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ITEM 14: REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Statement by H.E. Mr. Paul Tremblay
Vice-Chairman of the Canadian Delegation
in Plenary Session on November 29, 1962.

Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that the Canadian Delegation has listened to the report which has just been presented by the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency and we wish to welcome him on this, the first occasion on which he has appeared before this Assembly.

This September the International Atomic Energy Agency held its Sixth General Conference. The Conference provided an opportunity to assess the achievements of the Agency's first five years and to draw some conclusions about the shape of things for the years ahead. Though it is by now a commonplace to say that the work of the Agency has not developed altogether along the lines originally foreseen, my Government is not for this reason inclined to underestimate the results so far achieved or to take a pessimistic view of the possibility of useful work in the future.

One of the most important activities of the Agency is to further the exchange of scientific and technical information, and particularly the Agency's programme of conferences, seminars, and symposia. The Canadian Government is gratified that through the Atomic Energy of Canada Limited it was able this year to play host to one such meeting held under the joint auspices of the Agency and of UNESCO. There is little doubt that these meetings give scientists of all

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countries and parts of the world opportunities for an exchange of views and information of great value to them in their exploration of new areas of nuclear physics.

In this connection, it should be noted that one of the constructive measures adopted at the Sixth General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency was to recommend that a third international conference on the peaceful uses of atomic energy should be held. Canada is pleased to co-sponsor the resolution which has been submitted under this item on our agenda to give effect to the Agency's recommendation.

Another of the principal responsibilities entrusted to the Agency by its statute was that of establishing and administering safeguards. The Canadian Delegation is pleased to note that the Agency during 1962 carried out its first three safeguards inspections -- on the reactor NORA in Norway, on the TRIGA MARK 2 reactor in Finland, and on four reactor facilities of different types situated in the United States and offered for inspection by that country.

I referred a moment ago to the need to look ahead and examine the shape of the Agency's programme for the second half of its first decade. Useful work on such planning has already been instituted by the Agency's Board of Governors and Canada is co-operating in the development of the long-term plan. Canadian experts have already participated in studies on the part which the Agency may play in furthering the practical applications of nuclear power.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, may I say that as one of the members of the bureau of the Board of Governors

of the International Atomic Energy Agency it has been our privilege, together with Pakistan and Poland, to co-sponsor the resolution recommending that this Assembly take note of the Agency's report. I should like once again to express our appreciation to Dr. Eklund and to assure him that Canada will continue to give its full support to the work of the Agency.