THE AGENCY'S PROGRAMME FOR 1975-80 AND BUDGET FOR 1975

Report of the Programme, Technical and Budget Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. I. POPESCU (Romania)

1. At its one hundred and third, one hundred and fourth and one hundred and fifth meetings on 18 and 19 September 1974, the Committee considered item 12 of the agenda - The Agency's programme for 1975-80 and budget for 1975. The Committee had before it the Agency's programme for 1975-80 and draft estimates for 1975.1/

2. In the course of the general debate most delegations indicated their satisfaction with the proposed programme for 1975-80. The reorientation of the Agency's programme in view of the energy crisis was particularly appreciated.

3. Most delegations commended the proposed expanded programme for nuclear power and reactors, nuclear safety and environmental protection and the International Nuclear Information System. In this context the view was expressed that representation of customer countries which have not yet established regulatory procedures should be included in the Senior Advisory Groups which will review the planned safety codes and guides for nuclear power plants.

4. Some delegations stated that as a consequence of the energy crisis many countries were faced with the urgent need to introduce nuclear power at an earlier date than they had anticipated. This would require special and intensive assistance from the Agency, especially with the training of key staff.

1/ GC(XVIII)/526 and GC(XVIII)/526/Mod.1.
5. Most delegations supported the budget estimates for 1975. A number, however, expressed their concern about the increased estimates for the Agency's Regular Budget for 1975, which were mainly due to price increases and the revaluation of currencies. Some concern was also expressed with regard to the continued increase in the proportion of the Agency's resources that was being devoted to the safeguards programme.

6. The Committee was of the opinion that it would be desirable for the Director General to keep the Agency's resources under constant review and for the Agency to concentrate on activities of higher priority. In this context the Director General was asked to look into the possibility of securing extraordinary budgetary resources from other organizations, especially for activities relating to the current world food shortage.

7. In respect of voluntary contributions to the General Fund, which is used to finance the provision of technical assistance, most delegations were in agreement with the proposed target of $4.5 million. Several delegations felt that that target was not high enough and Member States were urged to make contributions at least at the rate of their assessment, so that the target would at least be reached and, if possible, exceeded. On the other hand, other delegations stated that it would not be possible for them to contribute to the General Fund at their respective rates of assessment.

8. A few delegations were unable to support the inclusion in the Regular Budget of an appropriation section for adjustments of programme cost estimates to meet the impact of currency realignments.

9. At the conclusion of the general discussion the Committee agreed to recommend the Conference to adopt the three draft resolutions annexed hereto.
ANNEX

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. REGULAR BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1975

[For the text of the draft resolution, see document GC(XVIII)/526, Annex V, draft resolution A.]

B. OPERATIONAL BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR 1975

[For the text of the draft resolution, see document GC(XVIII)/526, Annex V, draft resolution B.]

C. THE WORKING CAPITAL FUND IN 1975

[For the text of the draft resolution, see document GC(XVIII)/526, Annex V, draft resolution C.]