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CONFERENCE OF NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES

Geneva, 1968

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE AT ITS SEVENTEENTH
MEETING HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 1968

The Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States,

Recalling resolutions 2028 (XX), 2153 B (XXI), 2346 B (XXII), and 2373 (XXII) of the United Nations General Assembly.

Mindful of the relevant articles of the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Recognizing that many speakers have emphasized their Government's increasing interest in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development, an interest further stimulated by Article IV of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and compatible with recent advances in the technology of nuclear power,

Recalling also that Article V of the Treaty calls for appropriate international procedures in order for non-nuclear-weapon States to receive the potential benefits arising from any peaceful applications of nuclear explosions,

Noting the International Atomic Energy Agency's activities to carry out the function of stimulating international exchange of scientific and technological information and its efforts to assist developing countries in their efforts to acquire technical capabilities in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear power,

Noting that the Agency during the decade of its existence has gained valuable experience in carrying out these functions and has therefore already enlarged the contribution of atomic energy for peace, health and prosperity throughout the world,

Taking note of the fact that several delegations have expressed the opinion that the membership of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency should be enlarged so as to reflect equitable geographical distribution,

Aware that Member States of the Agency have agreed to place certain amounts of fissionable materials at the disposal of the Agency, for use in Agency projects,

I

Calls upon the Agency to continue its utmost efforts for compilation and dissemination of public information concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, including those related to the peaceful application of nuclear explosions;

Recommends that the Agency study appropriate international arrangements to facilitate exchange of scientific and technical information which have commercial or industrial value and are not publicly available, so as to make it possible for the countries with interest to know of the existence and outline of such information and to enable the interested parties to enter into negotiations about the acquisition of such information with the owners thereof;

Invites the nuclear-weapon States to advise the Agency at regular intervals as to the possibility of their declassifying scientific and technical information which has become essential for the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, as soon as there is no longer any reason for its classification on national security grounds, bearing in mind all the benefits to be derived from the dissemination of scientific knowledge.

II

Recommends that the Agency study further the ways and means of increasing the funds available for technical assistance, taking into full consideration the views of the interested countries, particularly those of the developing countries, expressed in this Conference;

III

Recommends that the Agency study the most effective means of ensuring access to special fissionable materials on commercial basis;

Urges the nuclear-weapon States to facilitate, to the fullest extent possible, the availability of fissionable materials for the peaceful nuclear programmes of the non-nuclear-weapon States accepting the application of safeguards as envisaged in Article III of the Treaty;

IV

Recommends that the Agency, in relation to the question of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, initiate necessary studies that are deemed advisable on its possible functions in this field;

V

Expresses its assumption that the Agency will examine at an appropriate time its procedures and arrangements, as well as the question of the composition of the Board of Governors, with a view to adapting them as necessary in the light of its new responsibilities.

VI

Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to bring this resolution to the attention of the Agency, together with the relevant records of the proceedings of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States and the relevant proposals submitted thereto;

Invites the Agency to bear the present resolution in mind in preparing its annual reports for the General Assembly.