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CONFERENCE OF NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES

ESTABLISHMENT, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, OF AN INTERNATIONAL SERVICE FOR  
NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES UNDER APPROPRIATE  
INTERNATIONAL CONTROL

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

In connexion with the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the establishment, within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency, of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes under appropriate international control, the report of the Board of Governors of the IAEA was submitted to the Secretary-General. This report, reproduced as part III of the Secretary-General's report, was also considered by the General Conference of the IAEA, at its thirteenth session held at Vienna in September 1969. In conformity with the resolution unanimously adopted by the General Conference on this item, the Director-General of IAEA transmitted to the Secretary-General that resolution together with the records of the relevant discussions, for communication to the General Assembly. The above documents are produced herewith.

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I. LETTER DATED 14 OCTOBER 1969 FROM THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Please refer to the Acting Director-General's letter of 17 July 1969, by which he forwarded to you, at the request of the Board of Governors, the Board's report on the Agency's responsibility to provide services in connexion with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

After considering this report the General Conference, on 29 September 1969, unanimously adopted resolution GC (XIII)/RES/258 which, among other things, requested me to transmit to you, for communication to the General Assembly, that resolution together with the records of the relevant discussions at its thirteenth regular session.

I therefore have pleasure in enclosing the text of the resolution itself and extracts from the provisional summary records of the plenary meetings of the Conference and of the provisional summary records of the Programme, Technical and Budget Committee to which the item was referred in the first instance. As they become available, copies of the provisional records will be transmitted to the United Nations Secretariat in French, Russian and Spanish to assist in the preparation of the document for the General Assembly.

I am writing a separate letter to you on other decisions of the General Conference which were also of concern to the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States.

(Signed) Sigvard EKLUND  
Director-General

II. THE AGENCY'S RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE SERVICES IN CONNEXION WITH  
NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES

- (1) Resolution adopted by the General Conference of IAEA  
on 29 September 1969 (GC (XIII)/RES/258)

The Agency's responsibility in connexion with the  
use of nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes

The General Conference,

- (a) Recalling its resolution GC(XII)/RES/245,
- (b) Having examined the report on the Agency's responsibility to provide services in connexion with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes submitted by the Board of Governors in response to that resolution, 1/
- (c) Noting with satisfaction that this report was prepared with the assistance of an ad hoc committee in which all Members of the Agency were invited to participate,
- (d) Noting further that in the preparation of this report the Board and the ad hoc committee benefited from a preliminary analysis provided by the Director-General and the comments made by thirty-one Members of the Agency,
- (e) Expressing the view that additional studies will be required to elaborate further the Agency's activities in this field, and
- (f) Being aware that the General Assembly of the United Nations will consider the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General in response to the Assembly's resolution 2456 C (XXIII) on "the establishment, within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency, of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, under appropriate international control",
1. Endorses the report by the Board of Governors on the Agency's responsibility to provide services in connexion with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes; 1/
2. Requests the Director-General and the Board to continue their studies in this field, taking into account the observations made by the General Assembly of the United Nations during its consideration of the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 2456 C (XXIII); and
3. Also requests the Director-General to transmit the present resolution, together with the records of the relevant discussions at its thirteenth regular session, to the Secretary-General for communication to the General Assembly.

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1/ GC/(XIII)/410.

(2) Comments made at the 87th and 88th meetings of the Programme, Technical and Budget Committee

87th meeting

55. Mr. McADAM CLARK (United Kingdom) commended the draft resolution contained in document GC(XIII)/COM.1/111 as adequately meeting requirements.

56. Mr. SMYTH (United States of America) said that the report in document GC(XIII)/410 was the product of studies by the Board and the Secretariat in response to resolution GC(XII)/RES/245. Members had been given full opportunity to express their views and, as the Director-General had noted in his statement at the 127th plenary meeting, the consensus of most States which had submitted comments was that the Agency had the statutory and technical competence to provide services in connexion with peaceful nuclear technology and to assume the responsibilities envisaged for an international body under Article V of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. The United States Government strongly shared that view and believed that the Board's report contained in document GC(XIII)/410 competently defined the Agency's main prospective responsibilities in that field.

57. It felt confident that suitable arrangements could be made to ensure that non-nuclear-weapon States would continue to have full opportunity to express views on the further elaboration of the necessary arrangements and agreements. Moreover it seemed appropriate that the Agency should express confidence that it was able to take on prospective additional responsibilities in connexion with the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

58. Draft resolution GC(XIII)/COM.1/111 had been drawn up in the light of those considerations; it endorsed the Board's report and the progress achieved, and requested that studies should be continued within the Agency taking into account any relevant observations made in the United Nations.

59. The CHAIRMAN suggested that preambular paragraph (f) and operative paragraph 2 of GC(XIII)/COM.1/111 should be amended to read: "the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General", so as to reflect the present situation more accurately.

60. It was so agreed.

61. Mr. SANCHEZ DEL RIO (Spain) supported the draft resolution, since services in connexion with the uses of nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes clearly fell within the competence of the Agency rather than that of any other international body.

62. As regards the financing of those services, the Agency should include in its budget only activities which would benefit all Member States.

63. Mr. BEATTIE (Canada), commenting on the Board's report (GC(XIII)/410), said that his Government supported the idea of the Agency playing a major role in connexion with the use of nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes and fully concurred with the view that the functions of the international body referred to in Article V of the Non-Proliferation Treaty lay within the Agency's technical

and statutory competence. It also agreed that the Agency's initial activities in that field should be concentrated on the exchange of information. The Agency's wide range of well-developed procedures for assisting Member States could provide a basis for a useful service to be rendered through the Department of Technical Operations. His Government therefore fully endorsed the report.

64. He particularly hoped that the Director-General would pay special attention to promoting the dissemination of technical information. Furthermore, it was desirable that the Agency's role in the peaceful application of nuclear explosions should be kept under review and account taken of the observation made in the United Nations General Assembly.

65. His delegation also supported the draft resolution.

66. Mr. DIXIT (India) felt that the conclusions presented in the report constituted a realistic appraisal of the problem. He too hoped that attention would be focused initially on the dissemination of information, as a fairly cautious and an evolutionary approach was required. The experience gained by the Agency over the past decade in promoting the peaceful applications of atomic energy and instituting safeguards against diversion to military purposes rendered the organization fully competent to provide an international service in that field.

67. His delegation thus supported the draft resolution.

68. Mr. EFFAT (United Arab Republic) approved the draft resolution, but proposed the insertion of two additional paragraphs between (d) and (e) of the preamble, to read as follows:

(e) Mindful that the report reflects the view that the Agency's technical experience and authority fully qualify it to assume important responsibilities in the field of peaceful nuclear explosions, including those contemplated for an international body under Article V of the Non-Proliferation Treaty,

(f) Bearing in mind also the Director-General's intention to subject the organization of the Agency's work in connexion with peaceful nuclear explosions to periodic review and to report thereon to the Board.

69. Mr. SMYTH (United States of America) and Mr. McADAM CLARK (United Kingdom) were in favour of the additions suggested by the delegate of the United Arab Republic.

70. Mr. PELE (Romania) stressed the importance of all States being able to benefit in equal measure and on a non-discriminatory basis from the applications of peaceful nuclear technology. It was, therefore, imperative to study the political, economic and legal as well as the scientific aspects of the problem. The Agency was to be congratulated on having already undertaken some studies on a multilateral basis; however, international co-operation could be further strengthened by inviting non-Members to participate as well.

71. The Agency had the statutory competence to act as an intermediary and to encourage the development of the technology of peaceful nuclear explosions on a

world-wide scale. It was in a position to offer services such as the dissemination of information and the provision of certain forms of technical assistance, to help with the training of experts, to contribute to the solution of safety problems, to prepare technical and economic studies, and so on. At the same time, since the technology was still in its infancy, care should be taken to adopt an evolutionary approach. Furthermore the Agency could play an international role in the matter under discussion without altering its present structure. His delegation would, therefore, vote for the draft resolution with the amendment just proposed.

72. Mr. ARRUDA (Brazil) said his delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

73. It had, however, some remarks to make on document GC (XIII)/410. It seemed to him that too much prominence was given in that document to resolution GC (XII)/RES/245, which linked to the Non-Proliferation Treaty the Agency's responsibility to provide services in connexion with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. If too strong a link was established with the Non-Proliferation Treaty, international services relating to nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes would become an instrument of discrimination among the States members of the Agency. Such discrimination was incompatible with the Statute and in particular with article III.B, paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4. The Brazilian Government believed it inappropriate to single out the Non-Proliferation Treaty as "the kind of international agreement alluded to in the Statute", as was done in paragraph 5 of document GC (XIII)/410, for that Treaty was just one instrument of world-wide disarmament, and a controversial one at that.

74. His Government had, however, no objection to the Agency's acceptance of functions deriving from a special agreement signed among its member States such as the Non-Proliferation Treaty or the Tlatelolco Treaty, on condition that the services which the Agency was called upon to provide to its members under its Statute were not impaired and that no discrimination arose.

75. Mr. RENNER (Austria) approved of document GC (XIII)/410 and supported the draft resolution for the reasons already outlined by the representative of Canada.

76. Mr. EMONIERE (France), Mr. JIMENEZ-DAVILA (Argentina) and Mr. KOUVSHINNIKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) also supported the draft resolution, as the structure and Statute of the Agency made it the ideal body to centralize services in connexion with peaceful nuclear explosions.

77. Mr. OSAWA (Japan) endorsed the conclusions reached in document GC (XIII)/410 and supported the draft resolution. It was desirable for the Agency secretariat to keep abreast of developments in peaceful nuclear explosives by sending experts to the nuclear-weapon States.

The meeting rose at 6.05 p.m.

88th meeting

1. Mr. FAHMY (United Arab Republic) said that his Government's views on the item under consideration were clear and had been stated on a number of previous occasions. The amendments that his delegation had proposed the day before (GC(XIII)/COM.1/112) were aimed at improving the draft resolution submitted jointly by the United Kingdom and the United States of America; they were in no way controversial and added nothing substantially new. But since a number of delegates had informed him that they had been unable to ascertain their Governments' views on the amendment owing to lack of time and since the provisions of the amendment would in any case form part of the Committee's records, his delegation would not press for a vote on it. In the interests of completion of the Committee's work as rapidly as possible, he hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted unanimously as it now stood.
2. The CHAIRMAN said that in view of the United Arab Republic representative's statement that he was not asking for a vote on his amendment, the Committee should now take a decision on the original resolution submitted by the United Kingdom and the United States of America (GC(XIII)/COM.1/111).
3. Mr. SANDOVAL VALLARTA (Mexico) and Mr. DUCCI (Italy) said their delegations fully supported the resolution.
4. Mr. ZOHRAB (New Zealand) expressed the complete agreement of his delegation with the scope and direction of the Agency's activities in relation to nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, as summarized in paragraph 13 of document GC(XIII)/410. The Agency was the appropriate organization to implement the activities in question and the services contemplated were appropriate to the present stage of technological development in that field. He therefore supported the resolution before the Committee.
5. Mr. CHAUDHURY (Pakistan), expressing his Government's support of the resolution before the Committee, said that any international service of the type being considered should be so devised as to prevent the possibility of the spread of nuclear weapons to non-nuclear-weapon States. The nuclear explosive devices should accordingly be manufactured solely by nuclear-weapon States, and only exploded under the Agency's supervision, in the presence, if necessary, of observers from interested countries.
6. In addition, the devices should be made available on a non-discriminatory basis and the benefits to be gained from such explosions should be placed at the disposal of developing countries at low cost or, in deserving cases, without charge. The Agency should be designated as the authority responsible for the operation of the service. It should also undertake feasibility studies on request, supply relevant technical information and make available lists of nuclear explosive devices available for peaceful purposes.
7. Mr. REMBSER (Federal Republic of Germany) said that the development of the technology of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes was still in its infancy and it was difficult for the time being to assess exactly how important such explosions would be. It was therefore too early to define a specific role for the Agency, and it would be better to wait until some technological experience had been gained.



8. At the present stage, however, there was need to compile and disseminate information, a task the Agency was well qualified to carry out and to which it could apply already existing procedures.
9. Meetings should be arranged to discuss the technology of peaceful explosions. The findings produced by such consultations should serve as a basis for drawing up research programmes. Since the preparations for and carrying out of a nuclear explosion might involve legal issues, they, too, ought to be a subject of study.
10. His Government fully supported the draft resolution and would be willing to assist the Agency in the work involved by providing experts in the fields, for example, of geology and civil engineering.
11. Mr. SIAZON (Philippines) and Mr. MORRIS (Australia) supported the draft resolution.
12. Mr. ECKERBERG (Sweden) wished to reaffirm his Government's interest in the provision of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, and had previously expressed its views on that subject in detail both in the United Nations General Assembly and the Disarmament Committee in Geneva. It had also participated in the preliminary discussions on the holding of a panel on the subject and hoped to take an active part at the meeting itself. His delegation therefore fully supported the draft resolution.
13. The CHAIRMAN said it was evident from the discussion that it was the desire of the Committee that the draft resolution of the United Kingdom and the United States of America (GC(XIII)/COM.1/111) should be adopted without a vote.
14. It was so agreed.
15. The CHAIRMAN took it that it was the Committee's wish that the Rapporteur should prepare a report in consultation with the Chairman.
16. It was so agreed.
17. Mr. SOLE (South Africa) said that it was a matter of considerable gratification to all concerned that the resolution had been adopted unanimously.
18. The representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations had pointed out that the Secretary-General's report still had to be submitted to the United Nations. South Africa had already informed the Secretary-General that the South African Government endorsed the report of the Board of Governors. Other delegates might also wish to arrange with their Governments to inform the United Nations Secretary-General of their endorsement of the Board's report, which did in fact emphasize the importance of the Agency's responsibility in the activity under discussion.
19. Mr. SALVEPPI (Italy) congratulated the Chairman on having expedited the business of the Committee so successfully.
20. The CHAIRMAN congratulated the Committee on the spirit of harmony and co-operation which had prevailed.

The meeting rose at 11.20 a.m.

(3) Comments made at plenary meetings of the General Conference  
during its thirteenth regular session

127th plenary meeting, 23 September 1969 /GC(XIII)/OR.127/:

The DIRECTOR GENERAL:

Para. 31 "Peaceful nuclear explosions had been discussed not only in the General Assembly and the Agency but also at the highest technical level between the United States and the USSR. It was perhaps at that level that the aspirations of the non-nuclear-weapon States could best be met.

Para. 32 For his part, he shared the expectation of many Member States that nuclear explosions would in future be used with advantage in both developed and developing countries for large-scale engineering projects such as the excavation of canals and building of tunnels, or recovery of gas, oil and minerals from low-grade or otherwise inaccessible deposits. There would then be no obstacle to the establishment, within the framework of the Agency, of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes under appropriate international control. In the meantime, the Agency's contribution would probably be limited to an information service pending clarification of the technical and financial aspects of nuclear explosions."

Mr. WINSPEARE GUICCIARDI (Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations):

Para. 52 "...The Director General of the Agency had given his support to the Secretary-General in connection with the preparation of the report referred to in resolution 2456 C (XXIII) of the General Assembly, relating to the establishment within the Agency of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. Views on that subject had been received from 40 Governments and various specialized agencies had also been consulted. ..."

128th plenary meeting, 24 September 1969 /GC(XIII)/OR.128/

Mr. SEABORG (United States of America):

Para. 16 "The United States Government fully endorsed the Board's report on the Agency's role in connection with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes /GC(XIII)/410/. The document presented a very good analysis of what the Agency could do along those lines and it reinforced the conviction that the Agency was the most appropriate organization to foster international co-operation in such activities and to assume the responsibilities and functions anticipated for an international organization under Article V of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Para. 17 The report noted that the technology of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes was at an early stage of development and that progress was likely to be made on a gradual basis. His delegation agreed with the Board's view that the organization of the Agency should be kept under review and adapted as necessary to enable it to meet the anticipated increase in its responsibilities in that field. The United States was contributing to the development of the Agency's competence for that task by providing it with extensive information on

the experimental "Flowshare" programme and by making experts available to assist the Agency as necessary. The United States had already submitted a summary report on the current status of the technology of the peaceful applications of nuclear explosions, which the Director General had circulated to all Member States. It had provided an expert to assist in preparing an agenda and programme for the first panel meeting on the subject planned by the Agency. In addition, it had recently made available a scientist from its "Flowshare" programme to serve on the staff of the Agency. He wished to reiterate his Government's intention, once it was technically and economically feasible, to make available peaceful nuclear explosion services, pursuant to Article V of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, at attractive conditions which it hoped would be of interest to other countries. Charges would be as low as possible and would not include the extensive costs of research and development involved."

Mr. ROUX (South Africa):

Para. 32 "Linked with the Non-Proliferation Treaty was the question of peaceful nuclear explosions. South Africa had adhered firmly to its contention that the International Atomic Energy Agency was unquestionably the appropriate body to perform the essential tasks concerned with the control and promotion of peaceful nuclear explosions. There again, however, there was a long road ahead, for the art of applying those explosives for peaceful purposes was still a long way from being perfected. All could indeed be grateful to the United States of America for the vigorous, imaginative and successful research programme which it was pursuing at its own cost and which, to judge from published literature, was unparalleled anywhere else in the world.

Para. 33 But the technology and the techniques must be known, proved and established before any institutional machinery needed to be developed to administer those tools for the widespread benefit of the world. It was his conviction that only when peaceful nuclear explosions had become a practical and an economic fact should the Board of Governors consider whether, and if so what, institutional machinery should be established within the framework of the Agency to perform those tasks which it was so well equipped to undertake, while ensuring as far as possible that the spirit as well as the letter of the relevant provision of the Non-Proliferation Treaty was respected.

Para. 34 That should not however be construed as implying that the subject should be relegated to a status of virtually academic interest only. Peaceful nuclear explosions were of immense potential value, and it was most important that Member States should be kept informed of progress and development in that field to enable them to plan ahead viable projects involving peaceful nuclear explosions. Such an information service was well within the present capability of the Agency and the Agency, in providing it, would catalogue much essential information which would contribute to a "state of readiness" for the time when it was called upon to administer the application of that new technique.

Para. 35 While information in itself went a long way towards enabling non-nuclear-weapon countries to prepare for the use of peaceful nuclear explosions, it was at the best still second-hand and might well be incomplete in respect of those techniques essential for its application in regions which differed significantly with regard to climate, geology, topography and the like,

from the areas in which the published techniques were evolved. In research and development no amount of words could ever substitute effectively for the knowledge and skill acquired by actual physical involvement in the building-up of "know-how", yet it would appear to be the intention of the Non-Proliferation Treaty that non-nuclear-weapon States should be debarred from working on peaceful nuclear explosives as such. That was tantamount to preventing their participation in the development of the entire technology and constituted a distinct obstacle to progress in far-sighted nuclear development. There appeared however to be a possible manner of surmounting that obstacle safely, namely to call on those nuclear-weapon States which had such research programmes to accept for training in the technology of peaceful nuclear explosions scientists from non-nuclear-weapon States. He was prepared to concede that such a proposal might be far-reaching and have possibly difficult implications, but perhaps the Secretariat would explore the concept on behalf of the many Member States threatened with exclusion from such a promising field of research.

Para. 36 It was perhaps not out of place to draw attention to a matter which was particularly important in relation to issues which were the concern of both the IAEA and other agencies in the United Nations family, namely the need for the same, or at least co-ordinated directives to be issued by Governments to their various representatives in different agencies discussing the same matter. The absence of co-ordination within Governments themselves was leading to a potentially harmful, even dangerous, difference of approach to such problems in the various organs where they were discussed. Most of those present would recall the wide divergence between views expressed by certain States at the Conference of Non-Nuclear Weapon States in Geneva the previous year and the view of the same States as presented in comments - or lack of comments - submitted to the IAEA on the very issue of peaceful nuclear explosions. To judge from statements made in Vienna, there had always been overwhelming support for the Agency's basic role in the field of peaceful nuclear explosions amongst Agency Members but the same support had not always been reflected by representatives of the same Governments in Geneva or New York."

Mr. ERRERA (Belgium):

Para. 88 "Many States Members of the Agency attached enormous importance to the advantages which might result by the mid-1970s from the peaceful uses of nuclear explosives. In his view the Agency was the appropriate organization to discharge the role envisaged in Article V of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Para. 89 For that purpose the Agency should set up a special department. However, that should not mean adding to its staff, since the necessary personnel could certainly be taken from other departments, which had already kept abreast of the published material relating in particular to the Plowshare operation in the United States.

Para. 90 In view of the fact that the technology of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes was still in its infancy, international action in that field should consist primarily in collecting all the information which would enable Member States to evaluate the promise of those new techniques and to have recourse to them in due time under appropriate international control.

Para. 91 As the devices used would remain in the custody and under the control of the nuclear-weapon State which supplied the services, the Agency's role would be mainly that of an intermediary, namely to arrange with one of its Members, specifically one of the nuclear-weapon States, to supply another, viz. a non-nuclear-weapon State, with the nuclear explosives and services needed to carry out the explosions in question.

Para. 92 It therefore seemed essential for the Agency to be able to obtain from the nuclear-weapon States all information resulting from their present experiments in order that there might be no technological gap between States which had renounced possession of nuclear weapons and those which had joined in the nuclear armaments race. The Agency should also do what it could to collect for its Members information relating to the scientific and technical results deriving indirectly from the use of nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes, i.e. in the fields of geology, palaeontology, seismology, hydrology, nuclear physics, etc. All those points would, in his country's opinion, have to be kept in view in implementing Article V of the Non-Proliferation Treaty."

Mr. PRETSCH (Federal Republic of Germany):

Para. 100 "With regard to the peaceful application of nuclear explosives, a new sphere of interest, the compilation and dissemination of information would also constitute an important element of international co-operation during the next few years; and the Agency was certainly the appropriate organization for such a task. In that field, as in others, the recommendations of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States held at Geneva in 1968 should be regarded as a useful contribution to any discussion of the Agency's future tasks."

Mr. SCOTT (Jamaica):

Para. 120 "There were also difficulties that would require the most careful and patient consideration, namely the Agency's safeguards system and the use of nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes. But the way ahead would be much easier if the Agency was prepared to define a policy for the benefit of all developing countries, and that could best be done if each country had a say in the formulation of such policies."

129th plenary meeting, 25 September 1969 /GC(XIII)/OR.129/

Mr. SANDOVAL VALLARTA (Mexico):

Para. 10 "Another matter of interest to Mexico was the use of nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes. The Mexican Government considered that the establishment, within the framework of the Agency, of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes under appropriate international control, would initially require the drawing up and approval of a special international agreement to define the identity, structure, powers and duties of the service, a task which should be undertaken as soon as possible with the widest possible participation of the non-nuclear-weapon States.

Para. 11 According to Articles IV and V of the NPT, members of that service would initially be nuclear-weapon States. As regards the non-nuclear weapon States, Mexico considered that those States which had renounced nuclear weapons must benefit from the service. The service would function within the framework of the Agency, but should not be confused with the latter in discharging the specific tasks that would be assigned to it. Moreover, difficult problems might arise because the Member States of the Agency were not the same as those under the NPT or, naturally and with more reason, under the Tlatelolco Treaty.

Para. 12 The Mexican Government had submitted two memoranda on the subject to the Agency /GC(XIII)/411/.

Para. 13 The foregoing were the points which the Mexican Government considered it pertinent to submit to the General Conference as a further contribution in its desire to see that nuclear energy be used exclusively for peaceful purposes."

Mr. MOUSTAFA (United Arab Republic):

Para. 38 "In connection with Article V of the NPT, the General Assembly had adopted a resolution at its twenty-third session requesting the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the establishment within the framework of the Agency of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes under appropriate international control.

Para. 39 The technology involved in such use of nuclear explosions was still in an early stage of development and much work would have to be done before it could be applied in major projects in civil engineering, in mining or in the petroleum and natural gas industries. The data presented to the Board of Governors at its June meetings had shown that a wide range of technical problems in many areas (e.g. seismic effects, radiation hazards to the environment) would have to be solved before such applications became feasible. In any event, it was evident that the Agency had a major role to play in that field.

Para. 40 His delegation considered that, given its statutory functions and technical competence and experience, the Agency was the most appropriate international body for carrying out the tasks referred to in Article V of the NPT. The obligations arising under Articles III and IV of the NPT would require further expansion of the Agency's activities relating to safeguards and inspection, and to the peaceful applications of nuclear technology."

Mr. MOROKZHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics):

Para. 63 (8): "The Agency's responsibilities in connection with the Non-Proliferation Treaty go beyond making the necessary preparations to carry out its new functions in the field of safeguards. The Treaty gives the Agency definite responsibilities in regard to peaceful nuclear explosions. Most States are of the opinion that it is the Agency which should play the role of the organ through which the non-nuclear Powers parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty may benefit from the peaceful use of nuclear explosives.

Para. 63 (9): As we have indicated in the Soviet Union's reply to the Director General's query we believe that with its present structure the Agency is in a position to assume responsibilities in connection with such explosions. The Agency has played an active part in preparing the report which will be submitted to the United Nations General Assembly for consideration at its present session, and it is collecting and disseminating information in regard to the possible practical applications of nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes.

(10): In accordance with the Non-Proliferation Treaty the USSR will take a direct part in carrying out peaceful nuclear explosions for non-nuclear States. In our desire to contribute to the Agency's work in this field we have already sent to the Agency a number of scientific and technical reports by Soviet scientists on the problem of using nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. These reports discuss, on the basis of specific examples, possible applications of nuclear explosions in the USSR's national economy, in regard, for example, to the construction of canals and reservoirs, the underground development and opening up of mineral deposits and steps to increase petroleum and gas production. The reports also deal with such important questions as methods of forecasting radioactive contamination. We will continue sending the Agency similar information in future.

(11): We think this material will be of value to the Agency in assessing the prospects of using nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes. Naturally these prospects must be considered realistically, taking into account the actual current level of technical development.

(12): There is no room for doubt that the General Conference was perfectly correct in the resolution it adopted at its twelfth session regarding the Agency's role in this question of peaceful explosions. There is a great deal of work for the Agency to do in making the necessary organizational and material preparations for discharging its responsibilities in this field.

(13): We fully approve the report of the Board of Governors on 'The Agency's responsibility to provide services in connection with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes', adopted by the Board last June. It is certain that this document will be one of the key elements in preparing the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the question of nuclear explosions."

Mr. HIRSCH (France):

Para. 81 "... The French delegation knew in advance that the Secretariat would apply great efficiency, diligence and competence to the preparation of the Geneva Conference, which should yield interesting conclusions. Among other activities the conference would make it possible to assess the situation regarding the use of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, a topic which had recently acquired justified importance, although some countries had displayed a tendency to suggest that practical results could be achieved much sooner than was in fact the case, doubtless in order to calm the anxieties of countries which feared that they might be permanently excluded from

activities in that field. The Agency should state the situation as it was and, in a general way, one of its functions should always be to place in proper perspective the sometimes exaggerated hopes originating in poorly industrialized countries regarding the possibilities of rapidly introducing nuclear energy techniques. France had confidence in the Agency's capacity to succeed in that important assignment, as in all the other functions which were entrusted to it."

130th plenary meeting, 25 September 1969 /GC(XIII)/OR.130/

Mr. BOETZELAER (Netherlands):

Para. 30 "His delegation suggested that the two documents prepared by the Board of Governors, namely the memorandum on a fund of special nuclear materials and the report on the Agency's responsibility to provide services in connection with peaceful nuclear explosions, should also be brought to the attention of the General Assembly. Those documents constituted, for all practical purposes, addenda to the Board's report to the Secretary-General, which dealt with the same topics in a more concise manner."

Mr. STRAUB (Hungary):

Para. 44 "The performance of supervisory duties in connection with peaceful nuclear explosions - together with related problems of technology, health protection and law - were other aspects of the NPT. The Hungarian delegation regarded the Agency as the organization most competent to deal with those problems. Another task which must not be neglected was that of giving adequate information to the public at large. The offer of the delegate of the Soviet Union to provide information on the peaceful applications of nuclear explosions in his country was most timely and welcome."

Mr. SARABHAI (India):

Para. 61 "With regard to the peaceful uses of nuclear explosives, the delegation of India believed that the conclusions reached by the Board, reflected in a report now before the Conference, represented a realistic and positive appraisal of the problem. However, as the relevant technology was in its infancy, attention should be focused initially, as the Board had recommended, on the exchange and dissemination of information."

Para. 62 The Agency's experience in promoting the peaceful applications of nuclear energy throughout the world, and in safeguarding against any diversion of nuclear materials to military ends, clearly made it the competent organization to provide international services in connection with the peaceful uses of nuclear explosives. His delegation trusted that that problem would be considered in proper perspective, within the framework of the Statute, and that it would not be clouded by extraneous issues."

Mr. VASILEV (Bulgaria):

Para. 79 "Another important activity of the Agency was the provision of services in connection with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. The Bulgarian delegation wished to express its approval of the report of the Board contained in document GC(XIII)/410."



Sir Philip BAXTER (Australia):

Para. 12 "It would be recalled that in March that year, the Director General had asked Member States to give him their views on the procedures the Agency might employ in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear explosions and had also set out a very well-reasoned analysis (GOV/1320) of the role the Agency might play in that field. The Director General's concept was in close accord with his delegation's views. The Agency should not be entitled to intervene, adjudicate or arbitrate in matters of peaceful nuclear explosions unless it was asked to do so by both the countries concerned. The system proposed by the Director General should lead to efficiency and economy. His view that the Agency should let its role in that new field evolve rather than try to determine it in advance, was sound and was one with which his delegation fully agreed. It was worth noting, perhaps, that because of the early state of development of that particular technology, the Agency had time to make a full and practical appraisal of its potentialities."

Mr. ISTINYELI (Turkey):

Para. 33 "His delegation supported the conclusions contained in the reports on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, the review of Article VI of the Statute and the fund of special fissionable materials."

Mr. HIRAIZUMI (Japan):

Para. 54 "Another aspect that required special consideration was the role to be played by the Agency in connection with the international transfer of nuclear information. In that respect, the Japanese delegation subscribed to the views expressed in the Director General's report. Obviously, it was important to promote the exchange of scientific and technical information to be derived from the peaceful application of nuclear explosions, the potential benefits of which were expected to be made available, by appropriate international arrangements, to non-nuclear-weapon States as well. He would not, however, dwell on that important subject as the detailed views of the Japanese Government had already been presented to the Agency and were set out in various documents."

Mr. NEUMANN (Czechoslovakia):

Para. 76 "The Czechoslovak delegation approved the start of work, as provided in resolution GC(XII)/RES/245, on studies relating to the Agency's functions in connection with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. An exchange of information and its circulation to Member States was the first stage in the preparations which the Agency would have to carry out in the implementation of that important function under the NPT. His delegation welcomed the general support for the principle that those problems should be dealt with by the Agency, the present organizational structure of which was fully capable of performing the tasks assigned to it."

Mr. REITBAUER (Austria):

Para. 89 "Turning to the Agency's role in connection with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, he said that the relevant technology was still at an early stage. The field did, however, constitute a major hope for development and prosperity. The report of the Board had given an excellent survey of what the Agency could undertake in the future in this connection.

Para. 90 Austria was firmly convinced that the activities of the Agency in this respect fell within the Agency's statutory objectives and that they were within the Agency's technical competence. At the present stage of the technological development in this field the Agency should devote its attention initially to the exchange and dissemination of information, for which the present organizational structure seemed to be appropriate and adequate."

Mr. ANDRZEJEWSKI (Poland):

Para. 100 "There was an essential link between implementation of the NPT and the Agency's activities in respect both of control of fissionable materials and the installations where they were stored and of the peaceful use of nuclear explosives. His country supported the work the Agency had done so far in those areas. ....

Para. 101 His delegation considered that the Agency was the only international body entitled to control nuclear explosions and that all signatories of the NPT should submit to its control. The experience and outstanding scientific qualifications of the experts in the Secretariat fully justified their being entrusted with the functions provided for by Article V of the Treaty. He approved without reservations the conclusions of the Secretariat set out in document GC(XIII)/410."

Mr. HOCHSTRASSER (Switzerland):

Para. 118 "In the same general category belonged the assistance which the Agency could give in connection with underground nuclear explosions. Although widespread use of the technique was impossible at the present stage, Switzerland felt that the Agency was the proper organization to assume international responsibilities in connection with the peaceful uses of nuclear explosives. It should gird itself for its new task."

132nd plenary meeting, 26 September 1969 /GC(XIII)/OR.132/

Mr. QUIHILLAIT (Argentina):

Para. 59 "Referring to the provision of services in connection with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, he said his country considered that all international programmes for the peaceful uses of atomic energy should be centralized at the Agency, including nuclear explosions or any other programmes or development by which nuclear energy could contribute to general well-being. The Agency's Statute, organization and procedures had been devised for the provision of services of that kind, and the only way in which the situation

could be affected by the emergency of new types of activities would be a change in the volume of the Agency's work, as a result of an increase in request for technical assistance by Member States.

Para. 60 For those reasons his delegation considered that services in connection with nuclear explosions were among the functions envisaged in Article III of the Statute and that the Agency should therefore act in full conformity with what was stated in that Article, and without departing from the provisions of paragraph III.C thereof, which stated: 'In carrying out its functions, the Agency shall not make assistance to members subject to any political, economic, military or other conditions incompatible with the provisions of this Statute'.

Para. 61 It was therefore quite feasible for the Agency to undertake immediate work to promote a maximum exchange of information and expertise on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, since the subject was one in which many Member States were interested and on which there was very little information available."

Mr. GUZINA (Yugoslavia):

Para. 70 "He realized that technical and health and safety problems relating to the use of nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes required further study but considered, in that connection, that the Agency should make timely preparations to provide Member States with the necessary services under appropriate international control."

Mr. BRILLANTES (Philippines):

Para. 111 "In connection with the role which the Agency might assume with respect to nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, there had to be proper international observation to protect the health and safety of the surrounding areas. Progress attained by the technologically more advanced countries should not in any way jeopardize the health of the population around the area of explosion. In the field of financial aid, Article XI.B of the Statute provided that upon request, the Agency could also assist any Member or group of Members to make arrangements to assure necessary financing from outside sources, but in extending such assistance would not be required to provide any guarantees or assume any financial responsibility for the project.

Para. 112 Like many other development projects in the developing countries which remained unimplemented because of inadequate financing, projects involving nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes would definitely be shelved unless a more workable financing system was available to developing countries as envisaged under Article V of the NPT."

133rd plenary meeting, 29 September 1969 /GC(XIII)/OR.1337

Mr. SUDARSONO (Indonesia):

Para. 4 "In providing services relating to the use of nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes, the Agency could play a very valuable role; there should be no discrimination against any State and, if possible, non-nuclear weapon States should not be required to pay the cost of research and development."

Mr. NEJEDLY (Czechoslovakia):

Para. 100 Rapporteur of the Programme, Technical and Budget Committee, introduced the Committee's report concerning the Agency's responsibility to provide services in connection with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes /GC(XIII)/425/.

Para. 101 The draft resolution in the Annex to document GC(XIII)/425 was adopted.

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