



GC

GC(43)/INF/22
29 September 1999

International Atomic Energy Agency

GENERAL CONFERENCE

GENERAL Distr.
ENGLISH
Original: ARABIC

Forty-third regular session

TEXT OF COMMUNICATION OF 29 SEPTEMBER 1999 RECEIVED FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

The text of a letter dated 29 September 1999 submitted by the Permanent Mission of Iraq is reproduced for the attention of the General Conference.

“The delegation of Iraq wishes to make the following remarks.

“Iraq requested the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency to restore its voting rights in the Agency’s meetings, basing its request on the fact that its financial assets have been frozen since 1990 and it is not entitled to make payments for any purpose.

“The Agency’s decision to deprive Iraq of its voting rights was based on Iraq’s failure to pay its contributions. However, as you know, this is a special situation because Iraq is forced not to pay its contributions and has no other choice.

“The Iraqi Minister of Foreign Affairs requested the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency to consider the matter very seriously and to take the compelling circumstances into account. We noted on Tuesday, 28 September 1999 in the Plenary that this subject was not treated with the required seriousness and that Iraq’s request was rejected without any local justification. At the same time, the Conference restored the voting rights of the Republic of Belarus. We are pleased that this was the case for Belarus, but the failure to give the same rights to Iraq is a case of the application of double standards.

“The delegation of Iraq wishes to register its objection to the failure to take account of the compelling circumstances beyond its control.”

<p>For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.</p>
