

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**



**FIRST COMMITTEE, 711th
MEETING**

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New York

**NINTH SESSION
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Chairman: Mr. Francisco URRUTIA (Colombia).

AGENDA ITEM 67

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

1. Mr. AL-JAMALI (Iraq) said that his delegation was greatly indebted to the United States President, Mr. Eisenhower, for putting before the United Nations the present item concerning the peaceful use of atomic energy, thereby turning the Committee's debate from the arena of international disputes to that of peace and international co-operation. The Committee usually dealt with topics resulting either from old-time colonialism or from differences between the two conflicting ideological camps.

2. In the comparatively short period of natural evolution, man had uncovered many of the secrets of the universe. Through religion, he had begun to comprehend his place in relation to the universe, to appreciate its potential spiritual greatness and to sense his own weakness and limitation. Through science, he had already achieved wonders and attained mastery over natural forces. His study of and mastery over the animal and the plant kingdoms had benefited him by increasing his own welfare and power. Agriculture and medicine had progressed immensely from the advances made in biology, physics and chemistry. The biggest strides had been made in the fields of mathematics, physics and chemistry. It was in those fields that inventions leading to the industrial revolution had been achieved. Power produced from coal, oil and electricity, and from harnessing water, had added immeasurable strength to man's powers, but none to compare with atomic energy, the possibilities of which were still beyond the grasp of the imagination.

3. But the products of science might be used either for the total destruction of mankind or for an abundant life based on freedom and brotherly love, depending on the nature of the faith of those possessing the power. Thus, if they believed in the oneness and the brotherhood of man, with no racial, religious or class discrimination, in the ideal of the international sharing of goods and co-operation with no plans of infiltration, exploitation or domination, then the new forces unleashed by science would be a blessing to mankind; otherwise they might prove a new and deadlier means

for greater tyrannies and more subjugation for the suppressed peoples, and perhaps for bringing more free peoples under the yoke of subjugation. The sense of humility and wonder before the forces unleashed by nuclear energy must make humanity start a new era of peace, brotherhood and co-operation among nations, an era of recognizing each people's right to life, freedom and prosperity and of sharing the benefits of science and natural resources by all. It was for that reason that the United States proposal was so timely and welcome; not only because it directed man's attention and energy towards the peaceful use of atomic power, but also because its underlying spirit was that of international sharing and co-operation.

4. The Iraqi delegation welcomed and supported the idea of the peaceful use of atomic energy and felt that efforts in that direction should not be connected with the problem of disarmament; it also welcomed the idea of establishing an international agency for the promotion of atomic studies and the peaceful utilization of atomic energy for human welfare. One might, however, question whether the creation of a new special agency for the peaceful use of atomic energy was a necessity. Would it not be more advantageous and efficient if such agencies as the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization were to establish specialized branches for atomic studies and their application to health and agriculture, just as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization had its own branch of research in atomic energy? But, on further thinking and careful study, the Iraqi delegation had come to the conclusion that the creation of a new agency was more consonant with the importance of the subject and more conducive to efficiency and productivity in that great new field. It therefore supported the establishment of the proposed agency and welcomed the idea of having the Secretary-General convene an international conference in 1955 to study the problems pertaining to the peaceful uses of atomic energy; it also suggested that one of the primary functions of the conference should be the writing of the charter for the new agency.

5. Iraq, like many other countries, possessed neither the knowledge nor the tools for producing atomic energy. It hoped, however, that young Iraqi scientists might profit from any international pooling and sharing of such knowledge, so that it might take part in contributing to human knowledge and welfare in the future, as it often had in the past; it was in that spirit that the Iraqi delegation welcomed and supported the joint draft resolution (A/C.1/L.105).

6. Mr. ENTEZAM (Iran) said that his country possessed hardly any fissionable materials, and still less scientific experience in the field of atomic energy, and that his reason for speaking was simply to repay a debt of gratitude on the part of the small countries.

7. The 707th meeting of the First Committee, held on 5 November 1954, had given that day a place in

history. Following the noble initiative of the President of the United States on 8 December 1953 (470th plenary meeting), the Powers which possessed fissionable materials and atomic secrets had stated their readiness to make part of those treasures available to science in order to help other countries. Mr. Entezam paid tribute to the generosity of that offer, which gave humanity some reason to hope that atomic energy would be used for constructive ends.

8. If that plan, which was aimed at using atomic energy to save human lives and to ensure, at last, the

well-being of all mankind, could be put into effect — and Mr. Entezam was sure that it could — then those who took part in the work of the United Nations would have good reason to be proud and could carry their heads high.

9. The delegation of Iran would vote for the joint draft resolution, and hoped that it would be adopted by unanimous vote both in the First Committee and in the General Assembly.

The meeting rose at 3.35 p.m.