

members, and that other states might become members with the approval of the Agency's General Conference upon the recommendation of the Board of Governors. In structure the Agency would have a General Conference of all members, meeting annually, and a Board of Governors to manage the affairs of the Agency on a continuous basis. The work of the Agency would be carried out by an international staff under a Director-General appointed by and responsible to the Board of Governors. Appropriate provision was made for the division of responsibilities as between the General Conference, the Board of Governors, and the Director-General.

The United States, on behalf of the twelve powers which had participated in the working level meeting, invited all prospective members (a total of 87 governments) to be represented at a conference opening at United Nations Headquarters in New York on September 20, 1956, to review and approve the draft statute. This Conference on the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency was attended by representatives of 82 governments, and unanimously elected as its President Mr. Muniz of Brazil, as its Vice-President Mr. Winkler of Czechoslovakia, and as its Secretary the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Some differences of approach emerged, particularly on the relative powers of the Board of Governors and the General Conference, and on the question of safeguards to prevent diversion to any military purpose of assistance provided by the Agency, but these were resolved without impairment of the principles embodied in the draft statute through negotiations in which Canada played an active part. The Conference concluded its work on October 26, 1956, with the signature by representatives of 70 governments (including Canada) of the Statute which had been unanimously approved three days earlier. The text of the Statute conforms closely in its essential features with the draft prepared by the working level meeting, but incorporates a number of improvements agreed upon in the course of discussion. The Conference recommended that the Agency should select Vienna as the site of its headquarters.

Signature of the Statute brought into existence a Preparatory Commission to make arrangements for the first General Conference of the Agency and to prepare recommendations on the Agency's initial programme, budget, establishment and staff regulations. The Preparatory Commission is also charged with designating governments to fill certain specified seats on the first Board of Governors in accordance with the provisions of the Statute, whereby some members of the Board are to be designated by the outgoing Board, others to be elected by the General Conference. While the Preparatory Commission is carrying out its tasks, signatory governments are proceeding with ratification of the Statute. The latter will come into force, and designations for the first Board of Governors and the holding of the first General Conference will become possible, when instruments of ratification have been deposited by 18 signatory states provided at least three of these are from among Canada, France, the U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom and the United States. August 19, 1957 has been selected by the Preparatory Commission as a tentative target date for the opening at Vienna of the first General Conference.

In all of these developments Canada has played an active part. It has been a co-sponsor of each of the General Assembly resolutions concerned, a member of the original eight-power group which prepared the first draft