

the Board to draw up rules, based on these principles, for the consideration of the second session of the General Conference.

The question of relations with the UN and Specialized Agencies involves the problem of co-ordination and co-operation in order to avoid duplication of effort in the field of peaceful uses of atomic energy. A number of delegations, including that of Canada, recognized that the attainment of effective co-ordination in this field cannot be left entirely to secretariats or to the UN Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, although they have an important role to play. Ultimate responsibility lies with governments, which should adopt a consistent attitude on the problem of co-ordination and on the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency and other agencies in the field of peaceful uses of atomic energy through their delegates to the various agencies.

Representation of Non-Members

At the Statute Conference the Soviet bloc argued at length that the Agency would suffer from the exclusion of Communist China. During the first session of the General Conference the same group of countries argued that all states and international or non-governmental organizations interested in the work of the Agency should be given the automatic right to be represented by observers at sessions of the Conference. They based their arguments on what they described as the principles of universality implicit in the Statute. However, the majority of the members decided to restrict the automatic right to send observers to (a) states, members of the UN or of the Specialized Agencies but not members of the Agency, and (b) the United Nations and Specialized Agencies. With regard to other inter-governmental organizations the majority decision was to restrict the right to send representatives to organizations with which an appropriate relationship with the Agency might be established. Pending the approval of rules for the granting of consultative status to non-governmental organizations and of relationship agreements with inter-governmental organizations, the Board of Governors was authorized to invite appropriate inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations to be represented at the second session of the General Conference.

Conclusions

As noted at the beginning of this article the first session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency was essentially an administrative conference. There were no startling developments or pronouncements which could steal the headlines from Sputnik. Nevertheless, solid foundations were laid for the construction of the Agency. During the general debate, Canadian views on the future of the Agency were expressed by Mr. Wershof, in part, in the following terms:

It will be our task in the days ahead to see that the Agency discharges to the greatest possible extent the heavy responsibilities which history has laid upon it. Our efforts will be successful only to the extent that we continue to co-operate constructively in our work, and to the extent that we are prepared to contribute what we can not only in knowledge and resources, but from time to time in sacrifice of particular national interests or preferences, to the collective judgment of what the Agency's best interests will require. The success so far achieved, and the efforts which so many governments have made towards that achievement, give us every reason not only to hope, but to expect, that our further efforts will be harmonious and fruitful. . . . As Canada's representative on the Board of Governors, may I say that my country will do its part to ensure that the programme of the Agency, as determined during these sessions, is pressed forward with vigor and determination.