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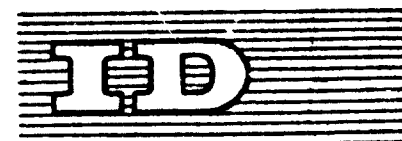
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Fourth Session

Vienna, 20 - 30 April 1970

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna,
on Thursday, 23 April 1970, at 3.15 p.m.

President: Mr. BRILLANTES (Philippines)
Rapporteur: Mr. ARCHIBALD (Trinidad and Tobago)

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We regret that some of the pages in the microfiche copy of this report may not be up to the proper legibility standards, even though the best possible copy was used for preparing the master fiche.

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION
(ID/B/L.73 and Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Board to take up the report of the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination, which constituted agenda item 5. He asked the Rapporteur to introduce the document.
2. Mr. ARCHIBALD (Trinidad and Tobago), Rapporteur, after briefly summarizing the report, pointed out that the two minor corrections had already been published under the symbol ID/B/L.73/Corr.1 and that two additional alterations, one referring to the end of paragraph 212 and the other to the beginning of paragraph 225, would be the subject of a second corrigendum.
3. Document ID/B/L.73/Add.1 had been issued as an addendum to the report of the Working Group, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2407 (XXIII).
4. The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the report under consideration came from the entire Working Group, discussion on its substance should not be reopened. If some delegations wished to make comments, it was to be hoped that they would be confined to points of detail.
5. Mr. BAMGBOSE (Nigeria) thought that the developing countries should to a large extent establish the infrastructure necessary for their industrialization themselves and should avoid engaging in prestige projects.
6. The Working Group had rightly emphasized the need for co-operation among the developing countries. In fact, though the advanced countries willingly bought raw materials from the developing countries, on the other hand they raised all kinds of tariff and non-tariff obstacles against the importation of manufactures from those countries. The problem of customs barriers was being considered by other organizations, such as UNCTAD and GATT, but it would not be without value for the Board to invite the advanced countries to give practical effect to their proclaimed policy of development assistance.
7. During the general debate it had been emphasized that the developing countries needed to obtain repair and maintenance equipment, in particular for agricultural machinery, but that did not mean that such countries should receive out-of-date agricultural implements and machinery. Furthermore, whatever the machines delivered

to them, those countries should be able to obtain spare parts and to train their own labour to repair and maintain the equipment. UNIDO should therefore give priority to training problems and also consider on-the-job training in the developing country, particularly in the assembly of agricultural machinery.

8. Chemicals and petrochemicals usually attracted investment if the results of feasibility studies seemed encouraging. It would therefore be very useful for UNIDO to undertake such studies and sometimes also to help governments that so requested to set up pilot plants and train staff.

9. Symposia, seminars and meetings had their value but it was not enough to constitute groups of experts who examined the problems of developing countries from a purely theoretical point of view. Such meetings were of interest only if they attempted to find practical solutions for the developing countries. The Working Group had proposed that such meetings should be held in the developing countries; this might present some advantages but the experts should have a thorough knowledge of the problems and conditions peculiar to the developing countries, and it would be valuable if non-specialized national personnel could not only attend courses and conferences but also benefit from the practical experience acquired by the developed countries in the course of their own industrialization.

10. He thought that light industries should constitute the starting point for industrialization, on condition that a reliable inventory of local raw materials had been prepared, because it was valueless to consider the execution of an industrial project in a developing country if that country had not such raw materials as would ensure the viability of the industry.

11. Industrial training was a field in which UNIDO could make a valuable contribution by organizing in-plant courses for middle level management personnel. Experience had shown that such training gave the best results when it was organized on the spot. As regards export industries, UNIDO should co-ordinate its activities with those of UNCTAD, for example, so that the developing countries' efforts to achieve industrialization were not brought to naught by the tariff barriers erected by the advanced countries.

12. In conclusion, he congratulated the secretariat on the links which it had forged with the World Bank and the regional development banks. No effort should be spared to see that that co-operation bore fruit as soon as possible.

13. Mr. NOVOTNY (Czechoslovakia) considered the report of the Working Group to be highly satisfactory; it gave an objective and comprehensive idea of the results of the Group's second session and included all the important views expressed by delegations on questions relating to the 15 groups of UNIDO activities.
14. It was also necessary to consider document ID/B/L.73/Add.1 (Summary review of UNIDO activities in 1969), which contained some important comments made in respect of those activities during the Working Group's discussions. His delegation understood that it was not possible to include all the comments made, for instance regarding voluntary contributions, but it thought, notwithstanding, that the two documents in question constituted an excellent analysis of UNIDO activities and could be a useful guide to the secretariat over the period concerned.
15. In his opinion, the Board should give its attention primarily to the remaining items on the agenda and approve the report of the Working Group as it stood by deciding to incorporate it in the general report.
16. Mr. KRAKUE (Ghana) supported the suggestion made by the United Kingdom representative at the 91st meeting, namely, that only the latter portion of the report of the Working Group, from paragraph 206 onwards, should be incorporated in the report of the Board.
17. Mr. KRYLOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) also thought there was no reason to re-examine the substance of the Working Group's report, which reflected the views of all the delegations and whose practical value should make it a guide for future activities. His delegation proposed that it be approved as it stood and did not agree that it should be included in the report of the Board in a shortened form, as suggested by the delegations of the United Kingdom and Ghana.
18. Mr. PEAT (United Kingdom) congratulated the Rapporteur and the secretariat on bringing out the report of the Working Group so speedily. The United Kingdom delegation took the view, as had already been suggested, that only the portion of the report of the Working Group from paragraph 206 onwards need be included in the report of the Board. Nevertheless, it welcomed the Board's approval of the report in its entirety, and although in its opinion the latter part of the document was more suitable for communication to the General Assembly than the first part, it did not wish to insist on that course being followed if others did not agree.

19. Mr. DURAND (France) shared the point of view expressed by the United Kingdom delegation and supported by the delegation of Ghana. It seemed to his delegation that it would be appropriate to retain only the part of the report beginning with paragraph 206; if desired, the remainder could be given in an annex which would not be submitted to the General Assembly for discussion.

20. The PRESIDENT asked the members of the Board, who, it seemed to him, felt that the debate as to the substance of the report should not be reopened and that the report of the Working Group should be approved, whether they accepted the proposal of the United Kingdom delegation to incorporate only that part of the report of the Working Group from paragraph 206 onwards in the report of the Board, or whether they preferred to adopt the report in question and annex the whole of it to the Board's report.

21. Mr. ARCHIBALD (Trinidad and Tobago), Rapporteur, suggested that the Board should be asked to adopt the Working Group's report unanimously as a first step; the question of how to transmit it to the General Assembly could then be considered.

22. The PRESIDENT asked the Board to give its opinion on the Working Group's report.

23. The report of the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination was adopted.

24. Mr. ILBOUDO (Upper Volta) reminded the Board that similar points had been raised and settled when the Working Group's report had been adopted the previous year. The question had been asked as to whether the report had any legal value, and the decision had been reached that it had none, and that it was merely a statement of the opinions expressed. The report had been adopted, however, and it would be illogical to adopt a report in its entirety and then extract certain parts of it for official presentation. His delegation would like to have some guidance on that question of principle.

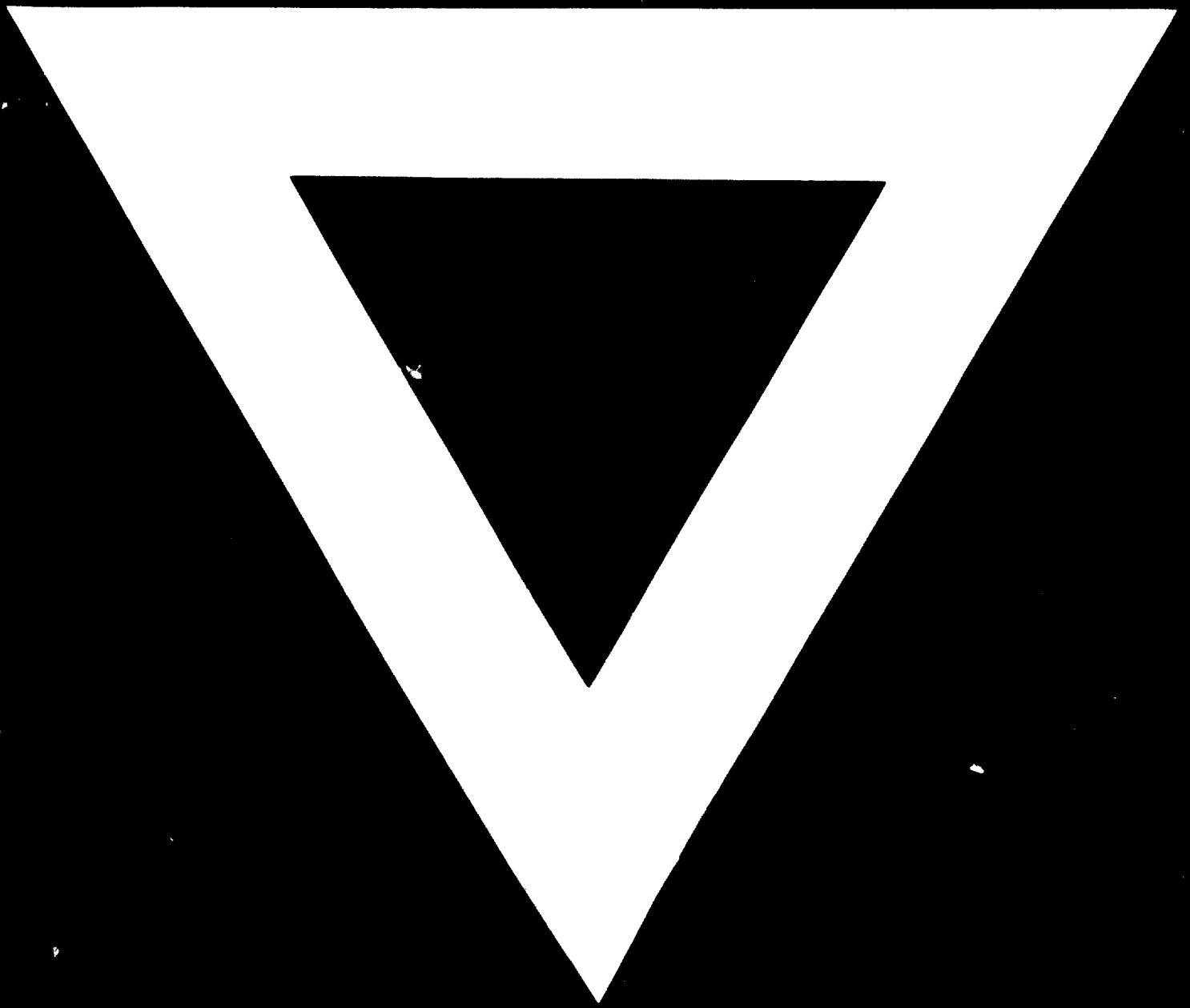
25. Mr. RWAMAKUBA (Rwanda) said that the comment which had just been made by the representative of Upper Volta deserved consideration. The Board had just adopted a report which contained the opinions expressed in the course of fifteen days of arduous work, and the suggestion was now being made that the greater part of the document summing up that work should be omitted. He could see no valid reason for not submitting the full results of the Working Group's efforts to the General Assembly.

26. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the representative of the United Kingdom did not insist on his proposal being adopted. The Board could perfectly well submit the report in its entirety, in the form of an annex.
27. Mr. LEON (Spain) shared the view of the representatives of Upper Volta and Rwanda that, since the report had been adopted, it should be transmitted in its entirety, either as an annex or in some other manner.
28. Mr. ENSOR (United Kingdom) thought that the Working Group's report, which had fortunately been unanimously adopted by the Board, provided a useful set of directives for the Executive Director, but that it was not essential to transmit the complete text to the General Assembly.
29. Mr. PROBST (Switzerland) observed that the Working Group had made its report as short as possible, to meet the wishes of the General Assembly, but it had been unable to disregard any aspect of UNIDO's work programme and activities, which it had been called upon to examine. The Board could choose between four possible solutions: to incorporate the whole of the document into its own report, as had been done at the previous session; to transmit only a part of the report to the General Assembly, as suggested by the representative of the United Kingdom, although that would raise the question of what would become of the consideration of the programme by groups of activities; to include the general part of the report in the Board's own report and attach the rest of the text as an annex; or lastly, and that was the solution which he himself preferred, to attach the Working Group's report as an annex to the Board's report, indicating that the document had been approved by the Board, which was transmitting it to the General Assembly for information.
30. Mr. SYLLA (Secretary of the Board), pointed out that the solution adopted at the third session had given rise to a number of difficulties and that the secretariat had had to deal with a mass of editorial work, which had held up the work of the Board. In his opinion it might be better to adopt the solution advocated by the representative of Switzerland, but omitting the administrative section (paragraphs 1 to 16).
31. Mr. TOP (Guinea) and Mr. KRAKUE (Ghana) shared that view.
32. Mr. LOPEZ MUIÑO (Cuba) favoured the incorporation of the text drawn up by the Working Group, with the exception of the strictly administrative part.

33. Mr. KRYLOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) considered that the report of the Working Group should be reproduced in the report of the Board in its entirety. The section up to chapter II was just as important as the other parts. To publish the document as an annex to the Board's report, as proposed by some delegations, would have the effect of giving it a lower status. In future, the Working Group could prepare a more concise report. As matters now stood, however, it was impossible to exclude any part of the text approved by the Working Group and the Board as this would alter its nature.
34. Mr. ARCHIBALD (Trinidad and Tobago), Rapporteur, emphasized that it was precisely because of the importance of the report of the Working Group that he had suggested publishing the document separately.
35. Mr. PROBST (Switzerland) thought that in publishing the report as an annex the Board could explain that the document was nevertheless an integral part of its own report.
36. Mr. MIRZA (Pakistan) said that he would gladly accept the proposal made by the representative of Switzerland and would like paragraphs 1 to 16 to be retained.
37. Mr. KAMATH (India) thought that the Board should draw the particular attention of the General Assembly to the document which would be liable to pass unnoticed as an annex.
38. Mr. CASILLI (Italy) suggested dividing the Board's report into two parts, the first being the actual report of the Board, and the second the report of the Working Group.
39. After an exchange of views in which Mr. LOPEZ MUIÑO (Cuba), Mr. PROBST (Switzerland), Mr. SÖMJEN (Hungary), Mr. ENSOR (United Kingdom), Mr. TOP (Guinea), Mr. KRAKUE (Ghana), Mr. TARRANT (United States of America), Mr. KRYLOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. DURAND (France) and Mr. MIRZA (Pakistan) took part, Mr. ARCHIBALD (Trinidad and Tobago), Rapporteur, proposed that the report of the Working Group should be inserted after chapter III of the Board's report, which would be devoted to an examination of that document.
40. Mr. KAMATH (India), Mr. CASILLI (Italy) and Mr. KRYLOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) supported that proposal.
41. The proposal was adopted.

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.





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