

IAEA Board of Governors

Record of the 1143<sup>rd</sup> Meeting  
GOV/OR.1143

The Nobel Peace Prize for 2005

# Board of Governors

**GOV/OR.1143**

Issued: November 2005

**Restricted Distribution**

Original: English

---

**For official use only**

## Record of the 1143<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

*Held at Headquarters, Vienna, on Friday, 14 October 2005, at 10.50 a.m.*

### Contents

Item of the provisional agenda <sup>1</sup>	Paragraphs
– Opening of the meeting	1
– Adoption of the agenda	2–3
– The Nobel Peace Prize for 2005	4–104

---

<sup>1</sup> GOV/2005/82.



## Attendance

(The list below gives the name of the senior member of each delegation who attended the meeting, as well as that of any other member whose statement is summarized in this record.)

Mr. AMANO		Chairman (Japan)
Mr. FASSIH	_____	Algeria
Mr. PARINI		Argentina
Ms. STOKES		Australia
Mr. SYCHOV		Belarus
Mr. NIEUWENHUYS		Belgium
Mr. VIEIRA DE SOUZA		Brazil
Ms. HALL		Canada
Mr. WU Hailong		China
Ms. QUINTERO CORREA		Colombia
Mr. CARRERA DORAL	}	Cuba
Mr. CODORNIU PUJALS		
Mr. MOREJÓN-ALMEIDA		Ecuador
Mr. RAMZY		Egypt
Mr. DENIAU		France
Mr. HONSOWITZ		Germany
Ms. GRAMMATIKA		Greece
Mr. SHARMA		India
Mr. INKIRIWANG		Indonesia
Mr. SUMI		Japan
Mr. CHO Chang-Beom		Korea, Republic of
Ms. SHILLI		Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Mr. AAS		Norway
Mr. SENNFELT		Portugal
Mr. BERDENNIKOV		Russian Federation
Mr. GAFOOR		Singapore
Ms. ŠIMKOVÁ		Slovakia
Mr. PETRIČ		Slovenia
Mr. WRIGHT		South Africa
Ms. WIJEWARDANE		Sri Lanka
Mr. LUNDBORG		Sweden
Mr. GHANEM		Syrian Arab Republic
Mr. JENKINS		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mr. SCHULTE		United States of America
Ms. GARCÍA de PÉREZ		Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of
Mr. BAHKAN		Yemen
Mr. ELBARADEI	_____	Director General
Mr. ANING		Secretary of the Board

**Representatives of the following Member States attended the meeting:**

Afghanistan, Albania, Austria, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay, Vietnam, Zimbabwe.

**Abbreviations used in this record:**

G-77	Group of Seventy-Seven
GRULAC	Latin American and Caribbean Group
NAM	Non-Aligned Movement
NPT	Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
NPT Review Conference	Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
WMD	weapons of mass destruction

\* Speakers under Rule 50 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure are indicated by an asterisk.

## – Opening of the meeting

1. The CHAIRMAN invited Board members to observe one minute of silence dedicated to the victims of the succession of natural disasters which in recent weeks had struck the southern United States of America, the Caribbean and Central America, and the Indian sub-continental region.

**All present rose and observed one minute of silence.**

## – Adoption of the agenda (GOV/2005/82)

2. The CHAIRPERSON took it that the Board wished to adopt the provisional agenda contained in document GOV/2005/82.
3. The agenda was adopted.

## – The Nobel Peace Prize for 2005 (GOV/2005/83)

4. The CHAIRMAN said that on 7 October 2005, the Norwegian Nobel Committee had announced its decision to award the Nobel Peace Prize for 2005 to the Agency and its Director General, Mr. Mohamed ElBaradei, "for their efforts to prevent nuclear energy from being used for military purposes and to ensure that nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is used in the safest possible way". The prize was to be awarded in Oslo, Norway, on 10 December 2005.
5. In its press release, the Committee had stated that:

"At a time when the threat of nuclear arms is again increasing, the Norwegian Nobel Committee wishes to underline that this threat must be met through the broadest possible international cooperation. This principle finds its clearest expression today in the work of the IAEA and its Director General. In the nuclear non-proliferation regime, it is the IAEA which controls that nuclear energy is not misused for military purposes, and the Director General has stood out as an unafraid advocate of new measures to strengthen that regime. At a time when disarmament efforts appear deadlocked, when there is a danger that nuclear arms will spread both to states and to terrorist groups, and when nuclear power again appears to be playing an increasingly significant role, IAEA's work is of incalculable importance."

6. Document GOV/2005/83 proposed certain actions in connection with the awarding of the Peace Prize. It was envisaged that the prize would be received on behalf of the Agency by the Chairman of the Board, accompanied by the two Vice-Chairpersons, as well as a representative of the Secretariat management and a representative of the staff.

7. Ms. HUSSAIN (Malaysia)\*, speaking on behalf of NAM and the G-77 and China, expressed deepest sympathies and condolences to the peoples and Governments of those countries that had recently experienced losses of lives and property owing to natural disasters.

8. She conveyed heartiest congratulations to the Agency and Mr. ElBaradei for the outstanding achievement of being awarded the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize. The award was testimony to and recognition of their great efforts in ensuring the safe and peaceful development and use of nuclear technologies and the Agency's role in promoting atomic energy for peace, health and prosperity. The award should attract more support for the Agency and its Director General in further carrying out their mandate.

9. NAM and the G-77 and China reiterated the basic and inalienable right of all Member States to develop research on, the production and use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. While also reiterating the importance they attached to the Agency's verification activities, they believed safeguards should not hamper the economic or technological development of Member States or international cooperation in the field, including the international exchange of nuclear material and equipment for the processing, use or production of nuclear material for peaceful purposes. Moreover, non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear technology should be addressed in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner. The Agency should ensure the legitimate rights of Member States to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and also continue its efforts to make sure that nuclear technology was not diverted for any military purpose. As the sole competent authority for verification in the framework of the Agency's safeguards system, the Agency needed to preserve its integrity, professionalism and impartiality.

10. One of the three pillars of the Agency's statutory obligations was technical cooperation in the peaceful applications of atomic energy. In order to meet those technical cooperation objectives, a balance had to be maintained between promotional and other statutory activities. In that regard, NAM and the G-77 and China believed that the Board should consider using the Agency's monetary award from the Nobel Committee to fund the development and practical application of atomic energy for peaceful purposes for the needs of developing countries.

11. Mr. SCHULTE (United States of America) congratulated the Agency and its Director General on being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. The United States Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, had said that the prize was a well-deserved honour. The prize was a tribute to Mr. ElBaradei personally and to all the men and women of the Secretariat. Whilst being a tribute to past efforts, it should also reinforce the Agency's resolve to face future challenges in all areas of its work, whether confronting the risks of nuclear terrorism, addressing concerns about compliance or promoting the peaceful use of nuclear technology.

12. In recognition of all the hard work carried out by the Secretariat, his delegation proposed that in receiving the award, the Chairman of the Board be accompanied by two representatives of the Secretariat.

13. Like NAM and the G-77 and China, the United States of America would like the Agency's monetary award to be used to support the peaceful use of nuclear technology in promoting human

health in the developing world. That would be in keeping with the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and the Agency's mission of atoms for peace.

14. Mr. HALPHEN PÉREZ (Panama)\*, speaking on behalf of GRULAC, expressed sincere satisfaction that the Agency and its Director General had been awarded the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize. The prize served as recognition of their efficient, professional and tireless efforts towards nuclear disarmament, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The prize represented the international community's belief that only in a climate of peace and global disarmament could problems such as hunger, unemployment, extreme poverty, pollution, disease and natural disasters be resolved.

15. GRULAC had always made intense efforts to promote nuclear technical cooperation with a view to improving the living conditions of its peoples. The Agency's monetary award should be spent on the implementation of health and food production programmes in countries without the necessary resources. Atomic energy was meaningful only if it was used for the benefit of humanity.

16. GRULAC proposed that the Board consider sending the President of the forty-ninth General Conference to represent the Agency at the Nobel Peace Prize award ceremony.

17. Ms. MOHAMMED (Ethiopia)\*, speaking on behalf of the African Group, conveyed condolences to the peoples and Governments of those countries affected by the natural disasters.

18. With a sense of pride and happiness the Group warmly congratulated the Agency and its Director General on being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. It was recognition of the importance of the Agency's pivotal role in world peace, through the tireless efforts of the Secretariat and the Director General, with respect to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the peaceful use of atomic energy.

19. The African Group attached utmost importance to the Agency's technical cooperation activities as the main statutory vehicle for transferring nuclear technology to developing countries for their socio-economic development through the safe application of atomic energy in power, water management, health, industry and agriculture.

20. The Group hoped that the award would encourage the international community to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons and promote further the peaceful use of atomic energy for the benefit of humankind.

21. Mr. SHARMA (India) said that his country was delighted that the Nobel Peace Prize had been awarded to the Director General and the Agency. The prestigious prize was a well-deserved recognition of their contribution to peace and security and of their work to ensure that atomic energy was used for exclusively peaceful purposes for the benefit of human development. India had great admiration for the way in which Mr. ElBaradei had steered the organization through challenging times with both professional excellence and personal courage.

22. His delegation was thankful for the messages of condolence for the earthquake that had hit India, and added its own condolences to the peoples and Governments of Pakistan and Afghanistan, which had also been affected.

23. Mr. WU Hailong (China) congratulated the Agency and its Director General on being awarded the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize. It was a significant milestone in the Agency's history and an honour for the Agency, its staff and its Director General. They had worked tirelessly to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and had made outstanding contributions to world peace and development. In recent years, the Agency had further strengthened its nuclear non-proliferation efforts and taken positive measures to respond to the threat of international



nuclear terrorism. It had remained objective and impartial in addressing relevant regional nuclear issues.

24. The Agency had also undertaken many positive initiatives to promote nuclear energy and nuclear science and technology and to promote the transfer of nuclear technology to developing countries. The award reflected fully the important role of multilateralism in resolving global challenges.

25. The Chinese Government was confident that, as long as the objectives and principles of the Agency's Statute were adhered to and a balance was maintained between its major functions, the Agency would make even greater contributions to peace and development around the world.

26. Mr. SUMI (Japan) congratulated the Agency and its Director General on being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2005. Recalling the use of atomic bombs 60 years previously, Japan hoped that the award would refocus international attention on ensuring that such an event never happened again.

27. The award was a tribute to the Agency's contribution to international peace and stability through its promotion of the peaceful use of nuclear energy and its implementation and strengthening of safeguards against nuclear non-proliferation. At the same time, it was a recognition of the strong leadership of Mr. ElBaradei and the untiring efforts of the Agency staff. The prize was also an expression of the international community's expectation that the Agency would continue to contribute to international peace and stability through its activities.

28. Japan welcomed the proposal to establish a special fund for the monetary award. The fund should be used effectively for clearly-defined purposes.

29. Mr. VIEIRA DE SOUZA (Brazil) said that it was a great pleasure to congratulate the Director General and the Agency on being awarded the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize. Mr. ElBaradei had always worked with efficiency and impartiality and provided firm leadership. His success also relied upon his well-qualified, experienced and dedicated staff.

30. The Nobel Peace Prize was an important political sign in support of the Agency's dual objective: to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world, while ensuring that the assistance provided was not used in such a way as to further any military purpose. In that context, Brazil reiterated the fundamental importance of the Agency's promotional activities, which also served to advance peace worldwide. The prize sent a clear signal in favour of multilateralism and the Agency's invaluable contribution to international peace and security.

31. Brazil supported GRULAC's suggestion to include the President of the forty-ninth General Conference in the award ceremony in Oslo.

32. Mr. WRIGHT (South Africa) expressed sincere congratulations to Mr. ElBaradei and the Agency for being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2005.

33. The President of South Africa, Mr. Thabo Mbeki, had sent a message of congratulations to the Director General, in which he had written that the award was a personal tribute to Mr. ElBaradei's integrity and professionalism and a well-deserved recognition of the impartial and authoritative role of the Agency. The Government of South Africa was proud that the award had been conferred upon such an eminent African international civil servant. It commended the Agency for its role as an important multilateral body performing valuable verification and other tasks that were central to the critical objectives of nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in the context of the need to eliminate all nuclear weapons.

34. Mr. MOREJÓN-ALMEIDA (Ecuador) joined others in expressing condolences to the Governments of those countries that had recently suffered the devastating effects of natural disasters.

35. Ecuador was extremely pleased with the decision to award the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize to the Agency and its Director General. It was a well-deserved recognition of the excellent management of the Agency in the areas of security, safeguards and verification and in the promotion of the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology. The prize also reflected the international community's perception that Mr. ElBaradei had led the Agency with impartiality, integrity, fairness and professionalism. The prize was a clear message that the only effective way of fighting nuclear proliferation was by strengthening international cooperation and multilateralism within the framework of the Agency.

36. The Agency's monetary award should be used to strengthen the Agency's capacities to continue working for the peaceful and safe use of nuclear technologies for the benefit of sectors of the population in need, through specific health and food production programmes. His delegation supported GRULAC's suggestion that the Board consider sending the President of the General Conference to participate in the Nobel award ceremony.

37. Mr. AAS (Norway), having congratulated the Agency and its Director General on being awarded the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize, commended their tireless efforts aimed at ensuring that the organization remained an efficient instrument of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament.

38. Following recent setbacks in multilateral non-proliferation diplomacy, including at the NPT Review Conference and the United Nations Summit in September, Norway hoped that the prize would be an inspiration to all in their endeavours to strengthen nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament efforts. He emphasized that his country's commitment to nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament remained as strong as ever.

39. Norway looked forward to receiving the Director General and representatives of the Agency in Oslo in December.

40. Mr. CODORNIU PUJALS (Cuba) saluted the Agency and its Director General on being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Cuba agreed with the Nobel Committee regarding the contribution made by the Agency and Director General in preventing nuclear energy from being used for military purposes and ensuring that nuclear energy for peaceful purposes be used in the safest possible way. In addition, Cuba highlighted the contribution that the Agency made to peace through its technical cooperation programmes, which had an increasing impact on health, food and many other areas.

41. In current times, the existence of large arsenals of nuclear weapons and the danger of their proliferation posed a serious threat to international peace and security. Cuba was convinced that the only real solution was to eliminate WMD, including nuclear weapons. On the other hand, the peaceful applications of nuclear energy, in particular electricity generation, were seen as an increasingly essential element of sustainable development. In order to enjoy the benefits of nuclear energy, problems related to its non-peaceful uses had to be resolved. Cuba hoped that the Nobel Peace Prize would consolidate the Agency's primordial role in resolving that issue, based on professionalism, objectivity and impartiality and the maintenance of an harmonious and appropriate balance between its statutory missions.

42. Cuba supported GRULAC's suggestion that the President of the forty-ninth session of the General Conference be part of the delegation to receive the prize.

43. Mr. DENIAU (France) welcomed the awarding of the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize to the Agency and its Director General. On behalf of the French authorities, he heartily congratulated the Director General, the governing bodies and the staff of the Agency, who at times worked at great personal risk.

That prestigious award honoured the Agency's indispensable work in the nuclear non-proliferation regime, in the promotion of nuclear safety and security and in the development of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. It also rewarded the Director General's professionalism, determination and infallible commitment to the dual mission of fighting against nuclear proliferation and ensuring that the energy needs of the planet were met by promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

44. The Nobel Committee's decision echoed the international community's growing belief in the role of nuclear power, as illustrated by the international ministerial conference on nuclear power for the 21st century held in Paris earlier in the year. The prize was a distinguished token of support for the Agency's efforts to address, by means of effective multilateralism, the new non-proliferation challenges before the international community.

45. He supported GRULAC's proposal that the President of the General Conference be included in the delegation to Oslo to receive the Nobel Prize.

46. The Agency should not delay in sending a clear message to the international community about how it would use the monetary award. France was in favour of using it to advance human health in developing countries through the peaceful use of nuclear technology.

47. Ms. QUINTERO CORREA (Colombia) congratulated the Agency and Mr. ElBaradei on being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, which had been given in honour of the Agency's work with respect to its three statutory pillars, the dedicated work of all members of the Secretariat and the integrity, impartiality, transparency and good management of its Director General. The award raised the Agency's stature by recognizing its contribution to peace and security in the world in the fulfilment of its task of promoting the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, ensuring disarmament and non-proliferation and achieving the goals of sustainable development. Colombia, as a proud Member State, was convinced that the prize would strengthen the Agency and guide it in making and implementing decisions. It demonstrated the trust placed in the Agency by the international community and would spur the Agency on in its efforts to build a better world for all.

48. Her delegation concurred with GRULAC's proposal that the President of the General Conference be included in the group to receive the prize.

49. The monetary component of the Agency's award should be used in special food and health related programmes in developing countries.

50. Ms. ŠIMKOVÁ (Slovakia) joined other speakers in extending heartfelt congratulations to the Director General and the Agency on being awarded the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize. That award was a vindication of the Agency's contribution towards safe and secure uses of nuclear energy and proof of its vital role in addressing global non-proliferation concerns.

51. It was only through concerted efforts by the international community that the threat of nuclear proliferation could be dealt with and the goal of a peaceful nuclear future achieved. Slovakia was ready to assist in developing peaceful uses of nuclear energy for the socio-economic growth and benefit of humankind.

52. Mr. PETRIČ (Slovenia), having congratulated the Director General and the Agency's staff on being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, said that on the one hand, the peaceful use of nuclear energy was one of the great opportunities for all humanity whereas, on the other, the proliferation of nuclear arms posed the greatest danger. The Nobel Prize demonstrated recognition and support for efforts to ensure that nuclear energy was used for peaceful purposes and was available to all, and that the proliferation of nuclear weapons was stopped.

53. His delegation agreed that the Director General should take the necessary steps to establish a special fund for the Agency's monetary award.

54. Mr. BERDENNIKOV (Russian Federation) wholeheartedly congratulated the Director General and the Agency on being awarded the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize. His country was very pleased with the Nobel Committee's decision and the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs had sent a congratulatory note to Mr. ElBaradei on 7 October.

55. The prestigious award was a well-deserved recognition of the Agency's authority and the efforts of its Director General to strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime, to counteract nuclear terrorism, to ensure nuclear security and to develop international cooperation in the peaceful use of atomic energy. As President Putin of the Russian Federation had noted at his meeting with Mr. ElBaradei the previous summer in Moscow, the Agency's activity was entirely professional and non-political.

56. The Russian Federation would continue to support the Agency in carrying out its statutory functions. It would also support Mr. ElBaradei's efforts not only to strengthen the Agency's role as the only international body having the authority and the technical capabilities and expertise to evaluate objectively States' observance of their nuclear non-proliferation obligations, but also to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

57. Mr. SYCHOV (Belarus) welcomed the decision of the Nobel Committee and congratulated the Agency and its Director General on being awarded the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize.

58. In his congratulatory note to the Director General and the Agency, President Lukashenko of Belarus had particularly emphasized that the Agency had a right to be proud of the high estimation of its activities in strengthening peace and security on the planet. Also, he had pointed out the importance of the Agency's work on the development and safe use of peaceful nuclear technologies, including nuclear power, and the Agency's consistent efforts to ensure the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

59. Belarus supported the Director General's proposal that the Chairman of the Board of Governors and his Vice-Chairpersons receive the prize on behalf of the Agency and also supported GRULAC's proposal that the President of the General Conference participate in the ceremony. Belarus was prepared to participate in consultations regarding the use of the Agency's monetary award.

60. Mr. CHO Chang-beom (Republic of Korea), having expressed sympathy to the people and Governments affected by the recent natural disasters, wholeheartedly welcomed the decision of the Norwegian Committee to award the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize jointly to the Agency and its Director General. Winning the award was a source of pride to the Board of Governors.

61. The award gave highly deserved recognition to the entire staff of the Agency under the able leadership of the Director General and was a testimony to the international community's strong support at a time marked by critical challenges to the non-proliferation regime. The Republic of Korea paid tribute to the Director General and the staff for their untiring and professional devotion to the Agency's goal of enhancing the contribution of nuclear energy to the peace and welfare of humankind.

62. Over the past five decades, the Agency had stood firm as the sole body dedicated to promoting the safe and peaceful use of nuclear technology and to stemming the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Republic of Korea, as an active proponent of the Agency's founding causes, was proud to have been able to stand together with it in that regard.

63. The award from the international community should be translated into renewed hope and strengthened resolve to fulfil all aspects of the Agency's mandate in the service of peace and prosperity for humankind, contributing to the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons.

64. The Republic of Korea supported the action recommended in document GOV/2005/83, particularly the establishment of a special fund for receipt of the award. His country was prepared to join in consultations with the Director General with a view to forging a creative proposal for making best use of that fund.

65. Mr. JENKINS (United Kingdom) expressed his condolences to the families of the victims of the recent natural disasters and to the Governments and peoples concerned.

66. Having expressed great satisfaction at the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to the Agency and its Director General, he noted that in its press release the Nobel Committee had focused on the Agency's role in meeting the threat of nuclear arms and ensuring that nuclear energy was not misused for military purposes. Thus, the United Kingdom saw the prize primarily as an acknowledgement of the quality of the Agency's work in verification, safety and security, areas to which his delegation attached the highest importance. He hoped that all members of the Secretariat, particularly the staff of the Department of Safeguards and the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, would take great pride in that acknowledgement of their contribution to world peace.

67. He warmly congratulated the Director General on his expert leadership which, as the British Foreign Secretary had noted on 7 October, was a very great achievement. It reflected his fearless advocacy of new measures for strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and bore testimony to the skill, intelligence and impartiality with which he had performed the role of chief administrative officer of the Agency.

68. The United Kingdom saw merit in the suggestion of the Governor from the United States of America that the Chairman be accompanied at the awards ceremony not by other representatives of Member States, but by representatives of the Secretariat, as it was clear that the Secretariat had done the lion's share of the work that had earned the Agency that honour. Moreover, since all eight regional groups recognized in the Statute could not be represented at the awards ceremony, it would be more appropriate for the Chairman alone to represent the Agency's membership.

69. The United Kingdom also saw merit in France's proposal regarding the use of the award's monetary proceeds.

70. Mr. SENNFELT (Portugal) said that the news of the awarding of the Noble Peace Prize to the Agency and its Director General had been received in his country with great joy and elation.

71. At a time of rising challenges to peace and security in the world in the area of proliferation, the Agency, under the most able leadership of Mr. ElBaradei, had been carrying out its mandate with great commitment, professionalism and impartiality, thus underlining the merits of multilateralism and the value of dialogue and negotiation. The prize was a recognition of that and would also be an additional incentive to the Agency's work.

72. He endorsed the suggestion made by the United States of America and the United Kingdom that the Chairman be accompanied to Oslo by two members of the Secretariat.

73. He looked forward to early consultations with a view to deciding as soon as possible on the use of the Agency's monetary award.

74. Ms. STOKES (Australia) conveyed her congratulations to all of the Agency's staff for their collective achievement in winning the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize for 2005. She also congratulated the Director General, noting that the award was a recognition of his strong leadership and personal commitment to making the world a safer place.

75. The award was a landmark in the history of the Agency and would increase international awareness of its invaluable contribution to international peace and security.

76. The Agency had shown its responsiveness and adaptability to changing circumstances, new threats and opportunities. That was an important part of the Agency's success and one of the reasons her Government strongly supported its work. Her country's support was reflected in a new publication released that week by the Foreign Minister, Mr. Downer, detailing Australia's role in fighting the proliferation of WMD, a copy of which was being sent to each Board member.

77. Ms. WIJEWARDANE (Sri Lanka) welcomed the timely and well-deserved decision by the Nobel Committee to award the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize to the Agency and its Director General. She congratulated the Director General and the staff of the Agency, past and present, for their richly deserved achievement. The award to Mr. ElBaradei reflected not only the recognition of his past achievements but also the confidence placed in his future leadership of the Agency. During his tenure the Board had, on many occasions, unanimously endorsed his objectivity and impartiality.

78. The three pillars of the Agency's mandate constituted an important foundation for multilateral cooperation for the achievement of global peace and security. The award citation highlighted those important dimensions of the mandate. The Agency's work continued to be important in the light of contemporary challenges concerning the increasing demand for nuclear energy, technology and applications for peaceful purposes, and issues confronting the non-proliferation regime. The Agency, helped in combating disease and environmental degradation, increasing and improving agricultural yields and developing nuclear technologies for other peaceful ends. Sri Lanka believed that further progress could be achieved in those areas by mobilizing the financial resources of the award to those ends.

79. In recognizing the Agency's role in advancing the cause of global peace, the award also highlighted the need to address the threat of proliferation to States and terrorist groups. In its verification work, the Agency had earned a reputation for balance, impartiality, objectivity and professionalism. The award not only paid the highest tribute to the Agency but was also a challenge for it to uphold its high reputation.

80. Ms. SHILLI (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) welcomed the decision of the Norwegian Committee to award the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize to the Agency and its Director General. The prize was a medal of honour in appreciation of the efforts of the Agency and its entire staff in working towards the goals of nuclear disarmament and the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. The award was the fruit of many years of ongoing efforts and cooperation. Libya had recently experienced that cooperation at close hand when it had voluntarily abandoned its programmes for the production of internationally proscribed weapons. Her delegation encouraged the Director General and staff to continue their untiring efforts to maintain peace and security internationally.

81. Ms. GARCÍA de PÉRES (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) said the award represented both a recognition of past achievements and a challenge for future responsibilities. Her Government was a firm supporter of the work undertaken by the Agency. Also, it was confident that Mr. ElBaradei was the ideal person to lead the Agency because of the dedication, skill, objectivity and independence he had demonstrated in the past. The commitment to the international community required in the future would be no less demanding. Her delegation believed in the Agency's capacity to ensure that the use of nuclear energy was an inalienable right of all States and to ensure its development for peaceful purposes for the well-being of the international community. She congratulated the entire staff of the Secretariat and endorsed the recommendations contained in document GOV/2005/83. Venezuela supported GRULAC's proposal to include the President of the forty-ninth regular session of the General Conference amongst those receiving the Nobel Peace Prize.

82. Mr. INKIRIWANG (Indonesia) congratulated the Agency and its Director General wholeheartedly for being awarded the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of their contribution to world peace. The work of the Agency and Mr. ElBaradei was an excellent example of the highest principles of the United Nations, and the awarding of the prize would serve as an inspiration to people around the world.

83. In view of current nuclear threats, Indonesia was pleased that the prize had been awarded to Mr. ElBaradei, a dedicated and committed person who had spent years working tirelessly and providing strong leadership for the Agency. During his third term as Director General, the Agency would help maintain peace, stability and security throughout the world.

84. Having endorsed what had been said by the representative of Malaysia on behalf of NAM and the G-77, he stressed the importance of preserving the integrity, professionalism and impartiality that characterized the work of the Agency.

85. Regarding the monetary award, he supported the action recommended in the Director General's report contained in document GOV/2005/83.

86. Mr. FASSIH (Algeria) offered his country's heartfelt congratulations to the Agency and the Director General on being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2005. The prize bore witness to their praiseworthy efforts to fulfil the Agency's mission, in the context of which Mr. ElBaradei stood out for his professionalism, integrity and human qualities.

87. Algeria paid tribute to the Agency's work in nuclear verification, technical cooperation and nuclear safety and security. The NPT was an essential instrument in the international non-proliferation regime and nuclear disarmament. All the instruments that formed the basis of that multilateral regime, in particular the NPT, should be universalized. Algeria attached particular importance to the Agency's technical cooperation programme and called upon the Agency to strengthen it through predictable and assured financial resources.

88. Algeria welcomed the action recommended in document GOV/2005/83 and supported the proposal by NAM and the G-77 to use the money for developing nuclear applications for peaceful purposes in developing countries.

89. Mr. HONSOWITZ (Germany) also offered heartfelt congratulations to the Director General and the entire staff of the Agency on being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. The Agency's mission was crucial to world peace. Ensuring that nuclear energy was used only for peaceful purposes and in conformity with agreed safety standards was a task that demanded professionalism and courage. Sixty years after their only wartime use, nuclear weapons still posed immense dangers. The prize was a tribute to the tireless efforts of the Agency and its Director General to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Their work demonstrated high levels of impartiality, expertise and consummate diplomatic skill. Germany hoped that the Nobel Peace Prize would enhance the capacity of the Agency and its Director General to promote international peace, safety, security and prosperity.

90. Ms. HALL (Canada), after extending her condolences to those countries that had recently been affected by natural disasters, congratulated Mr. ElBaradei and the staff of the Agency on being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2005. Such a historic moment served as a reminder of their tireless efforts and indispensable role in fulfilling the vision of atoms for peace.

91. Mr. ElBaradei was a deserving recipient of such a prestigious honour. He had demonstrated capable leadership on a host of difficult non-proliferation and disarmament issues of concern to Canada and the world. The award was also an acknowledgement of the important role played by the Agency in ensuring that nuclear energy was used only for peaceful purposes in a safe and secure manner.

92. Mr. NIEUWENHUYS (Belgium) said the Nobel Peace Prize had come at a timely moment since it reflected the international community's appreciation of the principled and objective manner in which the Agency, its Director General and his staff contributed to international peace and security.

93. The dissemination of nuclear technology and knowledge presented tremendous challenges. Belgium had always advocated an efficient multilateral approach to meeting such challenges and believed that the Agency was the most appropriate organization to provide the international community with the necessary objective guarantees that nuclear programmes were being pursued solely and exclusively for peaceful ends.

94. The Nobel Peace Prize was an important and well-deserved recognition. The professionalism of the Agency's staff and leadership was unquestionable. Given the prize's reputation and the credibility of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, the award might be seen as a signal of the great expectations that the world had of the Agency. The Agency could only succeed with the support of its Member States and the international community.

95. Mr. RAMZY (Egypt), having congratulated the Agency and its Director General on receiving the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize, said it was a testimony of the high regard in which they were held by the international community and a deserved recognition of the Agency's important role in combating nuclear proliferation and promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. It was also a tribute to the able and wise leadership of Mr. ElBaradei and to his staff, who ensured that the Agency discharged its mandate in a professional, impartial and objective manner.

96. The timing of the award was propitious given the increasing risks of nuclear proliferation and the severe pressure being brought to bear on the international disarmament regime. The award should serve as a signal to the international community to pursue nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament with strengthened resolve and as an impetus to deriving maximum benefits from the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. In addition, the award bore the message that multilateralism was the most effective means of achieving peace and security.

97. As the representative of Egypt, Mr. ElBaradei's home country, he expressed the honour and pride felt by his people and Government in the awarding of a second peace prize to an Egyptian national in some 25 years. That testified to his country's commitment to international peace and security.

98. Mr. LUNDBORG (Sweden) said conferment of the Nobel Peace Prize to the Agency and Mr. ElBaradei was a well-deserved recognition of the important role they played in efforts for a nuclear-weapon-free world. It emphasized the importance of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation for international peace and security, particularly in the sixtieth anniversary year of the use of nuclear weapons in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

99. Mr. ElBaradei was a convincing opinion-former in those issues, and his voice was particularly important now that the recent United Nations Summit had failed to move disarmament and non-proliferation efforts forward.

100. Mr. PARINI (Argentina) congratulated the Agency and Mr. ElBaradei on being awarded the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize and said that the Norwegian Nobel Committee had made a wise choice. The prize provided deserved recognition of demonstrated objectivity, professionalism, independence and faithfulness to the Agency's statutory objectives.

101. His delegation approved of the recent decision to re-appoint Mr. ElBaradei for another term of office.



102. The award emphasized the importance of international cooperation in nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for peace, stability and international security. His delegation was convinced that the Agency and its Director General would meet the many international challenges that lay ahead as soundly as they had in the past. In so doing, they would have the full cooperation of his country.

103. Mr. GHANEM (Syrian Arab Republic) extended heartfelt congratulations to the Agency and Mr. ElBaradei on being awarded the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize. His country felt a deep pride in the fact that Mr. ElBaradei, an Egyptian citizen, came from a developing country. The award recognized his integrity, objectivity, impartiality and great competence. It also testified to the importance of the Agency in today's world in promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and peace, health and prosperity. It would provide a new and strong impetus to the Agency's work in continuing to promote nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and to rid the world of WMD.

104. His delegation associated itself with the proposal that the President of the forty-ninth General Conference take part in the award ceremony and was in favour of the funds awarded to the Agency being used for the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear technologies in developing countries.

**The meeting rose at 1 p.m.**