaty and the IAEA safeguards régime intrinsically connected with it have operated as envisaged.

136. Last year, the General Assembly decided to convene an international conference for the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, in principle by 1983 [*resolution 34/63*]. We see the planned conference in the light of two interlinked objectives that should be pursued concurrently: first, international co-operation in the transfer of nuclear materials, equipment and technology should be promoted; secondly, the non-proliferation régime should be strengthened. The agenda of conference should be designed to reflect adequately both of those objectives.

137. Concurrently with the plans concerning such a conference, significant projects and processes are taking place that have a direct bearing on the subject of the conference. Many of those processes stem from the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation. One of them is the IAEA Committee on Assurances of Supply, to which I have already referred. The conference should be planned so as to make it possible to draw on the results of those processes.

138. By its very statute, the IAEA is the principal international body for dealing with both the promotional and regulational aspects of nuclear co-operation. In our view the international conference should be prepared and organized in full recognition of that role of the Agency.

139. It follows from what I have said that the delegation of Finland will be gratified to support draft resolution A/35/L.10 presented on this subject by the delegations of Canada, Egypt and Poland.

140. Mr. MARINESCU (Romania) (*interpretation from French*): I should like first of all to thank the

Director General, Mr. Sigvard Eklund, for having presented to us the report of IAEA and to say how highly we appreciate the tireless activity with which he so skilfully directs the Agency.

141. Consideration of the report on the activities of IAEA gives us each time a chance to deal with one of the most topical and important problems for the economic and social progress of all peoples and for the future of mankind. Romania gave a detailed account of its views on the activities of the Agency in 1979, at the IAEA's twenty-fourth regular session of the General Conference recently held in Vienna. Like other delegations we should like to emphasize with satisfaction the fact that, in keeping with the concerns expressed by many States, including Romania, the Agency has increasingly engaged in concrete activities likely to meet the real needs of States and to help them in their efforts to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. In that connexion, we should like to refer to the results obtained under programmes on nuclear power, nuclear safety and the protection of the environment, controlled thermonuclear fission and the applications of radiation and radioisotopes in industry, agriculture, medicine and other fields.

142. We should also mention the increased attention which has been paid to the sources of supply of nuclear material, technical equipment and services, in order to ensure the nuclear fuel cycle for a longer period, as well as the efforts made by the Agency to train qualified national personnel in the field of peaceful nuclear technology.

143. An analysis of the way in which the Agency has been performing its tasks convinces us that it can play an increasingly active role in international co-operation in the field of the peaceful uses of the atom.

144. Without underestimating the scope of the results obtained or which are foreseeable, Romania believes, like many other countries, that the Agency should place greater emphasis on the promotion and support, in every possible way, of the industrialization of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries. We could in no way subscribe to the increasing tendency to direct the activities of the Agency towards the exercise of its monitoring function at the cost of providing technical assistance in order to further the peaceful applications of nuclear power. However important those monitoring activities may be—and Romania co-operates with them in good faith—they should not affect the other activities which are the *raison d'être* of the Agency. On their achievement will depend the viability of the Agency as a central instrument for international co-operation in the field of the peaceful application of nuclear energy and technology. A growing number of developing countries include nuclear energy and the application of nuclear physics and technology among the areas of major interest to their national economies. In conditions of a worsening world energy crisis and a steady rise in the price of oil, it is quite natural for States, including the developing countries, to attach even higher priority to the problems inherent in the use of nuclear fuel.

145. We stress this point all the more because the Agency will shortly embark on a new stage in its

⁶ See document A/C.1/35/10.

activities. We are thinking of the IAEA programme for the period 1981-1986 which was analysed in depth at the last General Conference of the Agency. We consider that the greater attention paid, in drawing up that programme, to the proposals made by developing States is a very positive feature. The same is true of the important role attached to nuclear engineering, to major research and to its technical applications in social and economic activities. Like most delegations that have spoken during this debate, we nevertheless feel that the Agency should intensify its technical assistance activities in the immediate future. We believe that its funds allocated to the drawing up and implementation of long-term programmes for developing countries should be further increased to that end. Those countries should be helped to carry out their nuclear power plant building projects and, in general, those programmes which are designed to make use of the multiple applications of nuclear technology for the benefit of their economic and social development.

146. In that connexion, we should like to welcome the contact established between IAEA and the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development which could also form a new and important source of financing for technical assistance activities, in the Agency's field of competence. We should also like to welcome the consensus recently achieved in connexion with funds allocated to technical assistance activities for the next three years; however, we consider that this is only a beginning, a point of departure.

147. Another extremely important function performed by the Agency is to promote broader and unrestricted access by all countries, primarily the developing countries, to nuclear technology, material and equipment. As we have had occasion to point out during the consideration of the annual report of the Agency and in other international bodies, IAEA should, in our Government's view, help to promote more forcefully the principle that all States have an inalienable right to benefit, within the framework of their own economic and social development programmes, from the peaceful applications of the atom, in accordance with the interests and priorities of each State. The fact that a series of scientific discoveries, particularly in the nuclear field, are the reserve of some countries or are subject to a monopolistic policy constitutes, in our opinion, a serious anomaly. Contrary to the reasons given—the one evoked most frequently being to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons—such policies can only harm the legitimate interests of other States and international co-operation in general. We are convinced that the non-proliferation régime does not preclude, but on the contrary presupposes, respect by all States for the full exercise of their inalienable right to develop their own programmes for the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

148. We should like to emphasize this, because at the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the guarantee of free access by all countries, particularly the developing countries, to the achievements of nuclear science and technology, and the elimination of discriminatory treatment, of artificial barriers to the dissemination of scientific and technical

knowledge, and of all monopolistic policies or practices in the transfer of technology and of nuclear fuel, were acknowledged to be essential factors for the maintenance and effectiveness of the non-proliferation régime established under the Treaty. The Review Conference demonstrated more than ever the fact that prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons should not be sought through policies aimed at restricting access by States to the benefits of the atom, but rather through the adoption of firm nuclear disarmament measures under article VI of the Treaty and through the implementation of the relevant provisions and other subsequent arrangements regarding the broadening and intensification of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and technology.

149. In our opinion, guaranteeing States access to nuclear technology, substantially strengthening technical assistance to developing countries to help them to carry out their own national programmes and placing international co-operation in the nuclear field on a more equitable and fairer footing are all extremely important problems in relations among States and, at the same time, constitute the main guidelines for the international conference for the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Romania has from the very outset supported the idea of organizing such a conference which in our opinion should be a major factor in the process of establishing a new international economic order. The purpose of the conference is to arouse the political will of States and to adopt appropriate measures to ensure that the peaceful application of nuclear energy becomes a main feature of the economic and social development of peoples, in order gradually to reduce and finally to eliminate economic gaps and underdevelopment. The measures to be adopted by the conference should be founded on the principles of international co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy for economic and social development, as set out in General Assembly resolution 32/50 adopted by consensus.

150. At the same time, specific arrangements will have to be made more effectively to assist the developing countries in their efforts to carry out their own peaceful nuclear programmes. It is a well-known fact that the General Assembly, aware of the importance of nuclear power in accelerating economic development, has frequently recognized, particularly in its resolution 34/63, the need to strengthen the role of IAEA in that activity by increasing the technical assistance funds allocated to developing countries. Like other delegations, we are convinced that the success of the conference will depend in large part on the understanding and concern shown by the countries with a powerful technical and scientific potential for the interests and needs of the developing countries. We emphasize this essential aspect, which must be borne constantly in mind from the very preparatory stages of the conference. The Romanian delegation views as necessary the creation of the preparatory committee proposed in draft resolution A/35/L.11, of which it has become a sponsor, and expresses the hope that a constructive spirit and a common desire for co-operation will inform all the committee's activities. That is the way in which Romania, for its part,

wishes to take part in the work of the preparatory committee.

151. Those are the ideas which the Romanian delegation wished to express on the question we are discussing. They are prompted by Romania's wish to contribute to the strengthening of peaceful co-operation in the field of nuclear energy and by the value which we place on the activities being carried out by IAEA.

152. Mr. ODEBIYI (Nigeria): I should like to express my delegation's appreciation for the statement of the Director General of IAEA, Mr. Eklund. His many years of dedicated service to the Agency have been marked by a gradual broadening of the base of the Agency through the membership of several developing countries, including many from my own region, Africa.

153. The role which the peaceful uses of nuclear energy can play in the economic and social development of States, particularly the developing countries, was given added recognition when the General Assembly adopted its resolution 32/50 of 8 December 1977, a resolution which Nigeria had the privilege of introducing.⁷ Since then, the General Assembly has decided, in principle, to convene in 1983 an international conference for the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. My delegation believes that such a conference would awaken the consciousness of more developing countries to the potential of nuclear energy in their development process. It would also enable developed countries, particularly those of them which are exporters of nuclear materials and technology, to commit themselves to a mutually beneficial transfer of materials, equipment and technology on the basis of agreed non-proliferation measures.

154. My country, being a Party to the non-proliferation Treaty, regrets the non-fulfilment of the promise inherent in article IV of the Treaty. We are particularly distressed that the opportunity provided by the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to strengthen the Treaty and adherence to it was missed. International co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, to be effective, demands greater commitment, beyond the very modest amount of \$8 million in the voluntary Fund for Technical Assistance of IAEA. Even the indicative figure for 1983 of \$19 million will still be grossly inadequate. My delegation, as a sponsor of draft resolution A/35/L.11, therefore believes that it is most timely that preparations for the 1983 conference should commence.

155. By virtue of its mandate, IAEA will have an important role to play in the 1983 conference. Indeed, one cannot conceive of the question of the uses of nuclear energy without having in mind the Agency, whose promotional and regulatory functions will have significant influence in international agreements to be reached and implemented.

156. The annual report of the Agency for 1979, as well as the Director-General's introductory state-

ment, has once again laid appropriate emphasis on the many-sided relevance of nuclear energy and techniques to the development even of the least developed countries. The growing world-wide thirst for energy, which is bound to continue with the economic development of developing countries, will increasingly demand recourse to energy alternatives. The contribution of nuclear energy to the production of electricity, which is a proven alternative to oil, should therefore be encouraged. It is sad that the campaign of environmentalists in some developed countries is slowing down the rate of nuclear power plant contribution.

157. However, perhaps a greater constraint on the widespread use of nuclear energy is the galloping cost, which puts it beyond the reach of all but the affluent countries. Of the total of 233 nuclear power plants in operation world-wide, only six are in operation in developing countries and those six are in only four developing countries.

158. For most developing countries, the secondary uses of nuclear techniques are still the main interest. Even these can be important, as my own country has found out in the current project which is being carried out in collaboration with IAEA in the use of the male sterilization technique for the control of animal trypanosomiasis. Therefore, the constant demand for a much increased emphasis on the promotional aspect of the mandate of IAEA should be seen in the light of the possibilities for economic and social development. It is essential, therefore, that the Agency should continue its efforts to strengthen its activities in the field of technical assistance to developing countries. Efforts should also be directed towards a substantial increase in the Agency's Fund for Technical Assistance, a part of which at least should come from the regular contributions of member States.

159. The improvement of safety and security in the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes will enhance confidence in this proven alternative source. My delegation therefore takes note with interest of the continuous improvement of the Agency's safeguards system, as well as of the continuing search for a solution to the problem of the management of spent fuel. Equally, we applaud the decision to set up the Committee on Assurances of Supply, and Nigeria will follow the work of that Committee with great interest.

160. My delegation notes with satisfaction the action of the twenty-third regular session of the General Conference of the Agency, held at New Delhi in December 1979, in rejecting the credentials of the delegation of South Africa. The *apartheid* régime has been a source of embarrassment to the Agency, casting doubt on the efficacy of the Agency's safeguards system. The nuclear programme of South Africa is contrary to the peaceful direction of the programmes of the membership of the Agency in general. If South Africa wishes to resume its place in the General Conference, it should submit all aspects of its nuclear programme to Agency safeguards.

161. Finally, my delegation is disappointed that the General Conference of the Agency, at its twenty-fourth regular session, held at Vienna in September 1980, failed once again to resolve the problem of the inade-

⁷ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Plenary Meetings*, 97th meeting, paras. 22-29.

quate representation of the regions of Africa, the Middle East and South Asia on the Board of Governors of the Agency.

162. Mr. de la FUENTE (Peru) (*interpretation from Spanish*): The Peruvian delegation has listened with great interest to the introduction by the Director General of IAEA, Mr. Eklund, of the report of the Agency for 1979. Mr. Eklund's words without doubt truly reflect the seriousness with which the Director General is encouraging the universal use of nuclear energy and my country, Peru, which only recently launched a programme of research in the field, is cognizant of the constant support we received from the Agency in our first steps.

163. As one of the sponsors of draft resolution A/35/L.11 entitled "Peaceful use of nuclear energy for economic and social environment", that was so ably introduced by the representative of Yugoslavia [52nd meeting], the delegation of Peru would like to make a few comments in support of that important initiative.

164. The last months of the Second World War brought to light the existence of a new weapon of mass destruction, the atomic bomb. From the moment of its birth, nuclear energy acquired warlike connotation which, by distorting its peaceful historical purpose of helping mankind, placed upon its international regulation by law limitations that were derived from the famous "Hiroshima mentality".

165. From the initiation of the Baruch Plan, which proposed the creation of an international authority that would be given ownership of all fissionable materials in trust for the entire world and ownership of and administrative responsibility for all nuclear facilities, until the present time, despite innumerable efforts by international bodies and all the progress achieved in the industrial sphere, the collective awareness of the world has still been unable to remove that stigma of war from the only viable alternative to the exhaustible sources of energy.

166. The harmful aspect of nuclear energy, namely the possibility of its use in warfare, not only exists but grows daily more important, and with reason, because of the constant growth of the nuclear arsenals. With nuclear fission thus understood and having been converted by the great Powers into a means of dissuasion and of maintaining the balance of terror, its use for the peaceful objectives of economic and social development becomes daily increasingly rhetorical.

167. The second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons has just been concluded at Geneva. The fact that that Treaty, when it was signed, marked a dividing line between nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States caused those countries that did not become parties to it to consider it as a discriminatory instrument and brought upon it such epithets as the nuclear "Tordesillas", recalling the famous treaty that divided our continent in two in 1494.

168. Now, just as at the first Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held at Geneva from 5 to 13 May 1975, clear evidence has been given of the failure to implement articles IV and VI, which represented the

compensation given to the non-nuclear-weapon States, such as my own, for their renunciation of the possession and production of nuclear devices, which obligation is dealt with in articles I and II of that Treaty.

169. In other words, the only thing that has been strengthened in 10 years of the application of the non-proliferation Treaty is horizontal non-proliferation, that is, among the non-nuclear-weapon States. But not only has vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons advanced, but in that period of time the nuclear arsenals of the great Powers have increased quantitatively and qualitatively.

170. But what is even more serious is that the non-nuclear-weapon States have been given neither the free access to nuclear technology which is indicated in the pertinent provisions of the Treaty nor the assistance they should have received from the nuclear-weapon States. Furthermore, there has been an increase in unilateral safeguards imposed by the great Powers which have joined together in nuclear cartels, such as the London Club, to the detriment of the non-discriminatory and universal safeguards of IAEA which we had all accepted and demanded. This has led to the establishment of restrictions that go beyond the meaning of non-proliferation and represent in practice a serious obstacle to the transfer of technology which has been raised precisely by those countries which export such technology.

171. Fortunately, those States that do not possess nuclear weapons and do not wish to possess them have decided to join their efforts so that their peoples may enjoy the benefits of nuclear technology. The solid co-operation which is developing in that field between my country and Argentina, for example, proves that, when there is the will, it is possible to benefit from the experience of two developing countries through so-called horizontal transfer of technology. This example must be multiplied if we are to break the vicious circle of dependency and poverty.

172. We know that the convening of a United Nations conference for the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy is hardly a very popular idea among those who do not wish to see such co-operation come to fruition.

173. It is for this reason that the initiative taken by the non-aligned countries to submit draft resolution A/35/L.11 under consideration has acquired the utmost importance for the non-nuclear-weapon States, and particularly those of the third world, since it is the only way to express before a world forum our justified claims and grievances.

174. It is imperative that IAEA be given greater importance in the work to stress encouragement of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, but by the same token its resources must be used for positive purposes such as technical co-operation and not only in the application of safeguards, the importance of which we all acknowledge, and which we consider to be necessary, but which we do not consider to be the primary function of an organ that was created to encourage and that has now become mainly a monitoring body.

175. We in the developing countries have no atomic weapons, but we do have human beings, and we do

have hunger. For that reason we insist that nuclear energy be used to meet the economic and social development needs of our peoples, and thus we hope that this General Assembly will decide to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session the item "United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy".

176. Mr. GRINBERG (Bulgaria): The annual discussion of IAEA's report by the General Assembly is illustrative of the major importance which the international community attaches to the successful implementation of the Agency's objectives and tasks. Throughout its existence IAEA has confirmed its role as an indispensable instrument in the service of peace and international co-operation. A study of the Agency's annual report on its activities in 1979 makes it clear that during the past year the Agency has again successfully carried out its functions by ensuring proper conditions for the use of nuclear energy exclusively for peaceful purposes. That conclusion was ably confirmed also in the introductory statement of the Agency's Director General, Mr. Eklund, when presenting the report. I take this opportunity to express our gratitude to Mr. Eklund for his valuable statement and to point out how highly we regard the consistency and efficiency of his management of the important and multifaceted activities of the Agency.

177. In the opinion of my delegation the report submitted to us provides a correct and detailed picture of IAEA's activities. It contains important information and balanced assessments of the state, the problems and the prospects of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

178. I should like now to dwell briefly on some aspects of the report that in our view deserve special attention.

179. To begin with, my delegation would like to note with satisfaction that IAEA has continued to assert itself as a most competent body of the United Nations system both in the development of co-operation among States for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and in the maintenance and consolidation of the régime of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, by providing effective international guarantees against possible diversion of nuclear materials for unauthorized uses. Experience has so far amply demonstrated that in these two basic directions the Agency's activities can be successfully carried out hand in hand, since, far from contradicting each other, they are mutually complementary.

180. We attach particular significance to the Agency's role in the efforts to raise an effective barrier to the further proliferation of nuclear weapons in accordance with its statute and the provisions of the non-proliferation Treaty. That is so because the promotion of broad and fruitful co-operation in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in the interest of all countries can be attained only if there is a reliable safeguards system capable of eliminating the danger of such proliferation.

181. Proceeding from that premise, my delegation would like to note with satisfaction the further expansion and improvement of the Agency's activities in that field. Convincing testimony to the efficiency with

which the Agency is carrying out its functions in the field of safeguards is provided by the findings in the report to the effect that in 1979, as in all previous years, no diversion of considerable quantities of nuclear material under safeguards was reported for other than peaceful purposes. My delegation therefore considers that during the forthcoming period the efforts to further improve and enhance the effectiveness of the safeguards system should be continued. That has become imperative due to the prospect of a continued and rapid increase in the quantity of nuclear materials covered by the IAEA safeguards.

182. The results thus far achieved are beyond any doubt positive. But as Mr. Eklund reminded us at our preceding meeting, there are still non-nuclear-weapon States that are operating or constructing unsafeguarded nuclear facilities. The General Assembly has, on a number of occasions, adopted resolutions reflecting a world-wide concern in connexion with plans for the production of nuclear weapons in South Africa and in Israel. My country holds the view that it would be in the best interests of strengthening peace and security if all non-nuclear-weapon States concerned would place all their nuclear activities under the Agency's safeguards system.

183. The danger inherent in the expansion of the number of nuclear-weapon States requires that further effective measures be taken to strengthen the entire system of measures against the proliferation of nuclear weapons, more particularly the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

184. The achievement of that goal is fully within reach, for, with as many as 114 States parties to it, the Treaty is already the most widely accepted international instrument in the field of disarmament. At the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, all participants reaffirmed their commitment to the purposes and principles of the Treaty and laid emphasis on the necessity of its further universalization. A detailed analysis was made concerning the implementation of every provision of the Treaty, something that will undoubtedly be conducive to the success of the forthcoming work on the respective issues. In the context of the current discussion my delegation feels that it is particularly relevant to note the fact that full agreement was reached at the Conference on all questions bearing directly on IAEA activities. That fact, as well as the reaffirmation of the particularly important role played by the IAEA in today's international relations, bear witness to the unanimous desire further to promote international co-operation in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy within a framework and under conditions dictated by considerations of the strengthening of peace and international security.

185. The strengthening of the non-proliferation Treaty can be further promoted by the attainment of positive results in the efforts to preserve and consolidate the process of détente in the world, to curb the arms race and to proceed towards practical measures of disarmament, particularly in the field of nuclear arms. The contribution of the socialist States in this regard is well known. Testimony to it is provided by the numerous constructive proposals and initiatives

taken by the USSR and other socialist countries at the current session and in other forums.

186. My delegation highly values the activities of IAEA aimed at facilitating international co-operation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy on the basis of strict observance of the non-proliferation régime. In our view, the Agency deserves special recognition for its role and contribution to the successful conclusion of the work of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation last February. My delegation would also like to note the timely step taken in setting up last June the Committee on Assurances of Supply, entrusted with the consideration and elaboration of recommendations for the further improvement of international co-operation in the supply of nuclear material, equipment, technology and services on the basis of the non-proliferation objectives.

187. The People's Republic of Bulgaria attaches major importance to the efforts and activities of the Agency to meet more fully the needs of States, primarily the developing countries, in technological assistance by ensuring for them a wider access to the benefits of the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Judging from the Agency's report, in 1979 the volume of that assistance continued to increase.

188. Another successful development in the interest of all member States is the promotion of the Agency's activities in such fields as nuclear safety and protection of the environment, food production and agriculture, health services, scientific research, personnel training and exchange of scientific information.

189. With respect to the future, we consider that new important and responsible tasks are facing the Agency in preparing and convening, in 1983, under United Nations auspices, the international conference for the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The widely acknowledged competence and rich experience of the Agency will undoubtedly contribute to the success of the conference.

190. The People's Republic of Bulgaria supports the convening of the conference, pursuant to resolution 34/63 of the General Assembly, and maintains that, given thorough preparation and organization, it will impart a substantial impetus to international co-operation in the uses of nuclear energy for the economic and over-all development of States. My country will co-operate actively in the efforts made for the success of this important international undertaking.

191. Mr. BHATTY (Pakistan): The delegation of Pakistan would like to associate itself wholeheartedly with the tributes being paid to the Director General of the IAEA, Mr. Eklund, on his comprehensive report for 1979 as well as on his useful introduction to it today.

192. My delegation notes with satisfaction the Agency's record of achievements in a field of vital concern to the contemporary world and applauds its continuing role in fostering the development of peaceful uses of atomic energy. We must, however, underline that the resources available to it remain modest when viewed in the context of the global energy situa-

tion. While an increase of 20 per cent over 1978 in the Agency's expenditure in this sphere is welcome and commendable, the real addition to the Agency's outlays for technical assistance cannot have been significant as most of the extra funds would presumably be accounted for by inflation and rising costs. The existing levels of allocation for technical assistance activities should surely be increased very substantially if the organization is to fulfil its objective of enlarging and accelerating the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world. My delegation would like to point out that the constraints being imposed on the peaceful uses of atomic energy on account of the manner in which the revised guidelines are being implemented by the Agency are not conducive to an unimpeded flow of technological assistance to the developing countries for this purpose. There is an obvious need to ensure that the conditions concerning the utilization of technical assistance funds do not become so onerous as to discourage recourse to them.

193. My delegation greatly appreciates the increasingly important role being played by the Agency in the field of nuclear safety. Pakistan considers that, while IAEA's safeguards have been adequate in scope, their application has not been uniform. The need for universal safeguards enforced on a non-discriminatory basis has been reiterated in several General Assembly resolutions and Pakistan hopes the the Agency will continue its efforts in this regard.

194. The issue of transfer of nuclear technology to less developed countries has become a leading problem of our time on account of the additional and stringent restrictions that are being introduced on the transfer of materials and know-how by all the major suppliers. The developing countries have to expand their facilities for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy but are finding that they have to submit to conditions that effectively place them at the mercy of the technologically advanced countries. Such restrictive policies are being pursued ostensibly to guard against nuclear proliferation. However, IAEA provides an effective and well-tried system of safeguards and there have been no incidents of diversion of safeguarded nuclear material to the manufacture of nuclear weapons. The danger of proliferation emerges not from those States whose peaceful nuclear programmes are under IAEA safeguards but from others, whose facilities fall outside the purview of the Agency. We hold the view that all States have the right to develop, acquire, transfer or use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and to determine their nuclear programmes in accordance with their own national priorities and interests. We have therefore observed with deep concern a growing tendency towards unilateral disregard by major industrialized countries of international bilateral agreements on co-operation in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. This is behaviour which, in our view, is inconsistent with the universally recognized norms of international law.

195. In advocating an unrestricted transfer of peaceful nuclear technology on equitable terms, we fully recognize the need for proper safeguards. However, there is a noticeable attempt by the highly industrialized countries to over-emphasize the need for safeguards

in order to deny the developing countries access to peaceful nuclear technology.

196. The Director General of IAEA stressed in his illuminating speech, at the 52nd meeting, that no impediments should be placed in the way of the peaceful nuclear programmes of developing countries. And yet the very emphasis on safeguards by IAEA in the allocation of its resources is becoming a constraint. Furthermore, the references in the report for 1979 to the dangers from unsafeguarded facilities appear to take cognizance of tendentious and biased media reports which are being utilized to create impediments to the efforts of developing countries to achieve perfectly legitimate economic goals. We hold that the threat of a nuclear holocaust does not emanate from the developing countries, whose primary pre-occupation is with the economic uplift of their people. In order to facilitate freer access to nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, my delegation hopes that the Agency will endeavour to achieve a better balance between expenditure and allocations for technical assistance on the one hand, and safeguards activities on the other.

197. We believe that IAEA has a vital role in the key areas of energy and technology, and I wish to reiterate our resolve to continue and promote our co-operation with IAEA and to contribute to the fullest extent possible to the strengthening of its activities. For a country which is deficient in fossil fuels, the peaceful utilization of atomic energy is an imperative for our future economic development.

198. While referring to our endeavours in this regard, I take this opportunity to emphasize in categorical terms that Pakistan remains committed to the objective of non-proliferation. Pakistan's dedication to this objective is a matter of record and is testified to by the many initiatives which we have taken within the United Nations system as well as outside it in order to keep our region free from the menace of nuclear weapons. Pakistan also fully subscribes to the application of IAEA safeguards on a universal and non-discriminatory basis.

199. Pakistan, with a number of other countries, has initiated a move to expand the Board of Governors of the Agency in order to ensure more equitable representation for certain areas of Africa and Asia.⁸ This proposal is motivated by a sincere desire to ensure that the concerns of the developing countries in those regions are adequately taken care of by the Agency. My delegation has also co-sponsored draft resolution A/35/L.11, which is aimed at spelling out the procedure for preparations for the convening of the international conference for the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. My delegation hopes that this draft resolution will be adopted by consensus in this Assembly. As regards draft resolution A/35/L.10, my delegation supports it.

200. Mr. NORBERG (Sweden): The Swedish delegation wishes to express its appreciation of the work carried out by IAEA in the years 1979 and 1980 as outlined in the annual report of the Agency and in the additional information given in the statement this

⁸ See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and other decisions of the General Conference*, GC(XXI)/584 and GC(XXI)/RES/353.

morning by its Director General, Mr. Sigvard Eklund. We also wish to express our support for the continued efforts of the Agency to achieve its objectives.

201. In connexion with the Agency's report, draft resolution A/35/L.10 has been submitted for consideration. That draft was introduced by the delegation of Canada [52nd meeting, paras. 48-51]. The Swedish delegation agrees with the contents and the wording of that draft resolution and we support its adoption.

202. Last year the General Assembly decided to convene an international conference for the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy [resolution 34/63], in principle in 1983. It is the view of the Swedish delegation that the proposed Conference could make a valuable contribution to the resolution of problems of vital importance to many countries, including my own. Sweden is more dependent on nuclear energy for the generation of electric power than any other country and we have been relying heavily on international co-operation for the implementation of our nuclear energy programme. We have found that this co-operation has served us well from the economic and non-proliferation points of view. We ourselves have, however, been affected by problems which at present characterize international nuclear co-operation in general and which have been and are being dealt with in various international forums. Suffice it to mention the most valuable analysis of the problem made in the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation, the deliberations of the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and, in particular, the recently initiated work of the Committee on Assurances of Supply, established by the Board of Governors of IAEA. The terms of reference of that Committee coincide closely with what seems to be a very widely held view of what are some of the most important matters that will be before the 1983 conference. In fact, it will probably be useful to envisage a full progress report from the Committee on Assurances of Supply to be available for the conference.

203. The deliberations in those various forums have clearly demonstrated how interconnected the matter of assurance and predictability of supply is with the deep concern of many countries, including Sweden, about non-proliferation and nuclear safety. It will be virtually impossible to deal effectively with one set of problems without due consideration for the other.

204. It is the sincere wish of my delegation that the international conference for the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, to be convened in 1983, may contribute to common approaches and balanced solutions to the problems of non-proliferation, social and economic development, particularly for the developing countries, assurance of supply and safety to health and the environment. Sweden will, of course, be prepared and willing to play its appropriate role in the preparations for the conference.

205. In connexion with these remarks regarding the conference, I wish to mention the important role which we envisage that IAEA can play in providing assistance to that conference, in particular in its preparations. We are all aware of the special experience

accumulated by the Agency in the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and in organizing international conferences in that field. In the interests of efficiency, the avoidance of duplication of effort and, not least, the good results of the conference, we believe that the role of the Agency needs to be clearly acknowledged at a very early stage in the preparations for the 1983 conference.

206. Mr. KAPOMA (Zambia): On behalf of my delegation, I wish to join previous speakers in paying a tribute to Mr. Eklund, Director General of the IAEA, for the very able manner in which he introduced the report of the Agency in the General Assembly this morning.

207. I have asked to speak in order to make brief comments on two issues relating to the work of IAEA to which my country attaches a great deal of importance. These are the questions of the composition of the Board of Governors and the financing of the Agency's regular programme of technical assistance.

208. The Board of Governors is unquestionably a very important policy organ of the Agency. As is well known, the Board meets between four and six times a year and handles routine policy matters by determining the level of technical assistance to be provided to developing member States and in what manner and form they get that technical assistance from the Agency.

209. The question of the representative character of the Agency has been a matter of discussion since 1978. Africa, it can be said, does not have a commensurate say on the Board of the Agency in spite of its numerical membership strength. The African region is one of the largest sources of uranium in the world and possesses one third or more of the world's total uranium reserves. The region is at present supplying substantial amounts of uranium to the developed countries, thereby helping to meet their energy demands. Uranium supplies from Africa are destined to increase with more finds of exploitable reserves. The importance of the African region in the over-all nuclear energy picture cannot therefore be denied. Africa is a big region with a large number of sovereign States, compared to other regions of the world. About 25 of those States are members of the Agency: the largest number from any single region in the Agency. That number will soon grow, with 15 or more States to seek membership in the Agency in the near future. The imbalance that exists must therefore be remedied soon, in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation.

210. My delegation therefore earnestly calls for an increase of three and two Board seats respectively, for the regions of Africa, and the Middle East and South-East Asia, to bring those two regions to geographical parity with the other regions. It is regrettable to note that the Board of Governors of the Agency has been considering this issue for two years, without having taken a satisfactory position. We do not see where the complication lies. Perhaps the General Assembly should step in and help the Agency resolve this problem in accordance with the internationally accepted principle of equitable geographical representation.

211. My delegation will certainly press for action by the General Assembly if this matter is not resolved at the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with operative paragraph 8 of draft resolution A/35/L.10.

212. With regard to the financing of the Agency's regular programme of technical assistance, my delegation is happy to note that the twenty-third regular session of the General Conference of the Agency resolved to request the Board of Governors to study the matter of technical assistance and financing and submit a comprehensive report to the General Conference at its twenty-fourth regular session on all possible effective means of financing technical assistance. We sincerely hope that the Board of Governors has in its submission included a recommendation to the effect that technical assistance must be wholly funded from the regular budget. The Agency must support the technical assistance programme in the same manner as other activities are supported, through assured and predictable resources in the regular budget. To continue to make the programmes for the peaceful application of nuclear science and technology of so many developing countries depend on uncertain voluntary contributions shows neither sufficient magnanimity nor a spirit of interdependence on the part of developed member States on the Board of Governors which have been opposing the funding of the programme from the regular budget.

213. The technical assistance programme is supposed to have substantial developmental impact in the developing member States of the Agency but it is difficult to achieve adequate financial support since the programme has depended on voluntary contributions. Even the small amount that is provided for technical assistance programmes under the regular budget shows meagre yearly rates of programme increases, especially when contrasted with corresponding rates for the Agency's safeguards programme. A direct comparison of regular budgetary allocations for technical assistance and safeguards over the last few years also shows a glaring disparity between those major functions of the Agency.

214. In conclusion, I wish to express my delegation's hope and expectation that those two issues, to which we attach a great deal of importance, will be taken seriously by all States members of IAEA and that satisfactory solutions will be found so as to maximize the participation of developing countries as well as to streamline the technical assistance programme in such a manner as will make it easier for all.

215. Mr. DÍEZ (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): My delegation has very carefully studied the annual report of IAEA on the twenty-fourth regular session of the Agency and we listened with interest to the clear presentation made this morning by the Director General of the Agency, Mr. Eklund.

216. My delegation considers that the general picture of the use of nuclear energy outlined in those two presentations must be studied on two main levels.

217. It is true that on the one hand there are serious problems relating to the use of nuclear installations in some countries, problems which arise largely from the way in which the public opinion of those countries has approached the use of nuclear energy. As

Mr. Eklund pointed out, that situation has given rise to a reduction in the demand for nuclear technology, which has posed problems for the nuclear industry in general, with the consequences that flow therefrom.

218. Without prejudice to the foregoing, the work of the Agency in the field of assistance, co-operation, the promotion of safeguards and the stabilization of the world system of fuel supply has been of primary importance and gives some encouragement regarding the future use of nuclear energy. In that context, we attach great importance to the conclusion of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation and to the role played by IAEA in its development.

219. In this context, my delegation believes that the Agency is called upon to increase definitively its role in making available to all nations, particularly the developing countries, the benefits of nuclear energy.

220. The urgent need of those countries to use all available sources of energy and the inherent right of all States to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for their development present the Agency with a special challenge for the future. We specifically wish to stress the need to redouble the Agency's activities in the field of technical assistance to the developing countries, and on this matter we are deeply concerned over the problem of its financing. We also attach great importance to the Agency's assistance in the application of nuclear energy as well as the application of nuclear technology in such spheres as agriculture and medicine.

221. We have also given consideration to the Agency's efforts to improve the effectiveness of the safeguards system and the encouragement of strict security norms in the use of nuclear energy. But, of course, there must be a balance between those activities and the work of promoting technical assistance in the use of nuclear energy.

222. The Chilean delegation wishes to reiterate its support for the Agency's work and its satisfaction with the efficient work done by its Director-General, Mr. Eklund. As a member of the Board of Governors, my country has been in close contact with all the

work of IAEA. That experience reinforces our conviction about the primary role to be played in the world by the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the need to eliminate all discriminatory barriers that still exist, as well as to stress the importance of standardizing and regulating world levels of available fuels and other related materials.

223. Furthermore, convinced of the importance of enhancing the Agency's function in the encouragement of the application and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, we wholeheartedly support the holding of an international conference for the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, to be held in the first half of 1983.

224. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We have heard the last speaker in the debate. As announced this morning, the sponsors of draft resolution A/35/L.11 have requested that a decision on that text be postponed to some later date to give them time for further consultations.

225. At this stage, therefore, the Assembly will take a decision on draft resolution A/35/L.10 only. Since no delegation has signified a wish to speak, may I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/35/L.10?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 35/17).

Programme of work

226. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall resume consideration of agenda item 14 at a later date.

227. Before we adjourn I should like to inform the Assembly that on Monday, 10 November, in addition to the programme concerning the formal launching of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, the Assembly will also proceed with the election of a non-permanent member of the Security Council.

The meeting rose at 6.30 p.m.