

United Nations GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NINTH SESSION
Official Records



FIRST COMMITTEE, 717th
MEETING

Monday, 15 November 1954,
at 3 p.m.

New York

CONTENTS

Agenda item 67:

International co-operation in developing the peaceful
uses of atomic energy: report of the United States
of America (*continued*) 341

Chairman: Mr. Francisco URRUTIA (Colombia).

AGENDA ITEM 67

International co-operation in developing the peace- ful uses of atomic energy: report of the United States of America (A/2734, A/2738, A/C.1/ 758, A/C.1/L.105) (*continued*)

1. The SECRETARY-GENERAL said that when the General Assembly, on 25 September (478th meeting), had decided to include in its agenda the item of international co-operation in developing the peaceful uses of atomic energy, it had been apparent that any action taken on those lines would involve considerable new responsibilities for the United Nations.
2. For that reason, he had decided, on 29 September, to appoint a Secretariat committee to study, first, appropriate methods for the calling of a scientific conference, and, secondly, the question of relations between the United Nations and the international agency to be set up.
3. At a previous meeting of the First Committee (710th meeting) he had been requested to make the results of the committee's work available to members. A summary of that work (A/C.1/758) was being distributed currently. It called for little comment. It provided a factual review of existing precedents with regard to the establishment of specialized agencies and their relations with the United Nations. The three paragraphs following paragraph 37 were of particular interest. There was nevertheless room for doubt whether such precedents offered a solution to the problems raised by the organization of the new agency. Precedents were certainly useful, but they were neither conclusive nor binding and other solutions might have to be found for a new situation.
4. Mr. MOE (Norway) joined with previous speakers in thanking President Eisenhower and the United States delegation for having taken the initiative in bringing the question of the peaceful uses of atomic energy before the United Nations. He was also grateful to the seven Powers which had submitted a joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.105).
5. Power was the basis of all human activity in modern civilization. The release of atomic energy was a discovery which would have incalculable effects on civilization.

6. International co-operation should prevail in the field of atomic energy. The development of atomic power would obviously have important effects not only on the industrial structure of States but also on the geographical distribution of industry in the world and, consequently, on international relations. Co-operation in that field might offer a solution to the problem of the under-developed countries. Moreover, coming after the secrecy with which the technical development of atomic energy had been surrounded, it should dispel the atmosphere of distrust prevailing in the world and thereby facilitate the discovery of a solution to the general problem of disarmament. Co-operation was also desirable because the development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy would undoubtedly be accelerated if the necessary raw materials could be made accessible and if the necessary information could be pooled. The field of atomic energy was one in which technical progress could scarcely be confined within national frontiers.

7. The small nations experienced particular difficulties in obtaining the raw materials which they must have if they were to contribute to the peaceful development of atomic energy. There was no doubt that many small European nations could make a valuable contribution if they had the necessary tools. Nevertheless, investment costs were so great that many States found it impossible to undertake atomic research on a national basis. For example, the electricity consumption in the establishments controlled by the United States Atomic Energy Commission was greater than the total consumption of electricity in the whole of Norway.

8. The small States must therefore concentrate on limited objectives and work together. Norway and the Netherlands had established an experimental reactor in Norway in 1951. That was probably the first and only joint atomic energy project, and the staff of the atomic establishment in Norway usually included experts from as many as ten different countries. The project was thus an example, on a small scale, of international co-operation in the atomic energy field.

9. Furthermore, eight European nations, Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, had set up a joint body, the European Atomic Energy Society — not to be confused with the European Centre for Nuclear Research — to promote co-operation in research and the industrial application of atomic energy. To achieve its object, the Society was to promote international meetings of scientists and engineers working in the field of the peaceful application of nuclear energy; to promote the circulation of unclassified information; to facilitate the standardization of nomenclature; to promote the study of necessary safety measures; to promote publication of nuclear energy works, and to establish a centre of information on the availability of nuclear energy materials and equipment. In forming the Society, the European States had therefore achieved

a valuable form of co-operation which might well be borne in mind in connexion with the discussion of the organization of the proposed new agency.

10. It should also be mentioned that the United Kingdom was selling isotopes to the whole of Europe and that the joint Netherlands-Norwegian establishment was doing the same on a smaller scale. Experimental reactors were under construction in several European countries. Sweden already had one such reactor and was proposing to establish a plutonium reactor. The Netherlands-Norwegian group proposed to construct an experimental electricity-producing reactor with a capacity similar to that of the Soviet reactor to which reference had been made earlier in the debate. France and the United Kingdom had supplied the members of the European Atomic Energy Society with information, raw materials and instruments.

11. Thus co-operation was possible in that field, and it enabled small nations to participate effectively in the development of the new force.

12. It was understandable that the co-sponsors of the joint draft resolution had been unable to submit a detailed plan of the structure and functions of the proposed international organ. The problem was indeed complicated. In certain cases, national legislation might limit the possibilities of immediate agreement; and to make the necessary legislative changes would take time. In the interim, international co-operation on a small scale had undoubted advantages, since it might lead to the development of much wider international co-operation. While it was important that the initiative should have been taken to place the whole question before the United Nations, it was even more important to ensure that the desired goal was pursued with the utmost vigour. The result would depend largely on the outcome of the proposed negotiations.

13. It was difficult to form a firm opinion on the part to be played by the agency in the international field. Nevertheless, the Norwegian delegation, without committing itself, wished to make the following observations.

14. It was clear that the uranium-producing nations would hesitate to empower the international agency to dispose of one of their most valuable assets, and such an arrangement could not be contemplated. On the other hand, the consumer nations clearly wished to have access to the necessary raw materials and information. Lastly it was desirable that the United Nations should participate in the contemplated agreement, and it would seem desirable for countries which at present had no access to raw materials to be represented in the negotiations on the establishment of the agency.

15. The plan adopted by the European Atomic Energy Society might perhaps serve as a model. That would mean that the agency would be based on the voluntary principle so far as the contributions of members were concerned. That principle had already been adopted as the basis of both the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund. Adoption of that principle would limit the functions of the agency, but appeared to entail no substantial departure from the seven-Power proposal, since all transfers of fissionable materials would in any case be based on bilateral agreements.

16. An organization established on the basis of voluntary contributions might appear of doubtful value, but

the example of the European Atomic Energy Society testified to the soundness of the principle. Furthermore co-operation could not, by definition, be other than voluntary.

17. It should be noted that, even if the agency was not directly involved in the transfer of fissionable materials, it could nevertheless facilitate such transfer by acting as a centre for information as to the availability of materials, including scarce metals and other special materials such as sodium, graphite and heavy water which were essential to the development of nuclear power. The agency could also arrange for international conferences, promote the exchange of technical information, study safety precautions, publish technical studies and set up schools for the training of specialists.

18. Some delegations had brought up the question of the veto in the Security Council in connexion with the relationship between the proposed agency and the United Nations. In Mr. Moe's view, the question had not been framed in the right way, for, according to the joint draft resolution, the transfer of fissionable materials could not be effected without the consent of the States concerned: in other words, every member would, in fact have a veto power so far as its own contribution of fissionable materials was concerned. It might be contended that, if the agency was made a subsidiary organ of the Security Council, the unanimity rule might be applied to questions of policy, but no proposal of that kind had been made. It was also possible to envisage the position where a decision was taken by majority vote in all matters not connected with the transfer of fissionable materials, but that would be the case only if the agency was to be a subsidiary organ of the Security Council. But in any event, it was useless to discuss the veto in the abstract. If the agency was established on the lines of the European Atomic Energy Society, the problem of the veto would not arise at all, for every member would have a *de facto* veto in all matters connected with its own contribution and participation.

19. The treaty constituting the agency should prescribe the form which the relationship between that organ and the United Nations was to take. That being so, it was reasonable that the United Nations should be consulted, preferably at the initial stage of the negotiations, but in any event before the treaty was finally formulated. There was no obvious reason why the relationship between the agency and the United Nations must of necessity be the same as that between the specialized agencies and the United Nations. The problem was different; therefore the links between the agency and the United Nations should also be different—a fact which made it even more desirable for the United Nations to be consulted at an early stage. And if the agency's functions were made similar to those of the European Atomic Energy Society, the United Nations could more easily be brought into the negotiations. In any case, it was possible to envisage consultations between the eight member States and the United Nations taking place parallel with the negotiations on the establishment of the agency among the States themselves.

20. In connexion with the proposed international conference, Mr. Moe recalled that the United Kingdom representative had said (707th meeting) that the conference should not make recommendations with regard to the organization of the agency. It would seem dif

difficult, however, for the conference to discuss means of developing the peaceful uses of atomic energy through international co-operation without discussing, and being able to make recommendations, concerning the formation of an international organ.

21. The United States representative had proposed (707th meeting) that the conference should discover the field in which progress would be technically feasible and develop procedures whereby the nations of the world could make known their wants. The development of procedures whereby nations could make known their wants was clearly a very different matter from the development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy through international co-operation. It was important that the aim of the conference should be clarified before the United Nations undertook to organize it.

22. If the conference was intended to be purely scientific, it might either deal with nuclear power technology, which was the area of restricted information where a conference leading to the declassification of certain information would be highly valuable, or it might deal only with the unrestricted research area — the application of atomic energy to biology, medicine and the like. The Norwegian delegation favoured a conference of the first kind, for international co-operation was at present less advanced in that field than in the purely scientific field.

23. Recalling that the European Atomic Energy Society had decided to organize an international conference on nuclear power technology in Rome in October 1955, Mr. Moe said that if the United Nations organized a similar conference, it should avoid duplication of effort with the Rome conference.

24. Summing up, Mr. Moe said that, in the opinion of his delegation, it was necessary to initiate world-wide international co-operation for the peaceful use of atomic energy. In establishing an international agency for that purpose, it was necessary to take into consideration not only what might be desirable, but what was possible. A start should be made on the basis of voluntary contributions. If that principle was accepted, the question of the relationship between the agency and the United Nations would not be difficult to solve. In any event, the United Nations should be consulted at the initial stage of the negotiations. Lastly, the aims and agenda of the proposed international scientific conference should be clarified.

25. Mr. LODGE (United States of America) said that his delegation was studying the amendments which the Soviet representative had proposed on 12 November with the greatest care. He hoped to be able to communicate with the Soviet representative on the subject that evening.

26. Referring to the question raised by the Soviet and Chinese representatives, as to whether the proposal under consideration was narrower in scope than that made by President Eisenhower (470th plenary meeting), Mr. Lodge said that it had been dealt with by Mr. Jackson at the previous meeting.

27. In his statement (715th meeting), the Soviet representative had stressed Russian accomplishments in connexion with nuclear physics before the First World War and had referred to the successful development of an electric power plant with a capacity of 5,000 kilowatts. While the Soviet Union was to be congratulated on that achievement, the building of such a

pilot plant was a long way from the large-scale production of electric power from nuclear fuels. Indeed, the Soviet magazine *Communist* had modestly acknowledged in its issue of April 1954 that "a complete epoch" would pass before the peaceful use of atomic energy became an everyday reality. The expression used was somewhat vague, but the exchange of information would certainly offer one way of accelerating matters. The United States, for its own part, had already published its designs for various reactors and would certainly be greatly interested in any similar publications, especially with regard to the 5,000 kilowatt atomic power plant built in the Soviet Union. It would also be interesting to learn what the Soviet programme was for the export of isotopes, the Soviet representative having spoken of progress in that field.

28. With regard to membership in the agency, the United States believed that the door should be left open so that all States might assume the responsibilities and secure the benefits of participation, and that there should be no special privileges. The only special privilege claimed by the United States was that of helping as many countries as possible; the only exploitation it had in mind was the exploitation of atomic energy for peace.

29. The United States delegation had not changed its view that the agency should be under the aegis of the United Nations. Under the joint draft resolution, the agency's relationship with the United Nations would be worked out once the agency was established. It would be premature to come to a decision about such relationships, and, as the USSR representative had pointed out, that was a matter which should be settled by negotiations among the States forming the agency, and later between the agency and the United Nations. Although eight nations were prepared to provide fissionable or raw materials which were valuable both for the peacetime development of those nations and for their security, it should be borne in mind that the legislative bodies of all those countries would scrutinize the treaty submitted to them closely. The United States had been able to make its offer as a result of amendments to the Atomic Energy Act, and at its last session Congress had authorized the sharing of information and materials.

30. The USSR representative had interpreted the clearing-house role which the agency was to play as meaning that the agency would have to approve the plans of the States concerned relating to the use of fissionable materials for peaceful ends. But in practice the agency would have no control over the use of fissionable material except when such material was specifically earmarked for agency projects. Thus any State would remain free to transfer fissionable materials to another State without having to secure the consent of the agency.

31. The foregoing by no means exhausted the list of problems which could complicate the organization of the agency, and any attempt to mark out the course of the negotiations would only create unnecessary and perhaps insuperable obstacles. Simplification and concentration on what was feasible should be the watchwords, and the task should be undertaken as soon as possible.

32. The USSR representative had tried once again to link progress in international co-operation in developing peaceful uses of the atom to progress in a

disarmament programme, although he had no longer insisted on a theoretical and unsafeguarded prohibition of the use of atomic weapons as a prerequisite to his Government's participation in the negotiations on the peaceful use of atomic energy. The previous December, President Eisenhower had made it clear that, although he was not making a disarmament proposal, he was offering the possibility of achieving peace by suggesting a new way of dealing with the difficult problems which had to be faced. Disarmament, so difficult to achieve in an atmosphere of distrust, was only one of the elements of peace, which should be worked for in a spirit of co-operation and mutual confidence.

33. Care should therefore be taken not to link the two discussions, although it was well known that progress in one field would have repercussions on the other. It was true, as the USSR representative had pointed out, that the proposals in the United States memorandum of 19 March 1954 (A/2738) would not in themselves result in a reduction of the potential force of atomic weapons. But neither would increase that potential and their adoption would result in economic and social benefits to many areas of the world. Moreover, the negotiating Powers were determined to avoid further delay in the peaceful use of the atom.

34. The USSR representative had contended that the peaceful use of atomic energy would increase the supply of fissionable weapon-grade materials, that non-dangerous materials could become dangerous, and that industrial reactors would produce radio-active by-products which could be used for military purposes. He had thereby implied that an agreement to eliminate atomic weapons should be reached at the same time. The Swedish representative had referred (710th meeting) to the same problem.

35. The United States did not believe, however, that it was necessary to solve the entire problem of international control and the elimination of atomic weapons before work could be undertaken on peaceful projects utilizing atomic fission in a manner consistent with international security. The United States, as it had indicated in its correspondence with the Soviet Union (A/2738), believed that ways could be devised for developing peaceful uses of the atom which were consistent with international security and which would prevent the diversion of some materials to military purposes.

36. For instance, the activities which Mr. Lodge had proposed for the immediate future in his statement of 5 November (707th meeting) did not involve the production of weapon-grade materials. The problem of radio-active by-products could also be dealt with. In any case, that was part of the general question of safeguards against the improper use of fissionable materials provided for or produced in connexion with peaceful uses of atomic energy. The Powers which were negotiating to establish the agency would have to consider that problem. The United States believed that scientists and statesmen could devise means of ensuring that, as reactors were constructed, the materials they produced were not diverted to military purposes.

37. The problem of ensuring that atomic energy was used only for peaceful purposes, which was one of the aspects of disarmament, would in no way be complicated by the work of the agency. When the in-

ternational control organ was established at some future date, it could undoubtedly co-operate with the international atomic energy agency, but in the meantime progress must be made.

38. The USSR representative had also tried to connect disarmament and the peaceful uses of atomic energy by insisting upon the paramount role of the Security Council. However, if a question relating to the peaceful uses of atomic energy threatened peace and international security, the United Nations — which meant the General Assembly as well as the Security Council — would doubtless deal with it as it dealt with other similar questions. Therefore, in the interests of international security, it was probable that some relationship would be established between the agency and the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Secretary-General.

39. The USSR representative had dwelt on General Assembly resolution 1 (I) of 24 January 1946 setting up the now defunct Atomic Energy Commission. That commission's primary object had been to deal with atomic disarmament, and of course it was to have reported and made recommendations to the Security Council and the General Assembly. Was that sufficient reason for the international atomic energy agency, whose functions would be quite different, to be subject to the veto? In reality it was the Disarmament Commission which had inherited the Atomic Energy Commission's task.

40. In connexion with the participation of the under-developed countries in the agency, the memorandum of the Secretary of State of 19 March 1954 (A/2738) had provided that the highest executive authority in the agency should be exercised by a board of governors of limited membership, representing Governments, and that in determining its composition it might be desirable to take account of geographical distribution and membership by prospective beneficiaries. That was sufficient to prove that the under-developed countries would be represented on the board. The Secretary of State in his speech of 23 September to the General Assembly (475th meeting) had also made it clear that no nation was excluded from the current negotiations and that later all nations could contribute to the planning and the execution of the programme.

41. That was still the United States position. The United States had never contemplated a closed organization of contributing States, nor wishes to present the establishment of the agency as a *fait accompli*. It had undertaken to inform Member States of the progress achieved, and now it could be stated that the Governments engaged in the current negotiations would consult Governments which desired to participate in the agency before the agreement on its establishment was submitted for ratification; their views would be given serious consideration.

42. The primary purpose of the joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.105) was to establish the agency as rapidly as possible. If other Governments displayed a spirit of co-operation and good will, then at the following session it would be possible to discuss the concrete results of international co-operation in placing atomic science at the service of mankind.

43. Mr. Lodge concluded by saying that he had just received from Washington a message which would prove that the United States proposals were specific and that their scope had not been narrowed. He had

been authorized by the President of the United States to say that the United States Atomic Energy Commission had allocated 100 kilogrammes of fissionable material for the experimental reactors which were to be established in various places abroad. That amount of fissionable material was sufficient to activate a considerable number of reactors throughout the world.

44. Mr. COOKE (Argentina) recalled that, speaking in the General Assembly (488th meeting), he had said that the United States proposal for allowing other States to benefit from its atomic knowledge had been warmly welcomed in Argentina. Accordingly, the Argentine delegation fully supported the seven-Power draft resolution.

45. The United States representative, Mr. Lodge, had reviewed (707th meeting) the scientific developments which had led mankind to the threshold of the atomic age, and had described United States achievements in the practical application of atomic energy. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom, Sir Pierson Dixon, had spoken of the contribution made by British scientists to atomic science, and had described what had been done in the United Kingdom in the peaceful use of atomic energy, and the Canadian representative, Mr. Martin, had emphasized the point that the main feature of the development of nuclear physics had been international collaboration. Mr. Martin had also described Canada's achievements, and had said that since the end of the war Canadian scientists had directed their efforts exclusively towards the peaceful applications of atomic energy. The representative of France, Mr. Moch, had emphasized (708th meeting) the essentially collective and international nature of atomic science, and had pointed out that French scientists had taken an active part at all four stages of the discovery of fission and fusion reactions, winning eight Nobel prizes. He had added that the French atomic energy programme was entirely peaceful in aim, and that France hoped that enough progress would be achieved in disarmament to enable it to continue along those lines. Mr. Vyshinsky, after stressing (715th meeting) the contribution made by Russian science, had expatiated on Soviet achievements in the scientific application of atomic energy, and had said that a first atomic reactor supplying electricity for a 5,000 kilowatt power station had gone into operation on 27 June 1954.

46. After paying a tribute to the scientists of other countries who had also made discoveries and contributed to atomic science, Mr. Cooke pointed out that the conclusion to be drawn from the aforementioned statements was that a paradoxical situation existed; for while very rapid progress had been made in the application of atomic energy to military purposes, the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes was still in its infancy. The representatives of certain great Powers had issued a warning against overoptimism with regard to the immediate possibilities of important and positive results; for example, Mr. Moch had expressed the view that between the present stage and the atomic era there would be an intermediate period during which temporary solutions might be offered by methods which he had described as "para-conventional". On the other hand, such strides had been made in the use of atomic energy for military purposes that mankind was faced with the prospect of complete destruction unless the Governments concerned succeeded in reaching agreement on the subject.

47. Except for Mr. Vyshinsky, who had displayed more optimism, all the speakers who had made technical statements had expressed the view that for both financial and scientific reasons it would require several decades before the problem of producing electric energy from the atom was solved. It was to be hoped, however, that man's inventive spirit would make it possible for the peaceful application of atomic energy to proceed at the same rapid pace as the military application. Already there was reason to note with satisfaction the considerable progress achieved in the use of radioactive isotopes for the treatment of cancer, the diagnosis and treatment of other diseases and general medical research.

48. It was of course impossible as yet clearly to envisage the lines along which the proposed international agency would have to develop. It was not a matter of establishing a central producing plant for the distribution of atomic energy for peaceful purposes in such quantities as might be desired by nations which had no atomic programmes or were just starting them. The terms of reference within which the primary objectives of the agency could best be defined had been described by the United Kingdom representative. The essential requirements for any project for the utilization of atomic energy, he had said, were first, the possession of the basic scientific knowledge; secondly, the experimental equipment; thirdly, the necessary materials, and fourthly, the power production units themselves.

49. Nevertheless, the international agency must not be allowed to become something in the nature of a university. What was essential was to have reactors. On that point, Mr. Lodge had offered some particularly interesting information, since it appeared that a large number of countries could be assisted with supplies of radio-active isotopes by small experimental reactors which could be built at a cost of under \$500,000. The international agency would stimulate co-operation, and would thus help to accelerate and improve the process of discovery. The plan to establish the agency, thus sparing others work already done and considerable expense, was undoubtedly a generous idea on the part of the countries with great economic and scientific resources; the offer made by the Government of the United States was a particularly generous gesture, which deserved the warm thanks of the prospective beneficiaries. Similar thanks must be tendered to the United Kingdom and France, which, each within its means, had made offers of the same kind.

50. With regard to the organization of the agency, the Argentine delegation felt that it might perhaps have been better to convene an international conference immediately, so that the establishment of the international agency could be discussed by all concerned; for it was inappropriate to establish an agency first, and only afterwards invite the various countries to discuss separately, and almost bilaterally, their accession to the treaty. The document issued by the Secretariat (A/C.1/758) referred to various methods of establishing international agencies by means of treaties. One of those methods might have been preferable to that hitherto contemplated.

51. With regard to the scientific conference provided for in the seven-Power draft resolution, Mr. Cooke felt that it should be primarily a scientific congress, dealing with all aspects of the peaceful utilization of atomic energy. It would be useful to broaden the scope

of the conference to include the study of the entire technique of power production, in particular the so-called para-conventional methods.

52. The Argentine delegation hoped that the joint draft resolution could receive unanimous approval, since the statesmen of the great Powers were constantly expressing their desire for peace and since there was an undoubted improvement in relations among States, as had been shown by the unanimous adoption of the draft resolution on disarmament. Thus the requirement that there should be a prior prohibition of the use of atomic weapons had been withdrawn, which meant that the fundamental obstacle to an agreement on the peaceful uses of atomic energy had been eliminated.

53. There were no grounds for fearing that the international agency might increase the production of atomic weapons. It was true that States carrying on individual research into the peaceful development of atomic energy might increase the destructive power of atomic energy; but that danger could not be aggravated by the activity of the proposed international body.

54. Similarly, there was no direct connexion between the proposed programme of the international agency and the problem of security, necessitating Security Council action. The authors of the joint draft resolution had not wished to put the future international agency outside the jurisdiction of the United Nations. Perhaps they had tried to avoid the risk of paralysis which might arise if the Security Council intervened. However, in view of the fact that the Security Council's functions lay mainly in the sphere of the maintenance of international peace and security, it was hard to see how the work of the proposed agency could create a situation that might endanger the peace.

55. The representative of Argentina took the view that none of the objections put forward during the debate constituted an insuperable obstacle, for they had all centred essentially upon the terms of reference of the proposed agency. Mr. Cooke therefore hoped that it would be possible to reach agreement, and that, as in the case of the more difficult problem of disarmament it would be possible to adopt the present draft resolution unanimously; that would represent a first auspicious step in the direction of peace.

56. Mr. DE LA COLINA (Mexico) felt that although the prime responsibility lay with the great atomic Powers, the role of the smaller countries must not be overlooked. That had been demonstrated by the statements of the representatives of Israel, Norway and Argentina, many of whose ideas were shared by the Mexican delegation.

57. Although the industrial development of their country was of recent date, Mexican scientists were hard at work in the nuclear physics laboratories of the National University of Mexico, where they had atom-smashing equipment powered by an electrostatic generator developing several million volts. They were thus able to carry out useful research, while prospecting for uranium resources continued actively.

58. The debate had shown that, despite obstacles of every kind, it would be possible to make satisfactory

use of the new source of energy within a few years. In other words, the world was on the eve of a new industrial revolution of vital importance in raising the living standards of regions poor in sources of energy. The Mexican delegation welcomed Mr. Moch's generous suggestion that the Powers possessing reactors should invest a substantial part of their nuclear resources in the non-industrialized countries.

59. If the veil of mystery which surrounded atomic discoveries was lifted, and if international scientific co-operation was re-established, the peaceful exploitation of the atom would be greatly facilitated.

60. The Mexican delegation wished to take the present opportunity to indicate its desire that there should be the closest possible ties between the proposed international agency and the United Nations. Moreover, negotiations should be undertaken in the near future with a view to informing and consulting with those States, whether or not Members of the United Nations, which were not taking part in the present conversations. In that connexion, the Mexican delegation would study with the greatest care the comprehensive report which had just been submitted by the Secretary-General.

61. With regard to the proposed international conference, Mr. de la Colina said that scientists of the under-industrialized countries ought to be given the opportunity to state their countries' needs, in order to stimulate an exchange of views with those who already possessed atomic energy.

62. Humanity was faced with a choice between the road to well-being and salvation and the abyss into which its evil instincts threatened to plunge it. The representative of Mexico wished, at that decisive hour, to express his thanks to the authors of the joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.15) and in particular to the President of the United States for having conceived the initial plan which was the basis of the present proposal. He wished also to thank Mr. Lodge for the important information he had given on two occasions.

63. In conclusion, he hoped that the Soviet Union, whose contribution to the success of the programme would be of considerable importance, would act as it had done in the debate on disarmament, and would thus be able to participate in a work of fruitful international co-operation.

64. Mr. MOE (Norway) stressed the importance of the United States Government's decision which Mr. Lodge had just communicated to the Committee. It was the first time that such a quantity of fissionable material had been made available to countries capable of using it; a quantity equal to what was needed to produce ten atomic bombs. He pointed out how promising that generous gesture was in the field of international co-operation for the peaceful application of atomic energy. He hoped that the example of the United States would be followed by other countries.

65. Mr. MIR KHAN (Pakistan) thanked Mr. Lodge for having stated that the beneficiaries of the programme would be represented on the governing body of the agency.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.