

Box 61
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September 2, 1953

Dear Participant:

Enclosed is the preliminary draft of a statement to be submitted for the consideration of the Third Pugwash Conference in Kitzbühel. This statement has been agreed, in its general outline, by the Pugwash continuing committee (Professors Powell, Rabinowitch, Rotblat, and Skobeltzyn). The committee plans to go over the draft once again when meeting at Kitzbühel immediately prior to the conference. It intends to suggest to the conference that the final formulation be entrusted to a drafting committee, elected at the beginning of the conference.

In the planning for the Kitzbühel-Vienna conference, it was envisaged that, in contrast to the Second Pugwash Conference at Lac Beauport, this conference should attempt to formulate a general statement representing a consensus of its members. The Austrian authorities and the Körner Foundation, our hosts at this conference, also expressed the desire for such a statement, to be made public at the final, open meeting of the conference in Vienna on September 20.

The continuing committee believes that only a statement which could be agreed upon practically unanimously by the scientists participating in the Kitzbühel conference, despite wide differences in their political and other opinions, should be given out to the public in the name of the conference. In the desire to facilitate this consensus and to avoid as far as possible last minute hitches, the committee thought it advisable to try to outline such a statement, and circulate the draft to the participants in advance of the conference. The committee hopes that the participants arriving at the conference will have read the draft closely and will be able to tell whether they are willing to support a statement following the suggested general lines; and if they feel strongly the need for certain amendments, will have formulated these amendments in advance for submission to the drafting committee at the beginning of its work.

The committee hopes that in considering the suggested text, and in proposing amendments, the participants will share the committee's aim of producing a statement which will find practically unanimous agreement among the participants and after its publication, command the widest support among scientists in all countries, thus providing a strong basis for future development of the cooperation program initiated by the first three Pugwash conferences.

The section of the draft concerned with the nuclear tests was formulated before the appearance of the report of the U.N. Radiation Committee, the report of the Geneva conference of experts, and other relevant recent events. Our conference may find it advisable to look on this section again in the light of these new developments.

Because of the lateness of time, I was not able to consult with other members of the committee concerning the text of this letter, but I believe that it expresses correctly the views of all of them.

Yours sincerely,

Eugene Rabinowitch