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President: Mr. Víctor A. BELAUNDE (Peru).

## AGENDA ITEM 14

**Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency: (concluded)**

1. Mr. FOURIE (Union of South Africa): My country has been greatly interested in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) from its beginning. We are therefore gratified to note from the present report<sup>1/</sup> the progress it has made, and I wish at the outset to compliment the Director-General on this report.

2. The preliminary organizational difficulties facing the Agency have been successfully overcome and the operational activities of the Agency are well under way. It appears that these activities in the years immediately ahead will concentrate on three major spheres of work, namely:

(i) The co-ordination and development of regulatory standards in the field of health and safety;

(ii) The provision of technical assistance in all its various forms, not only to the so-called under-developed countries, but also to a number of countries which, although industrially developed, are only just beginning to embark upon atomic energy programmes; and

(iii) The development and improvement of information channels to ensure that the mass of data now being published on every aspect of atomic energy is adequately digested and available to the public and private authorities of member states which, even now, do not always know where to turn for the information they require.

3. My delegation has noted with particular satisfaction that within its operational activities, the Agency fellowship programme for the training of selected personnel from various countries was greatly expanded during the year under review. We attach particular importance to this programme since we consider the training of scientists an essential prerequisite to the execution of any research and development programme in the field of nuclear energy. My country was therefore particularly pleased to contribute to the various schemes administered under the general fund in both 1958 and 1959, and in pledging a further contribution in 1960. We ourselves have also benefited from the fellowships programme.

<sup>1/</sup> Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the General Assembly of the United Nations (1 July 1958-30 June 1959). Transmitted to the Members of the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/4244).

4. I have already referred to the three major spheres of activity on which the Agency can be expected to concentrate in the immediate future. It is, however, important not to lose sight of the long-term contributions which it can undoubtedly make towards the development of energy sources on a world-wide scale. While it is generally accepted that the costs of producing power from the atom are much greater and involve much heavier burdens in capital investment and interest charges than was believed to be the case only two years ago, it is still universally accepted that the switch to nuclear power is an inevitable development, and that in spite of this initial disappointment. If, therefore, we were to look ahead, we would find that it is not too early to start preparing for the day when nuclear power will become increasingly competitive with conventional power.

5. We therefore welcome the Agency's studies on the evolution and development of small and medium-power reactors. We believe that great benefits may come from these studies. It is therefore a project which might usefully be given financial support from available international sources in the course of the next few years. We also hope that member countries will become increasingly interested in these studies. My country, for one, has undertaken to assist in these studies.

6. When a new international body like the Agency is established, it usually takes time before effective co-ordination with existing international bodies can be brought about. We are gratified with the progress which has been made in this field. While a year ago certain difficulties were emerging, giving rise to a potential friction between the Agency and the United Nations, these have now been largely resolved to the satisfaction of all. Close co-operation is made possible through such bodies as the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Technical Assistance Board.

7. A United Nations body, namely, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, recently presented a very useful report [A/4135] on the administration of the Agency, a study undertaken in response to an invitation extended by the Agency's Board of Governors.

8. We hope that there will in future be increasing co-operation also between the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation and the Agency. As the Committee, the Agency has extended an invitation to the Scientific Committee to hold one of its meetings in Vienna. It is the hope of my delegation that the Committee would find it possible to accept this invitation and that in due course the Agency in its turn will, in a growing measure, become able to assist the Committee by undertaking or arranging research on its behalf.

9. As the membership of the United Nations and that of the Agency is largely the same, it is important to

ensure that the major responsibilities in specific fields are entrusted to the organization which is primarily concerned and best equipped to undertake the task.

10. It would seem to us that so far as the peaceful development of atomic energy is concerned, the Agency and the United Nations both have vital and important functions. However, in order to get the maximum benefit, there should be concerted and integrated, rather than parallel action. Thus where the problems at issue are primarily technical—and this applies in particular to matters relating to co-ordination and development of regulatory standards—the Agency should, in our opinion, be regarded as the principal co-ordinator. On the other hand, where the problems are, for example, basically economic, like studies of the possibilities of electric power production, where nuclear sources must be compared with conventional sources, there, in our opinion, it might best be left to the United Nations, which could perform this role most effectively through its existing agencies.

11. The Agency has already achieved a very high standard in the technical publications which it has issued, for example, the manual entitled "Safe Handling of Radioisotopes", and the "International Directory of Radioisotopes". The Agency plans to issue a new bulletin to provide information in the field of thermonuclear physics. My delegation would wish to encourage the efforts of the Agency in this direction and with a view to preserving our limited resources would urge that the international effort in this field be made mainly through the Agency.

12. My delegation welcomes the decision of the Powers concerned to choose Vienna as the headquarters for any organization which may eventually be set up for the control of atomic tests. The International Atomic Energy Agency is well established in that capital and it is conceivable that, although it is concerned with the peaceful uses of atomic energy rather than atomic disarmament, it will in the passage of time be able to assist also in that field by the provision of research facilities and otherwise in the solution of some technical problems facing any international control organization.

13. I should like to draw attention to paragraphs 154 and 156 of the Agency's report [A/244], where reference is made to the Agency's studies on the disposal of radioactive waste into the sea. The Secretary-General might perhaps wish to seek from the Agency a full report on these studies for presentation, by way of information, to the next United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. I am encouraged to make the suggestion by the fact that the Agency's studies in this field were inspired by a resolution<sup>2/</sup> adopted at the earlier Conference on the Law of the Sea, held in Geneva from February to April 1958.

14. In conclusion, I wish to express the confidence of my delegation in the ability of the Agency to carry out the important tasks which lie ahead, and to pledge my country's continued support for the attainment of the Agency's objective of accelerating and encouraging the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world.

15. It also gives me great pleasure to introduce the draft resolution [A/L.265] relating to the approval of

the report of the Agency for the period July 1958 to June 1959.

16. Mr. BERARD (France) (translated from French): My delegation would like at this point to draw some conclusions from the operations of the International Atomic Energy Agency over the period of two years.

17. President Eisenhower's speech on 8 December 1953 [470th meeting] and the negotiations for the establishment of the IAEA introduced the Agency to the world as a kind of broker in nuclear materials and techniques, through whom the great atomic Powers would act in their desire to give assistance to under-developed countries as regards the peaceful uses of atomic energy. It is clear that up to the present the Agency is not acting in this capacity and does not seem likely to do so. The success of the policy of bilateral agreements for the distribution of uranium-235 and the abundance of natural uranium account partly for the reluctance of countries to act through this new agency. The result is that all the safeguards provided for in article XII of the Statute have so far remained a dead letter. In the matter of guarantees and safeguards we continue to preach moderation, and we must guard against undue rigidity in our regulations. The flexibility we shall thus maintain and the examination, up to a point, of each case on its own merits according to the stage of development reached by the beneficiary countries will be invaluable if we wish to attract to the Agency more requests for material assistance than the few they have thus far received.

18. There are fortunately two important problems which provide some scope for the Agency, namely, that of technical assistance and that of international regulation for all matters concerned with the threat of radiation effects. The Agency has made a flying start in both matters by enlisting a large team of highly qualified experts who are, it must be emphasized, quite the most valuable asset of the Agency, which has the advantage of being, in matters concerning atomic energy, the only permanent meeting-ground for most of the nations of the world.

19. Positive and useful results as regards technical assistance and co-operation were achieved by the Agency in 1959 particularly in the training of technicians through the award of fellowships, the giving of lectures and the dispatch of missions of experts.

20. France has been happy to make a contribution to each aspect of the programme, the success of which is proved by the ever increasing number of requests for assistance. The active participation of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board in the programme is a further cause for gratification.

21. It is in matters pertaining to protection against radiation in the use of atomic energy for industrial purposes that we consider the Agency to be of most immediate value, for it will help to allay the irrational fear of radiation which is more likely than any technical difficulties to retard the development of this new and astounding source of energy.

22. The Agency has already drawn up a manual on the "Safe Handling of Radioisotopes". It should extend its activities to safety measures for reactors, in particular research reactors, which are being established in an increasing number of countries, and also to the international aspects of the problem of the discharge of radioactive waste into large rivers and oceans. Such

<sup>2/</sup> See United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, Official Records, vol. II: Plenary Meetings (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 58.V.4, vol. II), annexes, document A/CONF.12/L.56, resolution II.

tasks, of course, also come within the scope of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation and of several specialized agencies, such as WHO and FAO in particular, with which the IAEA has to co-operate closely.

23. We have always been anxious that IAEA should be closely linked with the United Nations, but we must confess to some doubts as to whether it is at present developing sufficiently along those lines, mainly because of the excessive proportions assumed by its own operating machinery. It is sufficient by way of illustration to state that more than 15 per cent of the Agency's administrative budget is absorbed by the excessively frequent meetings of the Board of Governors and the annual General Conference, whose deliberations are much too long and ponderous for the work actually undertaken by the Agency and occupy the time of its staff to the detriment of more useful tasks.

24. Subject to these reservations, we approve the broad lines of the Agency's activity as presented by the report [A/4244] before us. Our only wish is that the Agency should evolve in a closer relationship with the United Nations. Until such time as it becomes indispensable to international atomic co-operation, it should act as a technical right arm of the United Nations and become a most useful and efficient part of its machinery.

25. Mr. SCHURMANN (Netherlands): From the third report [A/4244] of the IAEA to the General Assembly, we have obtained a clear picture of what this Agency has accomplished during the past year, the "shake-down" voyage of the Agency, as Mr. Cole so graphically called it in his interesting introductory statement this morning [835th meeting].

26. It cannot be denied, I think, that much that was envisaged when the General Assembly decided to set up the IAEA has not yet been achieved. At that time it was the intention of the General Assembly that all the fissionable material of the world available for peaceful purposes would be deposited with the IAEA.

27. Meanwhile, it has become clear that our hopes were too sanguine. So far it has not proved possible to pass all available stocks of fissionable material through the Agency. Besides that, the quantities of uranium appear to be much higher than was predicted by the experts in those days. In other words, it is quite easy, and sometimes even more economical, to acquire the material outside the ambit of the Agency. Nevertheless, last year we saw the coming into being of general supply agreements with the United States, the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom, which made a considerable amount of fissionable material available to the Agency. After the first transaction with Japan, this year the Austrian Government is now seeking to buy enriched uranium from the Agency, and a similar request is expected from Tunisia. My delegation hopes that many such transactions will follow in the coming years.

28. Hand in hand with this development goes the establishment of procedures to ensure the exclusively peaceful use of the material. My Government was happy to note that in September 1959 the Board of Governors of the Agency reached agreement about the principles on which the control of the peaceful uses should be based. We hope and trust that it will be possible to reach agreement on the more detailed regulations in due course as well.

29. Now, if we look at the other accomplishments of the Agency, we see that good progress has been made in two kinds of activities: those which are of importance to the world as a whole, namely, the other regulatory tasks, and those especially directed to the improvement of conditions in those countries which have hitherto been deprived of the blessings of atomic energy, that is to say, technical assistance, or technical co-operation as it may be called in the future.

30. The limited financial means of the Agency restrict its possibilities, but it must be said that the Agency has done a remarkable job within those limited means. All these activities will be of even greater benefit when nuclear energy will be more generally used. These activities have rendered co-operation of the Agency with other international organizations, also dealing with the peaceful uses of atomic energy, increasingly necessary.

31. We therefore appreciate the growing number of agreements between the Agency and the specialized agencies of the United Nations, on which the day-to-day working relations at the Secretariat level are based. We welcome especially the participation of the IAEA in the important undertaking of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations known as the five-year programme appraisals. Although we fully understand the difficulties for the young organization to foresee its development until 1964, we consider it a wise decision of the Board of Governors to join this enterprise of the United Nations family.

32. Finally, my delegation wishes to express the hope that the IAEA, as the leading organization in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy, will continue its fruitful work.

33. I need hardly add that, of course, my delegation will be very happy to vote for the draft resolution [A/L.265] which has been introduced at the beginning of this afternoon's meeting by the representative of the Union of South Africa.

34. Mr. RIEGELMAN (United States of America): On behalf of the United States delegation I take pleasure in welcoming once again to our midst the Director-General of the IAEA, Mr. Sterling Cole.

35. It is gratifying to hear of the progress which the Agency has been able to report for this last year. The Agency recently held its third and, in many respects, its most successful general conference<sup>3/</sup>. As active participants, we were especially pleased with the outcome of this meeting because we felt that it demonstrated the ever-widening prospects for indispensable Agency operation in the dramatic and critical field of peaceful uses of atomic energy. The United States believes that the delegations to that conference carried away a feeling of optimism, sobered by awareness of the many as yet unknown or undeveloped aspects of atomic energy, particularly in the area of nuclear power. The conference showed that the peaceful atom knows no national borders, whether in areas of health, of safety against the hazards of nuclear accidents, or the need for technical assistance to countries or groups of countries.

36. Now, in what ways is the Agency becoming indispensable in its field of competence? First, the United States believes that the Agency is uniquely

<sup>3/</sup> The General Conference of the Agency held its third session in Vienna from 22 September to 2 October 1959.

ready and able to become a main channel through which the more advanced nations can combine their efforts to provide the necessary technical assistance, consultants and specialists, and the complex equipment needed in many areas of the world for programmes of peaceful uses. In this connexion, the Agency has, in our opinion, a key role as a supplier of source and special nuclear materials. It has available to it a pool of such materials, sufficient to satisfy the immediate needs of most of its members. We believe that more and more countries will turn to the Agency to satisfy their requirements for nuclear fuel.

37. Secondly, and particularly notable, to our way of thinking, has been the expansion of the training and education programme of the Agency, encouraged by the generous co-operation of many of its members. It is on the bedrock of skills that any country must build its programme.

38. Thirdly, the technical assistance missions which the Agency has dispatched to member states during the year have given invaluable advice on the setting of national programmes. With trained technicians and expert aid, member states embarking on peaceful uses programmes can begin to acquire and usefully to employ the needed equipment. The Agency is increasing its efforts to assist the member states, especially in the less developed areas of the world, along those lines.

39. And fourthly, the Agency's activities on questions of health and safety are of great value. It is here that the Agency can contribute immediately and effectively to the atomic programmes of every member state. In particular, I have in mind the problem of radioactive waste disposal, ranging from the very low level discharge from small laboratories to the highly radioactive fission products from nuclear reactors. The forthcoming conference<sup>4/</sup> in Monaco this month should be constructive, concentrating as it will on this specific question.

40. The new laboratory being built for the Agency will, among other things, provide the opportunity to assist the members directly in their health and safety programmes. My Government was very pleased to offer \$600,000 as a gift towards the cost of construction and equipment of that laboratory.

41. Now, I have outlined the four important areas in which the Agency is becoming an indispensable servant of the peaceful atom: first, as a channel of supply and communication; secondly, for training and education; thirdly, for technical assistance; and fourthly, for health and safety.

42. The United States has endeavoured to demonstrate in a number of ways its very special interest in the Agency. We have freely made available to it some of our most informed minds for its panels, technical assistance missions, its secretariat and its conferences.

43. Over and above our share of the administrative costs of the Agency, we contributed this year over \$650,000 to its general fund. For 1960 we have pledged \$500,000 outright and an added \$250,000 on a matching basis for the total of all contributions in excess of \$1 million. We have made available some sixty fellowships for training in United States institutions this year. We have signed an agreement with the Agency making

available to it some 5,000 kilogrammes of uranium-235 plus any amounts required to match the contributions by other members to July 1960, and we are prepared to donate this year up to \$50,000 worth of enriched uranium for use in Agency-sponsored research programmes.

44. I might make a comment on the organizational development of the Agency. Last year when the Director-General presented the Agency's report to this Assembly [777th meeting], it was just settling down after its initial preparatory work. Now it has shifted from this organizational phase to a fully operational one. We are very pleased with this result and believe much credit belongs to the Director-General and to his very able staff.

45. On the question of the relationship between the United Nations and the Agency, we have been delighted to observe that an excellent working arrangement has developed. We felt certain that this would be the case. We believe that the events of the past year, more than any reports or speeches, have justified this expectation.

46. I would like to conclude in the words of a statement by Mr. Floberg, our alternate representative, to the 28th plenary meeting of the third session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. He said:

"All of us now recognize that the Agency is indispensable in this atomic age. Its growth should be steady and commensurate with the emerging problems which it can best solve. We hope that every Member nation will re-examine its plans for future contributions—in money, materials and manpower—so that the Agency can be assured of adequate resources to cope with the expanding international aspects of the peaceful applications of atomic energy."

These are the words of Mr. Floberg. It is our hope that all Member States will respond to this appeal.

47. Mr. MATSCH (Austria): The General Assembly has before it the third Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency [A/4244], the first report, indeed, to cover a full year's activities. As it would seem natural, my country, being host to the Agency, follows its activities with keen interest. We note that the Agency has made and is making constant and significant progress in making the benefits of peaceful uses of atomic energy available to Member nations. We also note that increasing attention is being given to the needs of less developed countries, especially in the fields of technical co-operation and training programmes. These technical co-operation programmes cover a wide range of activities, and preliminary assistance missions are visiting countries on four continents.

48. The Agency has likewise dedicated its attention to more technical aspects of the peaceful use of atomic energy. For instance, only two months ago, a course dealing with radioisotope technique, designed for agricultural and professional research, was held at Cornell University and similar courses are being prepared in Asia and Latin America. May I recall in this connexion that Austria is justly proud of being one of the leading countries in the field of the use of radioisotopes in medicine. International symposia on this subject were held in Austria even previous to the establishment of the Agency.

<sup>4/</sup> Conference on the Disposal of Radioactive Waste, subsequently held from 16 to 21 November 1959.



49. An event of great importance seems to us the decision of the Agency's Board to proceed with the construction of service laboratories. A suitable site was put at the disposal of the Agency free of charge by the Austrian Studiengesellschaft für Atomenergie, near the latter's reactor laboratory centre. We also wish to mention in this respect the generous gesture of the United States Government, which contributed the amount of \$600,000 to the Agency towards the financing of its laboratory equipment.

50. One of the most, if not the most, significant event in the Agency's history was the processing of a request by the Japanese Government to procure three tons of natural uranium for Japan's first research reactor. Other countries have made and are making similar requests, among them Tunisia and my own country.

51. As far as the relationship between the Agency and the Austrian Government is concerned, I am glad to say that, as is also mentioned in the report, the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement is making satisfactory progress. The Austrian Government makes every effort to assist the Agency in its important tasks. We are being advised that the present Headquarters building is suitable in every way and that the conference facilities set aside in Vienna meet the highest international standards.

52. In the question of co-ordinating the work of the Agency and the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, we are happy to note that the Agency's report mentions expressly the intention to give this Committee full technical support. The Austrian Government attaches great importance to a closer co-operation between these two bodies.

53. Let me conclude by voicing optimism on the future of the Agency and the peaceful uses of atomic energy in general. It augurs well that the Chairman of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, Mr. McCone, and his Soviet colleague, Professor Emelyanov, at their recent encounter at Camp David dedicated time to the discussion of a closer co-operation in the field of the peaceful use of atomic energy. We trust that the deepening contacts between the two great Powers will give further impulse to the Agency's work.

54. Let me finally express our gratitude to the Director-General of the Agency, Mr. Sterling Cole, for his comprehensive statement today [835th meeting] and his well-known devotion to his difficult task.

55. Mr. NESBITT (Canada): Allow me to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Cole, the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, for his interesting and informative statement [835th meeting], and to express my Government's general satisfaction with the progress made by the Agency as reflected in Mr. Cole's statement and in the report of the Agency to this Assembly on its activities since 1 July 1958 [A/4244].

56. My Government has, as you know, taken a keen interest in the purposes and accomplishments of the Agency since it was established, and it is gratifying to see the extent to which the activities of the Agency have increased during the year under review.

57. I have no intention of referring in any detail to the work of the Agency, but I would like to underline the importance my Government attaches to the development of a system of safeguards against the diversion to military purposes of materials, equipment or other

assistance provided under Agency auspices—as is required by the Statute of the Agency. We therefore welcome the progress in this complex field reported in the annual report which we have before us now.

58. The Agency deserves credit for its achievements during the past year in a number of areas, such as its organization of scientific conferences and symposia, the publication of technical papers and the development of regulations and standards, particularly in the field of health and safety.

59. Progress has also been made by the Agency in its programme of providing technical assistance, fellowships and equipment to individual member states. Members are aware, however, that the success of the Technical Assistance Programme depends on the voluntary contributions of member governments. Canada has once again offered to contribute \$50,000 to the General Fund for 1960 for these purposes, and is prepared to consider contributing an additional \$25,000 depending on the response of other member states.

60. I may perhaps be forgiven if I draw the Assembly's attention to one or two other examples of the tangible evidence of Canada's interest in the activities of the Agency.

61. Canada was pleased to be the first member to supply nuclear material to a member Government under the auspices of the Agency. Three tons of uranium was made available free of charge for this purpose earlier this year and the revenue from its sale to Japan by the Agency will be available to the Agency for its programme of research and technical assistance.

62. We have also recently announced the opening of a reactor school for graduate students at Chalk River, the Canadian atomic energy establishment, at which a number of candidates sponsored by the Agency will be able to study.

63. The achievements of the Agency are encouraging, but no one can be entirely satisfied with its record to date. The Agency has yet to develop its full potential for making available as rapidly and as widely as possible the benefits of the peaceful uses of atomic energy. This cannot be done unless all Member Governments see that the Agency has adequate resources and that early and tangible progress is made towards agreement on a practicable and workable system of safeguards.

64. In conclusion, I wish to reiterate the assurances of support for the Agency which have been made in the past, on behalf of the Canadian Government, in this Assembly and in Vienna.

65. Mr. YAKOVLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (translated from Russian): More than two years have passed since the entry into force of the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency whose objective, according to that Statute, is "to seek to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world".

66. From the outset, the Soviet Government supported the idea of setting up the Agency and took an active part in drafting its Statute. It was one of the first to ratify the Statute and has constantly taken a deep interest in the success of the activities of this important international organization.

67. As you know, the Soviet Union is in favour of broad international co-operation for the peaceful use of atomic energy. In this connexion permit me to recall

the statement made by Mr. Nikita S. Khrushchev, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, on the completion of the world's first atomic icebreaker, the Lenin:

"The launching of the icebreaker Lenin, whose motors are now beginning to turn under atomic power, has symbolic significance too. It is no mere chance that the Soviet people, who were the first in the world to build a nuclear power station, should also be the first to construct an atomic icebreaker. By this act we have once again graphically demonstrated that the Soviet people are fully resolved to use atomic energy for peaceful purposes. Our atomic icebreaker Lenin will break not only the ice of the oceans but also the ice of the cold war. It will cut a path to the hearts and minds of the peoples and will act as a spur to the transition from competition among States in the armaments race to competition in the use of atomic energy for the good of mankind, for warming them body and soul, for making everything that human beings need. We are ready to co-operate with all nations in bringing about the peaceful use of atomic energy and we should be happy if this appeal were taken up by all States."

68. The Soviet Union's contribution to the development of international co-operation in the field of the peaceful use of atomic energy is a matter of common knowledge. The USSR is furnishing the Agency with assistance of many kinds.

69. The Soviet Government earlier declared that it was ready to provide the Agency with uranium-235, and it recently concluded the necessary agreement with the Agency. In addition, the Soviet Union has offered sixty fellowships for training specialists in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy in Soviet higher educational institutions and scientific research establishments. It has also expressed its willingness to provide twenty to thirty experts to give advisory assistance to the less developed countries in various aspects of the peaceful application of atomic energy. Students and scientists dispatched by the Agency are already studying or working in the Soviet Union. Our experts have travelled to a number of States members of the Agency to share their experience in the preparation of plans and measures for instituting the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

70. In 1959 the USSR made a voluntary contribution amounting to 500,000 rubles for the provision of technical assistance to under-developed countries which are members of the Agency. We intend in the future, too, to take an active part in the work of the Agency.

71. In proclaiming its sincere desire to help the less developed countries through the Agency, the Soviet Government has no commercial ends in view. Our representatives in IAEA have frequently stated that the Soviet Union is prepared to provide it with uranium at the lowest prices current on the world market.

72. The USSR believes that the Agency should be a genuinely universal international organization, accessible to all countries, so that it may be the focal point of truly international co-operation in the wide use of atomic energy to promote peace and human progress.

73. It is evident from the report [A/4244] now before us that, during the past year, the Agency has made some progress towards the establishment of international co-operation. There have been some suc-

cesses in the training of scientific personnel. The Agency has granted a number of fellowships for study and practical training in the sphere of the peaceful use of atomic energy. It has examined applications from States members and has sent preliminary missions in response to requests for technical assistance. It has convened seminars and meetings on scientific and technical questions and has issued a handbook on atomic reactors, the "International Directory of Reactors".

74. At the same time, however, the work of the IAEA suffers from a number of shortcomings. It was for this reason that at the third session of the General Conference held recently at Vienna its activities were the object of well-founded criticism on the part of many delegations. It must be said that the practical work of the Agency is developing very slowly.

75. We must, unfortunately, point out that the Agency has already been guilty of one-sided actions, which are detrimental to proper co-operation among States. The decision of its Board of Governors, for instance, to send a preliminary mission to Taiwan is surprising. This decision by the Board is clearly a misuse of the Agency's assistance and will certainly not contribute to the strengthening of its authority at a time when it is just beginning its practical work.

76. Nor can we overlook the fact that the People's Republic of China has still not been admitted to IAEA. The German Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Mongolia and a number of other countries have also been denied participation in the Agency. The time has come to put an end to this situation and to make the Agency a truly universal international organization.

77. In referring to the improper actions committed by a number of Powers, to the detriment of the development of co-operation in the Agency on a basis of equality, we are compelled to recall what occurred at the last session of the General Conference in connexion with the election of the President. The first session of the Conference, as you know, was presided over by the candidate put forward by the West European countries and, at the second session, the candidate of the Arab-Asian group of countries was elected. The delegations of the Eastern European countries hoped that the countries members of the Agency would show the same attention and respect towards their candidate for the post of President—the well-known Bulgarian scientist Professor Nadzhakoff. At the last moment, however, a candidate for this post was suddenly put forward by Japan. This infringement of the interests of a whole group of countries provoked legitimate dissatisfaction and could naturally not be regarded as conducive to the creation of an atmosphere of co-operation in the General Conference.

78. Nor will the prestige of the Agency be enhanced by the discriminatory decision of its Board of Governors to refuse the application of the World Federation of Trade Unions for consultative status with the Agency. This is all the more unjust in that two other international trade union organizations have been accorded such status.

79. We hope that the Board of Governors which is to reconsider this question, in accordance with the decision of the General Conference, will review its resolution<sup>5/</sup> and grant the World Federation of Trade Unions consultative status with the Agency.

<sup>5/</sup> See International Atomic Energy Agency, Resolutions adopted by the General Conference during its third session, document GC (III)/RES/47.

80. We also number among the shortcomings of the Agency the fact that it has given an unwonted share of its attention to the elaboration of systems of control and inspection. There have been attempts on the part of some countries to make use of the provisions of the Agency's Statute relating to control for the purpose of interference in the domestic affairs of States. This has made many less developed countries reluctant to turn to the Agency for assistance. And understandably, for they fear that, instead of their receiving real assistance, what will happen is that their economies will pass under the control of more powerful countries. What the under-developed countries need first and foremost is not control but real help from the Agency on favourable terms and with full recognition of the sovereign rights and interests of the States receiving assistance.

81. The Soviet delegation has mentioned these shortcomings with one idea in mind—that of helping to remove them so that the obstacles preventing the fruitful development of the Agency's work in organizing broad international co-operation in the atomic field may be eliminated as rapidly as possible.

82. We hope that the Agency will give due attention to our observations and take the necessary steps to secure the co-operation of all States, on a basis of equality, in the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

83. The Soviet delegation believes that the General Assembly, in considering the work of the IAEA on the peaceful use of atomic energy, cannot fail to take account of the fact that as long as the atom persists in the arsenals of States there can be no question of its wide use for peaceful purposes. The total prohibition of atomic and hydrogen weapons would create limitless opportunities for the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. The Soviet Union has consistently advocated the prohibition of nuclear weapons and it has submitted constructive proposals to that end. The consideration by the First Committee of its proposal for general and complete disarmament will create favourable circumstances for the solution of this question too.

84. On the day when States reach agreement on the prohibition and elimination of all types of nuclear weapons and on the use of fissionable materials exclusively for peaceful economic and scientific purposes, all obstacles to the peaceful use of atomic energy will have been removed and all material, scientific, technical and other resources will be switched from production of the means of destruction to the creation of material wealth. This will open up wide possibilities for the further extension of the work of the IAEA in full conformity with the peaceful needs of mankind, and in the interests of an unprecedented rise in the economy, science and culture of the whole world.

85. Mr. MATSUDAIRA (Japan): Since the establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency, it has been a privilege and an honour for my country to be able to participate in the efforts made for the purpose of strengthening and developing its main functions as provided for in the Statute of the Agency. As the report (A/4244) now before us states, my Government was happy to set a precedent when it concluded with the Agency last March an agreement to supply three tons of natural uranium in metallic form to be used in the Japanese research reactor project. My delegation is pleased that this has been a good precedent.

86. Within the short period of two years after the establishment of the Agency, the foundation of its operations has been firmly laid. The Agency has made steady progress since the beginning of this year in the implementation of its main functions in the field of technical assistance to the less-developed countries through the dissemination of information, through training of scientists, and through the dispatch of preliminary assistance missions and experts to these countries. It has made steady progress as well in the field of codification of international regulations with regard to measures for health and safety and for safeguarding the peaceful uses of atomic energy. In this connexion, we welcome wholeheartedly the announcement made on 15 September 1959 that the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States have agreed to utilize the Agency as a mutual repository for all useful information on the peaceful applications of atomic energy developed by the two countries, as well as to encourage and aid the Agency in making this information available to interested nations.

87. My delegation wishes to pay tribute on this occasion to the fine efforts of the Secretariat of the Agency which have made such progress possible. My delegation sincerely hopes that this progress toward the achievement of the peaceful uses of atomic energy will continue.

88. Mr. NOSEK (Czechoslovakia): The preceding sessions of the General Assembly judged the activities of the IAEA particularly in the light of its efforts to create prerequisites for its work and overcome its initial difficulties. The present session should evaluate the Agency's activities of the past year, the report [A/4244] on which is today under our consideration, first of all in view of its practical contribution to the progress achieved in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in the member states, and in particular, in the less developed countries.

89. It is an urgent task of our time to do everything in our power to ensure that nuclear energy be used exclusively for peaceful purposes. The IAEA, which was established as an organ for the promotion of broad international co-operation in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, should play a far more active part in achieving this objective than it has done heretofore.

90. It is a well-known fact that the peaceful uses of nuclear energy at present constitute a mere fraction in comparison to its use for military purposes. The Czechoslovak delegation regards the destruction of stockpiles of all atomic and hydrogen weapons now at the disposal of States and the suspension of the production of these weapons, as a basic prerequisite for successful and all-around development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The energy of fissionable materials should be utilized exclusively for peaceful economic and scientific purposes. The practical way toward the implementation of a radical solution such as would relieve mankind of the danger of a nuclear war is outlined in the proposals of the Government of the Soviet Union for general and complete disarmament [A/4219].

91. At present, before we reach this final objective, the signing of an agreement on permanent and complete cessation of all nuclear weapons test explosions would be of tremendous importance. The International Atomic

Energy Agency should use its authority to render the greatest possible contribution to the attainment of this objective. It is deplorable that the delegations of Western countries participating in the last session of the General Conference of the Agency in Vienna rejected the Czechoslovak proposal<sup>6/</sup> expressing support for the conference of the three Powers on the cessation of nuclear testing.

92. The Czechoslovak delegation also states with regret that the tendencies of some member states to misuse the Agency for advancing their own political objectives, tendencies which have been manifest since the advent of the very idea of the establishment of the IAEA, again came into the foreground in some majority decisions of the Board of Governors. As an example of this, the decision that the Agency should render technical assistance to the Chiang Kai-shek régime in Taiwan was evidently prompted by political motives which can hardly be judged otherwise than as a provocation directed to the end that the Agency should become a political instrument in the hands of some Powers, and not an operative international organization.

93. Likewise, it is a deplorable fact that, despite the disapproval on the part of a number of States, the universal character of this important scientific and technical organization has been repeatedly violated. The fact that the People's Republic of China has been deprived of participation in the activities of the Agency is untenable for the future and is detrimental especially to the Agency itself.

94. The authority of the Agency is also impaired by attempts to misuse it as an international inspection organ. This was evident during the consideration of the system of so-called safeguards. The Czechoslovak delegation decisively rejects all attempts to misuse the Agency and will support the adoption of such safeguards as will ensure that the Agency's assistance shall not be used against the security interests of any State.

95. We note with satisfaction, however, that the IAEA has already achieved some good results in its activities. Certainly commendable, in particular, were those fields of scientific and technical activity of the Agency where the Agency succeeded, in the solution of individual problems, in bringing together outstanding scientific experts from different countries. The co-operation of scientists, permeated with the spirit of mutual understanding and based on scientific objectivity, brought its fruit to a number of member states. The beneficial results of such co-operation, among others, were reflected in the recommendations for the safe handling of radioisotopes, the recommendations concerning the transport of radioactive materials, and the solution of the problem of radioactive waste disposal.

96. Furthermore, the Agency organized scientific conferences and seminars, issued useful technical publications, concentrated scientific and technical documentation and implemented the scholarship programme. It is necessary that in the future the Agency make full use of all scholarships offered by the member states. Therefore, it is possible to regard as valuable the fact that the Agency successfully embarked upon the implementation of one of its most important tasks, namely, the international exchange of ex-

perience and information in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

97. The Czechoslovak Government tenders its support to the IAEA, hoping that it will become what according to the Statute it is expected to become, that is, a universal and effective scientific and technical organization. Czechoslovakia took an active part in its establishment and has participated in its activities from the very beginning. It has been providing the Agency with free technical publications; it has offered a number of scholarships at Czechoslovak technical institutes; it has furnished consultants and experts in various specialized fields, and measuring instruments to the total value of 100,000 Czechoslovak crowns. The Czechoslovak Government has announced that it is also ready to supply the Agency with natural uranium under appropriate conditions. Czechoslovakia has likewise expressed its willingness to offer its hospitality to future sessions of various scientific conferences, symposia and seminars of the Agency that might be held in Czechoslovakia.

98. Czechoslovakia, which will be a member of the Board of Governors for the next term, is prepared to render to the Agency in the implementation of the tasks before it in the coming period also the maximum degree of assistance that its possibilities will permit.

99. The Czechoslovak delegation expresses the hope that the further activities of the Agency will develop more rapidly than in past years and in full accordance with its Statute and with the United Nations Charter, and that the current trend toward the relaxation of international tension will create favourable conditions also for the implementation of the tasks of the Agency.

100. In this spirit, the Czechoslovak delegation together with the delegations of the Union of South Africa and the United Arab Republic submitted a draft resolution [A/L.265] on 30 October 1959 to the effect that the General Assembly should take note of the report of the Agency.

101. Mr. COMAY (Israel): My delegation represents a small country which is engaged in certain programmes of atomic research and training to which we attach great importance. Israel has been a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency from the beginning. We are grateful to the Agency for the co-operation we are already enjoying with it in certain fields and look forward to increasing the scope of this co-operation as the activities of the Agency expand.

102. We were gratified by the visit to Israel in April of the distinguished Director-General, Mr. Sterling Cole, and senior members of his staff. I had the pleasure then of accompanying them on visits to some of our scientific institutions, and in particular to the Atomic Research Reactor Centre which is now being completed at Nebl Rubin with the assistance of the United States Government, and to the Radio-Isotope Training Centre established at the Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovot in collaboration with the Israel Atomic Energy Commission.

103. The Radio-Isotope Training Centre may have some modest value beyond the confines of Israel, as it is one of the relatively few such centres in existence, and the only one in our part of the world, which conducts international courses. The courses are in the English language and give training in the use of radioisotopes in various fields of science, medicine, agri-

<sup>6/</sup> See International Atomic Energy Agency, document GC (III)/89.



culture and industry. Israel is offering fellowships for these courses and would be particularly happy if its training facilities could be of help to other newer countries as well. Discussions are proceeding with the Agency regarding co-operation with it in this matter.

104. In other ways, too, we have been seeking to develop our co-operation with the Agency—for instance, by the appointment of a resident representative in Vienna and by our active participation in certain of its scientific meetings, of which I would particularly mention the recent Symposium on Radio Activation Analysis held in Vienna from 1 to 3 June 1959.

105. My delegation gladly joins in commending the Agency, and in particular its Director-General and staff, for the work they are carrying on in this field, which is so vital to the future of mankind, and not least for the progress of the newer and less developed countries.

106. Mr. BEELEY (United Kingdom): The draft resolution [A/L.265] submitted to this Assembly by the delegations of Czechoslovakia, the Union of South Africa and the United Arab Republic asks us to take note of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the year ending 30 June 1959. There is, in the view of my delegation, no doubt that it is appropriate for the Assembly to support this draft resolution. We welcome the report before us as a factual and objective account of the Agency's work, which provides evidence of the useful development of its activities.

107. In the second full year of its life, the Agency is within sight of the completion of its first tasks, that of establishing its organization on a sound footing. It should now be able to embark upon a period of consolidation. The secretariat is to be congratulated on the effectiveness of the organization which has been set up in Vienna, which should be of great assistance in this new phase of the Agency's existence.

108. In its work so far, the Agency has rightly concentrated on tasks which are of immediate value to the majority of its members in the present stage of their advancement in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. A substantial effort is being devoted to training schemes and technical assistance to less developed countries. I am glad to be able to say that my Government is the second largest financial contributor to this work of the Agency, having given \$125,000 this year to the voluntary fund out of which technical assistance and training is largely financed.

109. The United Kingdom welcomes the study which the secretariat has put in hand of the applicability of nuclear power to the economic needs of less developed territories. We have so far lacked objective appraisals of the extent to which nuclear power in its present stage of development can provide an economic alternative to more conventional sources of power in such countries. The Agency will be doing both the less developed countries and the more advanced countries which are potential suppliers of power equipment a great service by undertaking such an appraisal.

110. The other major activity of the Agency at present is the formulation of model recommendations and codes of practice for health and safety in the use of atomic energy. The Agency has prepared an excellent manual on the safe handling of radioisotopes, and panels are now working on other aspects such as third-party liability, the transport of radioactive materials, reac-

tor operation, and the disposal of radioactive wastes. My Government regards the establishment and adoption of consistent standards throughout the world as of primary importance both for the safe development of atomic energy and for building up public confidence that its potential hazards can be properly controlled.

111. I cannot agree with the representative of the Soviet Union when he suggests that the Agency should not devote the attention which it now does to ensuring that the assistance which it provides to member countries in the peaceful uses of atomic energy is not diverted to military purposes. I wonder whether his intention is to deny the validity of the argument advanced by the representatives of the Soviet Union, when the Statute of the Agency was under discussion, that it was necessary to insert provision for control of fissile materials to prevent their use for other than peaceful purposes, and that the Agency must have a staff of inspectors to enforce such provision. Would the representative of the Soviet Union wish materials to be supplied without any measures to safeguard the use to which they are put? I would remind him that the draft General Principles concerning Agency safeguards were approved by the Agency's Board of Governors in September, by a vote of 17 to 0, with only 4 abstentions and 2 members not voting. The United Kingdom regards the Agency's efforts to work out reasonable procedures for safeguards as a valuable contribution to international confidence.

112. In conclusion, I should like to quote the statement made by Lord Plowden at the 26th plenary meeting of the third session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency:

"Let me emphasize once more the United Kingdom's faith in the Agency and its work. We remain confident that it has an important role in the development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy and that it will benefit all Member States. My Government will continue to give the Agency all the support and assistance within our power."

113. Mr. NICUTA (Romania) (translated from French): The Romanian delegation had given careful consideration to the third report [A/4244] of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the General Assembly and has taken note of the Agency's achievements during the past year.

114. In this connexion, we may cite the fellowship programme which has been well received by many States. It is important to note that by 30 June 1959 the Agency had already accepted for the award of fellowships a total of 349 candidates from various member states. This effort should be further intensified by using all the facilities available to the Agency, since the exchange of fellowship holders within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency is a positive factor in promoting the exchange of experiences in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

115. Aware of the importance of this fact, the Romanian Government has made available to the Agency nine fellowships for the training of specialists, this training to be given at the Department of Physics of the University of Bucharest, the Nuclear Technology Section of the Bucharest Polytechnic Institute, and the Institute of Atomic Physics of the Academy of the Romanian People's Republic. We are also interested in having our young technicians receive specialized training at selected foreign institutes with the aid of the

fellowships awarded by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

116. My delegation has also taken note of the fact that after a regrettable delay on its part the Agency has succeeded in concluding the first two official agreements to produce fissionable material, one between the Agency and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the other between the Agency and the United States.

117. There are obviously other positive aspects of the Agency's activities, as shown in its report.

118. However, my delegation would like to stress some of the negative aspects, particularly as these are becoming more pronounced and may lead the Agency down a dangerous path, contrary to the letter and the spirit of its Statute. For example, despite the fact that its membership is constantly increasing, the Agency will be unable to work effectively as long as such States as the People's Republic of China and the German Democratic Republic are not admitted to the Agency because of the obstructionist policy of certain States. We should like to point out that no commitment made on behalf of the Chinese people is valid unless it is made by the sole legitimate Government, the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China.

119. This attitude, which is not in conformity with the Statute of the Agency, has been noted in relation to the granting of consultative status with the Agency to certain non-governmental organizations. Let us hope that eventually the question of the Agency's relations with the various non-governmental organizations concerned will be solved in an equitable manner.

120. Another problem which has been widely discussed recently and which has become more acute is that of safeguards. We note with concern that efforts are being made to distort the true character of the safeguards provided by the Statute of the Agency by transforming them into control measures which are not justified and which run counter to the Agency's primary function of providing technical and material assistance to interested under-developed countries in respect of the peaceful uses of atomic energy. We believe it necessary to point out that the haste shown by some members of the Agency to set up rules for rigid control and inspection does not affect the nature of this control, particularly as the Agency has so far concluded only one agreement for the delivery of fissionable material, and even then only for a small quantity.

121. The Romanian delegation feels that it is the duty of the Agency to work actively toward the conclusion of an international agreement for prohibiting atomic weapons and atomic tests. It must be borne in mind that the military uses of atomic energy considerably lessen the chances of fruitful co-operation in connexion with the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

122. A vast field of activity would open up for international co-operation if practical measures were taken to reduce armaments and prohibit atomic weapons in an atmosphere of lessening international tensions and of growing trust between States.

123. The conclusion of an agreement on the prohibition of all types of nuclear weapons and their banishment from the arsenals of States would dispose of all the obstacles to the peaceful uses of atomic energy by making it possible to transfer vast resources

from the production of destructive weapons to the production of material goods.

124. Only in this way will the necessary preliminary conditions for the complete and fruitful development of the IAEA be established, in accordance with the peaceful needs of mankind.

125. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I call on the representative of China who wishes to exercise his right of reply.

126. Mr. WEI (China): In this atmosphere of hope and harmony, I regret very much that the Soviet Union and its satellites deemed it necessary to inject the question of Chinese representation and the participation of my Government in the work of the important IAEA.

127. From the very beginning my Government has been interested in the control of atomic energy for peaceful uses only. My Government was one of the sponsors of the first resolution [191 (III)] adopted by the General Assembly which was for the control of atomic energy for peaceful uses only. My Government is one of the founding members of the Agency and is now an active member.

128. The Agency is an independent organ of the United Nations family. Its membership is determined by the General Conference in accordance with the provisions of its statute. All attempts by the Soviet group to seat the puppet régime of Peking during the past three sessions were decisively rejected by the General Conference. I trust that such attempts will continue to be defeated.

129. To set the record straight, it is the Soviet Union that has been and is still blocking any agreement on atomic control. It is the Soviet Union that is responsible for the atomic and hydrogen weapons of today, and it was the Soviet Union that delayed the birth of our Agency for two years. Any moment when the Soviet Union is willing to accept international control to the fullest extent, we shall have atomic energy for peaceful uses only. We do not need propaganda here; we need action and deeds.

130. I wish to make use of this opportunity to commend the Director-General of IAEA for the comprehensive and encouraging statement which he made to us [835th meeting] and also for the report of the Agency [A/4244]. The Agency is young but it is very healthy. Its co-operation with the United Nations and its specialized agencies is assured through mutual agreements. We are satisfied with the growth of the Agency. We are very glad it places emphasis on safeguards and health measures, because we consider them to be very important. Therefore, I wish to take this opportunity to say a few words to commend the work of the whole Agency during the past year.

131. The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): If there is no further speaker, I should like to ask the General Assembly whether it approves of the draft resolution [A/L.265], submitted by Czechoslovakia, the Union of South Africa and the United Arab Republic and taking note of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency. I interpret the silence of the Assembly as an affirmative reply.

*The draft resolution was adopted.*

*The meeting rose at 4.55 p.m.*