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

AGENDA ITEM 14

Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency
(concluded)

1. Mr. BUTLER (Australia): Atomic energy presents possibly the greatest challenge humankind has ever faced. The peaceful use of atomic energy has within it the capacity to solve many of the fundamental problems faced by humankind. I am speaking of its capacity to provide the decent standard of living so dearly sought by all people. Atomic energy can provide electricity, heat and light. It can serve as the means of propulsion of great ships and of communication satellites. Its applications extend to agriculture, to medicine. Indeed, as we all know, it is, for example, the source of the ordinary X-rays which have become a daily part of modern medicine.

2. But atomic energy also has within it the potential for great and terrible destruction. I am speaking of nuclear weapons, the number of which in existence today has become so great that nuclear disarmament and an end to all nuclear testing form perhaps the most urgent subject on today's agenda.

3. Thirty-one years ago in this great Assembly Hall the then President of the United States, Dwight D. Eisenhower, delivered his "atoms for peace" speech. That speech and the proposals it contained constituted a great leap—indeed, it was a quantum leap—towards meeting and accepting the great challenge of atomic energy.

4. Three years later, following detailed negotiations, the statute of IAEA was brought to life. That statute itself reflects the two sides of atomic energy. The pledge made in it is to promote the peaceful uses of atomic energy and to ensure that there is never any diversion of peaceful nuclear activities or materials to any military purpose.

5. The view of the Australian Government is that the statute of IAEA and the Agency itself, the body established by the statute, are among the great achievements of the atomic age. Australia took part in the Conference on the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency and was a founding member of the Agency. From the beginning it has been a member of the Board of Governors of the Agency. So, let there be no doubt, Australia is a strong supporter of the Agency and is deeply committed to the principles enshrined in its statute.

6. Today we are considering once again the IAEA annual report¹ to the General Assembly. That report

shows that during the past year the Agency has fulfilled the enormously important functions with which it is entrusted.

7. We have before us draft resolution A/39/L.15, which constitutes the Assembly's action on the IAEA report. Australia is a co-sponsor of that draft resolution, and we hope and believe that it will be adopted by consensus.

8. In discussing the work of the Agency on this occasion, I believe it is essential to refer to the role it plays in support of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [resolution 2373 (XXII), annex]. In 1985 the Treaty will be reviewed for the third time.

9. The Non-Proliferation Treaty is vital in several respects. First, no other arms control treaty has been adhered to by a larger number of countries. I want to emphasize that in Australia's view the Non-Proliferation Treaty is first and foremost a nuclear arms control treaty. Secondly, the Treaty has had a record of effectiveness unmatched by any comparable treaty. Thirdly, it has provided directly for the security of this world, for the security of all Member States, whether signatories or non-signatories of the Treaty.

10. I would ask representatives to consider what this world would look like without the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Who could say that their security would be greater or more assured in its absence? I think the answer is clear. The objective of restraining nuclear proliferation is central to the security of all of us, and the Treaty has met that objective and it will and must continue to do so.

11. There is a very special way in which the Non-Proliferation Treaty is unique, and that is through its establishment of a system of international inspection designed to verify compliance with Treaty undertakings. That system is the most effective in existence and should serve as a model for other arms control agreements which may require verification. This is the link between IAEA and the Treaty, because it is the Agency's safeguards system which performs the required service of verification of the Treaty.

12. I believe we should all be very grateful to IAEA for providing this vital safeguards system and for doing so with great effectiveness.

13. When we come to review the Treaty next year—at the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be held in Geneva in 1985—Australia believes we should start from the point of reaffirming its indispensable function in providing for the maintenance of the peace and security of this world. We believe too that the role played by the Agency safeguards system should be fully recognized and endorsed.

14. During the course of that review concern will be expressed about the need further to implement the provisions of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. A good deal of that concern will relate to the undertakings made under article VI of the Treaty. Australia acknowledges those concerns and indeed shares many of them. That is why Australia is unconditionally committed to the ending of all nuclear testing and, together with New Zealand, has drawn up and submitted to the Assembly a draft resolution [A/C.1/39/L.71] which, if implemented, would bring about practical progress towards a comprehensive test-ban treaty. We hope that that draft resolution will attract widespread support in the Assembly.

15. At the beginning of this statement I referred to the challenge of atomic energy. That challenge is felt in Australia as strongly, if not perhaps more strongly, than anywhere in the world. Australia possesses over 30 per cent of known deposits of uranium in the world. This has fostered in Australia deep community consciousness, awareness among ordinary people of the challenge of the responsibility of nuclear energy. Many Australians have thought that perhaps the best action their country could take by way of contributing to the non-proliferation objective would be to leave Australian uranium in the ground. There has been a great debate about this issue in Australia. The clear majority view which has emerged in that debate and in the Australian community as a whole has been that we should mine and export some of our uranium for peaceful purposes. But it is our policy and commitment that no Australian uranium will ever be used in nuclear weapons. Our membership in IAEA and our active work under the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the safeguards system are vital to the fulfilment of that commitment.

16. In conclusion, I want to convey the appreciation and congratulations of the Australian Government to Mr. Blix, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and through him to his staff. They have done their job with great skill and dedication, and by doing so they have done us all a very great service.

17. Mr. SREBREV (Bulgaria): The delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria followed with great interest and attention the introductory statement of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Mr. Hans Blix, and was pleased to note the considerable work done by the Agency last year. The Agency's report for 1983 reflects comprehensively and in detail the multi-faceted activities of that international organization, which has been an important factor in fostering world peace, security and co-operation.

18. The role of IAEA as a multilateral centre for harmonizing the efforts of Member States in promoting the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and as a significant factor in strengthening the system of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons has assumed primary importance. The arms race, including the nuclear-arms race, has acquired unprecedented proportions because of specific actions of those in imperialist circles in the West aimed at upsetting the existing military-strategic equilibrium in the world.

19. This complicated and tense situation in the world has had a negative effect on the development of harmonious and advantageous international co-operation in promoting the use of nuclear energy for

peaceful purposes. We witness a growing ambition to acquire nuclear weapons on the part of States which are not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and have not accepted the effective control of the IAEA over their nuclear programmes for peaceful purposes. This is particularly worrying with respect to States which are located in regions of conflict and tension. If a nuclear conflict should break out in any of those sensitive regions, it could become the prelude to a world nuclear catastrophe. It is precisely for this reason that we observe with deep concern the nuclear ambitions of South Africa and Israel.

20. Now, as we are making preparations for the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, it is of particular importance that there be an intensification of the efforts of all peace-loving States genuinely interested in strengthening the safeguards system to persuade an increasing number of States to accede to this international instrument and contribute to its universalization. The People's Republic of Bulgaria views the Non-Proliferation Treaty as an instrument which has demonstrated its viability and has served the interests of both the nuclear-weapon and the non-nuclear-weapon States. We are convinced that the Treaty will continue in the future to make its contribution to building stability and confidence in international relations and will serve as a basis for promoting the application by non-nuclear States of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

21. Today, when the use of nuclear energy is accelerating and international trade in fissionable materials and equipment is expanding, the issues connected with the further strengthening of the Agency's safeguards system have assumed overriding importance in the context of measures to enhance the effectiveness of nuclear non-proliferation. This unique and generally acknowledged international monitoring activity has lived up to expectations. The number of inspections, which already cover 50 countries, has been steadily growing. The effectiveness of inspections has improved, as has the certainty that fissionable material under the safeguards system is being used for peaceful purposes.

22. The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria has always provided and will continue to provide extensive assistance and co-operation in strengthening the monitoring activities of the Agency. We have opened our nuclear installations to the testing of monitoring devices and equipment and have given approval to all inspectors proposed by IAEA, thus enhancing the effectiveness of their work.

23. My country attaches particular attention to the physical protection of nuclear facilities and fissionable materials. In compliance with the recommendations of the IAEA General Conference at its twenty-seventh regular session, the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria ratified the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material on 3 March 1984.

24. The IAEA programme of technical assistance and co-operation was successfully implemented in 1983. As evidenced by the annual report, in the period 1980 to 1983 the technical assistance programme doubled in value at current prices. All this demonstrates the adequacy and reliability of the policy of financing technical assistance on a volun-

tary basis and in national currency in conformity with indicative plan figures.

25. As a member of the IAEA Board of Governors, the Bulgarian delegation has already stated some of its considerations concerning the improved use of the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund. I should like to avail myself of this opportunity to express the satisfaction of the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria with its all-round beneficial co-operation with IAEA. In 1983, together with other countries, we sponsored a number of important activities, such as a scientific-educational visit on the promotion of the application of nuclear energy as well as interregional training courses and a scientific-educational visit on the use of induced mutations in plant selection. My country has continued to contribute to the International Nuclear Information System [INIS], while Bulgarian specialists have participated actively in meetings, working groups, seminars and symposiums organized by the Agency.

26. As a member of the Board of Governors for the period 1982 to 1984, the People's Republic of Bulgaria has made every effort to contribute to improving the multi-faceted activities of IAEA and to strengthening its role as a prestigious international organization bearing major responsibility for the maintenance of world peace and security and for the promotion of fruitful international co-operation in the application of nuclear energy. We value highly our co-operation with IAEA and with its Director General, Mr. Blix, and shall continue to work for the implementation of the noble purposes of this important international organization.

27. Mr. MARÍN BOSCH (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*): The delegation of Mexico listened with great interest to the very clear presentation by Mr. Hans Blix, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, in introducing the Agency's annual report. We especially appreciate the frankness of that presentation. Indeed in recent years we have grown accustomed not only to the enthusiasm and cautious optimism with which Mr. Blix directs the Vienna Agency but also to his clear, frank and constructive reports.

28. We welcome the progress made by the Agency during the past year, as stated in article II of the statute, to "accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world".

29. During the past year there has been a significant increase in the resources available to the Agency for technical co-operation. Yet there is no doubt that much remains to be done.

30. The work of the Agency takes on particular relevance on the eve of the convening of two important international meetings: the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be held in 1985, and the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, to be held in 1986. The Agency is to play a prominent role in the preparations for both those meetings. The documentation already submitted to the Preparatory Committee for the Third Review Conference on the Non-Proliferation Treaty demonstrates this.

31. Those two international conferences will also give the three nuclear-weapon States parties to the

Non-Proliferation Treaty an invaluable opportunity to demonstrate in practice their full readiness to comply fully with the provision in article IV, paragraph 2, of the Treaty: "to facilitate . . . the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy" [*see resolution 2373 (XXII), annex*].

32. Of course, those two international conferences will also take up the question of the Agency's work with regard to the safeguards provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. In this connection, it should be mentioned also that the Agency is playing a role in regard to the Treaty of Tlatelolco.² Nevertheless, any over-emphasis of that aspect of its work might further accentuate the imbalance between the commitments assumed by the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty and those of its depositary Governments. We should like to stress that in some of the statements we have heard yesterday and this morning we still perceive a tendency to seek to convince the international community that the Treaty applies only to the horizontal non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

33. In this context, we concur in the assessment made yesterday by the IAEA Director General [*58th meeting*]. He has told us that there is a strong feeling of concern among the non-nuclear-weapon countries parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty with regard to the absence of measures to give effect to the provisions concerning nuclear disarmament in the tenth preambular paragraph and article VI of the Treaty. The work carried out this year by the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission and the present debate on these questions in the First Committee during the current session of the General Assembly in no way cause us to be optimistic in that regard.

34. Mr. HUCKE (German Democratic Republic): Permit me, at the outset, to thank the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Mr. Blix, for the comprehensive and informative report he has submitted on the Organization's work in 1983. My thanks also go to the entire staff of the Agency's secretariat.

35. The activities of IAEA are taking place in the context of a complex and tense international situation. It is the view of the German Democratic Republic that to guarantee continued successful work by the IAEA it is necessary to make every effort to intensify the struggle for the prevention of nuclear war and for nuclear disarmament. That is why the German Democratic Republic, like the other socialist States, has for years urged that serious and productive disarmament negotiations, inspired by good faith and taking account of the legitimate security interests of all States, be held and that a return be achieved to the policy of détente.

36. We therefore oppose the striving for military superiority, arms buildup and the policy of *faits accomplis*, exemplified by the deployment of new United States first-strike weapons in Western Europe, as well as the strategy of threat and blackmail against international organizations in respect of their activities.

37. My country has repeatedly manifested its desire for dialogue and fruitful international co-operation. It is in this spirit that we conduct our efforts to ensure that IAEA will continue to work with success.

38. The peaceful use of nuclear energy is a positive and necessary development to facilitate mankind's access to the achievements of the scientific and technological revolution. The German Democratic Republic urges that the harnessing of this form of energy for peaceful uses should be accepted as an inalienable right of every State. An essential condition is strict observance of all provisions of international law designed to prevent the emergence of new nuclear-weapon States.

39. We view the further strengthening and development of the full-scope safeguards system, as provided for by the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as a major IAEA contribution to attaining this objective. That would have a direct, favourable impact on international security. My country can confirm from its own experience that the application of full-scope safeguards cannot be regarded as discrimination against non-nuclear-weapon States. In no way has it hindered the German Democratic Republic in making peaceful use of nuclear energy.

40. It is well known that my Government takes a firm position on the importance of nuclear power in meeting increasing energy needs. Accordingly, the implementation of the German Democratic Republic's nuclear power programme will be advanced continuously. In the first half of the 1990s the installed total capacity for nuclear-produced electricity will amount to nearly 5,000 megawatts. This will be done in close co-operation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, within the framework of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

41. Moreover, the IAEA safeguards system shows that, given the political will of States, agreements on arms limitation and disarmament can be effectively verified. We highly appreciate the experience gained by IAEA in this area, and we advocate drawing on it for the benefit of other spheres of arms limitation and disarmament.

42. The Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material is an important instrument for preventing the misuse of nuclear material. The German Democratic Republic, which was among the first States to ratify the Convention, supports the call on all States that have not yet done so to accede to that important international accord.

43. The German Democratic Republic is in favour of co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, if such co-operation is in full harmony with the basic objectives and principles of the United Nations and IAEA. My country strongly supports the entire range of political, legal, organizational and administrative measures taken to promote international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and at the same time to prevent the further spread of nuclear weapons, which would jeopardize international stability and further increase the risk of nuclear war. Therefore, my country most resolutely calls for serious and productive negotiations on nuclear disarmament, as repeatedly proposed by the socialist countries.

44. The Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, one of the major instruments in the area of arms limitation and disarmament, is scheduled to take place in 1985. The German Democratic Republic attaches the maximum importance to the Treaty. We continue to regard it not as the final aim but as one step towards nuclear disarmament. It is built on

the fact that it takes the fullest possible account of the legitimate interests of all States, large and small, of nuclear-weapon States as well as non-nuclear-weapon States. In our time there is no alternative to that Treaty.

45. The German Democratic Republic is very active in ensuring that the Third Review Conference will be adequately and carefully prepared, so that it will take a successful course, because we are convinced that a positive outcome of that Conference will create favourable conditions for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

46. The fact that Israel and South Africa remain outside the Non-Proliferation Treaty is bound to give rise to serious concern. The German Democratic Republic emphatically supports the overwhelming majority of States in their demand, reflected in the pertinent resolutions adopted at the twenty-eighth regular session of the IAEA General Conference,³ held at Vienna last September.

47. To this day Israel has refrained from stating unambiguously that it will not repeat such criminal acts as the attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981. Those States with nuclear facilities that are not covered by the IAEA's safeguard system, and that are capable of producing fissionable material fit for use in nuclear weapons, pose a particular danger to neighbouring regions and to world peace. Such a situation is detrimental to the objectives and principles of IAEA and jeopardizes the non-proliferation régime and international security. We vigorously demand that those States subject all their nuclear facilities to IAEA safeguards.

48. The German Democratic Republic highly appreciates what IAEA has achieved in promoting international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. We welcome the trends and priorities outlined in the Agency's programme for the period 1985-1986.

49. As can be seen from the Agency's report, no year has been more successful so far, in terms of the amount of technical assistance provided by the Agency, than 1983. While in 1982 some 500 projects were implemented, the number was over 700 in 1983. At present some 800 projects are being carried out.

50. The growth in actual assistance delivered may be illustrated by comparing the first six months of 1983 and the same period in 1984, between which there was an increase of 35 per cent in expert assignment, 24 per cent in dollars spent for equipment and 13 per cent in the number of fellows in the field.

51. The principle of voluntary payments in national currency to fund technical assistance has proved successful for many years. We hold the view that the experience which the Agency has gained in this respect should definitely be generalized, thereby helping other organizations of the United System to make available funds which have not been used so far.

52. As a member of the Board of Governors, the German Democratic Republic will assist the IAEA secretariat in every way in its efforts to enhance further the effectiveness of technical assistance.

53. My country has kept increasing its voluntary contributions to technical assistance. We pay great

attention to assisting developing countries in training their own personnel for the area of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. To this end we organize courses of instruction and tours of inspection in our country. We lend our support to IAEA activities both in the international exchange of experience and in co-operation in the areas of nuclear safety and waste management and INIS.

54. For the coming years IAEA has set itself ambitious targets. The German Democratic Republic pledges its continued active co-operation in the pursuit of these objectives. The Agency is in a position to make a valuable contribution by giving life to the principle of the peaceful coexistence of States with different social systems, and it should do so. We feel committed to that principle.

55. As one of the sponsors of draft resolution A/39/L.15, so ably introduced yesterday by the representative of Egypt [*ibid.*], we call upon the other delegations to give their valuable support to this draft resolution so that it can be adopted by consensus.

56. Mr. TAMACHI (Pakistan): Let me begin by expressing our appreciation of the useful and comprehensive report presented by Mr. Hans Blix, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, on its activities during the year 1983. We are gratified to note that under his stewardship the Agency has expanded its activities in various areas within its mandate.

57. The two important tasks of IAEA are the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy and participation in efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The importance of the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy in a world faced with the prospect of the depletion of fossil energy sources cannot be overemphasized. The Agency, therefore, must devote the maximum possible attention and resources to the accomplishment of this task. However, this is not to deny the importance of its activities relating to nuclear non-proliferation, which should continue to receive all possible attention on its part.

58. During the year 1983 the total installed nuclear-power-generating capacity increased by 10 per cent. Nuclear power plants accounted for about 12 per cent of the world's electricity generated during 1983. However, out of the 25 new nuclear plants which were connected to the grid during the year, only three were in developing countries.

59. The Agency's report for 1983 projects that the share of world electricity generation accounted for by nuclear plants in the year 2000 will be 20 per cent. But it is also clear from this projection that few additional developing countries will be able to make progress towards the start of nuclear power programmes in the near future. The obvious conclusion that can be drawn from this projection is that IAEA should expand further its programmes aimed at providing comprehensive assistance to developing countries in the development of nuclear power.

60. We have taken note with satisfaction that the size of the resources made available for technical co-operation programmes organized by IAEA increased by 25 per cent, from \$27.5 million in 1982 to \$34.5 million in 1983. This compares favourably with the increase of 12.4 per cent recorded from the year 1981 to 1982. However, the total value of the technical assistance actually provided in 1983 amounted to only \$26.6 million.

61. While we appreciate the increased mobilization of resources for technical assistance programmes during 1983, we remain concerned over the continuing imbalance between the funds allocated to technical assistance and those allocated to safeguards. The funds allocated to safeguards out of the Agency's budget have increased dramatically since 1975, while those for technical assistance programmes have registered a comparatively slow growth. Naturally this imbalance has had a negative impact on the Agency's ability to respond to the growing needs of the developing countries for technical assistance and co-operation. Pakistan is not opposed to any justifiable increase in the safeguards expenditure. At the same time, we feel that the Agency must allocate sufficient resources for its technical assistance programmes in order to be able to respond adequately to requests for assistance received from the developing countries.

62. Another important aspect of IAEA activities relates to the strengthening of nuclear safety throughout the world. In this regard, we have noted with satisfaction the Agency's contributions, particularly through encouraging and assisting member States to implement, *inter alia*, the codes and guides of the Nuclear Safety Standards programme, the recently revised Basic Safety Standards for Radiation Protection, and the guidance being developed for emergency planning and preparedness.

63. The Agency's existing safeguards system—and I refer here to document INFCIRC/66/Rev.2—is a reliable and effective instrument for detecting any diversion of nuclear materials to non-peaceful purposes. We fully share the view that, instead of modifying it, the Agency should concentrate its efforts on the strict application of this system on a non-discriminatory basis.

64. Finally, my delegation would like to draw attention to an unfortunate tendency amongst nuclear suppliers to impose unilateral and unwarranted restrictions on the transfer of nuclear equipment, materials and technology to developing countries. Needless to say, such practices undermine the basis of the international régime of nuclear non-proliferation, which recognizes the right of non-nuclear-weapon States to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. The third world countries cannot agree to any plan under which nuclear technology remains the exclusive preserve of a few privileged States. Any attempts to impose such a patently unjust arrangement not only will be futile but also may prove to be counterproductive.

65. We would, therefore, urge the nuclear supplier countries to live up to their international obligations and assist the third world countries in developing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in accordance with their own national priorities and needs. It goes without saying that any transfer of peaceful nuclear technology to developing countries should take place on reasonable and equitable terms and under appropriate and non-discriminatory safeguards.

66. Mr. AL-ZAHAWI (Iraq): My delegation wishes to commend IAEA and the Director General, Mr. Blix, for the Agency's report to the General Assembly. We find that the activities relating to nuclear power, nuclear safety, life sciences, the fuel cycle and technical co-operation are of considerable importance for all member States. In this connection, we strongly urge IAEA to expand these activities further

in order to promote international co-operation and to develop the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

67. At present we feel that many developing countries, including my own, are especially interested in nuclear power planning and manpower development and training. Work on site selection study for our first power station has already been started, and it is hoped that the first part of this study will be completed by July 1985. In the light of this study, other steps will be taken in accordance with the plan approved by our National Planning Board.

68. We would like to make the following comments on some parts of the report before us. We would have liked to see the expenditures on the activities relating to safeguards presented in the same manner as the parts concerning technical assistance and co-operation. We believe that priority should continue to be given in the Agency's programmes to arriving at a balance between these two main activities of the Agency.

69. In his statement yesterday [*ibid.*] the Director General drew attention to some matters before IAEA which have also preoccupied the General Assembly—namely, the Israeli attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor and South Africa's nuclear potential.

70. The Director General correctly pointed out that some aspects of these two questions fall within the Agency's statutory obligations. As far as Iraq is concerned, we wish to assure the Director General and the General Assembly that we had not intended, nor do we intend, to raise any of the political ramifications of the Israeli act of aggression in IAEA.

71. What we have raised is matters directly related to the Agency's statutory obligations, namely, the consequences of the Israeli attack, and the threat to repeat it, for the role of the Agency, its activities and its safeguards system, as well as the future uses of atomic energy for peaceful purposes and international co-operation therein.

72. Our intention in IAEA all along has been to seek ways and means to make Israel comply with the resolutions of the Agency. Political issues, however, have been raised by other delegations, particularly those which contend that IAEA should not concern itself with the Israeli attack or its consequences as IAEA is not the body competent to deal with such an issue. Then statements were made by certain delegations threatening to leave the Agency—threats which were based on purely political considerations—even when the matters being considered in the Agency were unquestionably not only within its competence but also within its statutory obligations.

73. The position of those delegations which oppose the consideration of the item in IAEA becomes even more untenable when the same delegations also oppose the consideration of the item here in the General Assembly, telling us that no purpose would be served by its further consideration.

74. This attitude can only confirm the tendency to diminish the role of the United Nations and to tell the world that there is not much that the United Nations can do about such an unprecedented attack upon a safeguarded nuclear reactor, that no help is to be expected from resorting to the competent international organizations and that each country should be left to its own devices.

75. As the Director General pointed out the special case of Israel and South Africa within the Agency, it is all the more surprising that the report before us

does not make a distinction between these two and other members of the Agency. Paragraph 310 of the report, for example, includes these two régimes among the other States mentioned therein.

76. It is a well-known fact by now that Israel has continued on all levels to disregard the Agency's safeguards and to undermine by words and deeds the credibility of the Agency, the safeguards system and the principle of non-proliferation. We believe that the report should have given a factual account of the situation of these two régimes and the threat they pose to the further development of nuclear energy and to the established non-proliferation régime.

77. Paragraphs 37 to 42 of the report, on matters of special interest to the Agency discussed by the General Assembly, do not convey enough information on what action, if any, was taken by the Agency with regard to the Assembly's resolutions. It would have been more appropriate to include in the report steps and actions taken by the Agency's policy-making organs with regard to withholding co-operation from Israel and placing Israeli nuclear activities under safeguards.

78. In this connection, we might also inquire about the action taken with regard to IAEA General Conference resolutions mentioned in General Assembly resolution 38/8. We refer specifically to resolutions GC(XXVII)/RES/407, GC(XXVII)/RES/408 and GC(XXVII)/RES/409,⁴ adopted at the twenty-seventh regular session of the General Conference.

79. We hope that the next annual report will take these observations into consideration in a manner which will make it unnecessary for us next year to introduce a specific reference to them in the Assembly's resolution on the Agency's report.

80. Mr. QIAN Jiadong (China) (*interpretation from Chinese*): I listened with great interest to the statement made by Mr. Hans Blix, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, in connection with the Agency's report for the year 1983. We are gratified to note that in the 27 years since its inception the Agency has done a lot of useful work to ensure the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in the interest of mankind. I should like to express our congratulations and thanks to Mr. Blix. It is our hope that the Agency will continue its efforts in this respect and achieve yet greater successes.

81. As of this year, China has become a full member of IAEA and a member of its Board of Governors. Recently, a Chinese delegation attended for the first time a regular session of the General Conference of the Agency, its twenty-eighth, and stated China's principled position on major items on the agenda. We are glad to have the opportunity to work with other member States of the Agency to discuss the question of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. I would like to take this opportunity to express once again, on behalf of the Chinese Government, our thanks to all States which support China's legitimate rights in the Agency.

82. With the development of modern science and technology and the increase in the demand for energy resources, the peaceful use of nuclear energy has come under increasingly greater attention. Nuclear energy is a very promising energy resource. However, the development of nuclear power is imbalanced at present. According to the 1983 annual report of the Agency, of the more than 300 nuclear power plants operating in the world, only about a dozen are

located in developing countries. For the developing countries that situation is far from satisfactory. How to assist those countries in developing nuclear power is therefore a major task confronting the Agency. We hope that the Agency will give full consideration to the needs of the developing countries and take effective measures to meet them.

83. The development of nuclear power involves the question of nuclear non-proliferation. We are well aware of the importance of the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the need to adopt appropriate measures in this regard. However, we do not favour using non-proliferation as a rationale to impose unreasonable restrictions on co-operation in nuclear-energy technology or to impede its development.

84. China takes a positive as well as a responsible stand on nuclear energy co-operation. On 15 May of this year, Premier Zhao Ziyang stated in his report on the work of the Government that "China is critical of the discriminatory Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and has declined to accede to it. But we by no means favour nuclear proliferation, nor do we engage in such proliferation by helping other countries to develop nuclear weapons." This is the fundamental policy that China pursues in carrying out nuclear power co-operation with other countries. Guided by this policy, China ensures that the nuclear materials and equipment it exports and imports are used only for peaceful purposes.

85. In his statement yesterday Mr. Blix pointed out that there is grave disappointment in the area of cessation of the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament. This is true indeed. We also share the sentiment that

"It must be hoped that the coming year will see at least the beginning of some substantial progress in nuclear disarmament, as well as further efforts to provide the fullest possible access to applications of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, in particular more assistance to developing countries in this field." [*Ibid.*, para. 31.]

86. In its resolution 35/112 the General Assembly decided to convene a United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. The Chinese Government supports the convening of the Conference and has taken part in the work of the Preparatory Committee. We stand ready to continue to join the common effort for the successful convening of the Conference.

87. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/39/L.15. May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt it?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 39/12).

The meeting rose at 11.55 a.m.

NOTES

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

²Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068).

³See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference*, twenty-eighth regular session.

⁴*Ibid.*, twenty-seventh regular session.