

delegate later indicated that his country's opposition to Dr. Eklund would be continued, and the future attitude of India towards him was still ambiguous by the end of the Conference. Dr. Eklund for his part, in his inaugural address, made it clear that he was fully aware of the extent of the opposition to his appointment and of the heavy responsibilities he was taking upon himself. He had, he said, a sincere desire to further the objectives of the Agency and he was confident that all members would work with one another and with him to fulfil the functions of the organization.

Other Business

All other business of the Conference was subordinated to the appointment of the Director-General, and, apart from the usual attacks on the West by the spokesmen of the Soviet bloc, the other debates were relatively free of animosity. As was indicated earlier, so much of the attention and energies of the Conference were concentrated on the question of the Director-General that a number of perennial acrimonious disputes, such as that on Chinese representation, were disposed of very quickly. The question of inspections under the safeguards system, which both the U.S.S.R. and India had said they would raise formally at the Conference, was not raised. Nor did the Soviet bloc carry out their previous intention of asking for a review of the question of granting consultative status to the Communist-controlled World Federation of Trade Unions. The questions of disarmament and the cessation of nuclear tests, which had been expected again to take up a large part of the Conference's time, also did not come before the Conference in any formal way, although some general speeches included references to them.

As it had at previous sessions, the General Conference again this year devoted a significant proportion of its attention to questions connected with the emergence of newly-independent states in Africa. The Conference approved unanimously the application for membership submitted by the Republic of the Congo (Leopoldville), which will become the tenth African member state of the IAEA as soon as it deposits its instruments of acceptance with the Government of the United States, the depositary of the Agency's statute.

The Conference also acknowledged the importance of the increasing number of independent African member states by adopting unanimously an amendment to Article VI of the statute, raising the number of elected members of the Board of Governors from ten to 12 and assigning these two extra seats to the geographical area "Africa and the Middle East". This amendment will become operative when it has been ratified by the governments of two-thirds of the states members of the Agency. The approval by the Conference of the amendment was welcomed by most representatives of developing countries who were present, but they served notice on a number of occasions and in many ways that they were by no means content with what they had so far received, either in this respect or in assistance from the Agency. They made it clear that they would continue to press for a greater and more influential voice in directing its activities.