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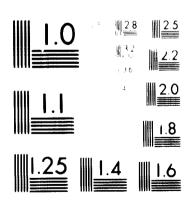
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United Nations Industrial Development Organization

REPORT

CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL

ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Paris, 11-20 February 1976

Report by

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002550

Vienna, 24 February 1976

I. Introduction

A. Purpose of Mission

In conformity with the instructions of the Executive Director,
Mr. F. Le Guay and Mr. H.K. Rahim represented UNIDO at the first session
of the four technical Commissions established by the Ministerial
Conference on International Economic Co-operation, 16-19 December 1975,
to pursue an intensified international dialogue on the four broad
economic and inter-disciplinary themes identified by the Ministerial
Conference. These Commissions which will meet periodically during 1976,
are: Commission on Energy, Commission on Raw materials, Commission
on Development and Commission on Finance.

B. Organization of the Conference

In conformity with the decisions taken at the final communique of the Ministerial Conference on International Economic Co-operation.

Paris (16-19 December 1975), the work of the four technical commissions is divided among 27 member countries, 19 of which representing the devoloping countries and 8 representing the industrialized countries.

At the level of technical commissions, however, the "Group of 19" is represented by 10 countries, and the "Group of 8" by 5 countries, each commission thus having a total membership of 15. On the basis of geographical groups, the total membership of the group of 19 consists of: 4 countries each from the Arab-speaking group, the African group and the Asian group, 6 countries from the Latin American Group, and Tugoslevia. The group of 8 consists of the EFC, U.S.A., Canada, Australia, ... 38 , Switzerland, Spain and Sweden.

Concerning the timetable for future meetings of the Camistican, the following schedule has been approved: 2nd Session: 19-27 harea, 3rd Session: 21-28 April, 4th Session: 8-15 June and 5th Session: 12-17 July.

There was a strong representation from organizations in the U.N.-system, in particular the U.N.-Secretariat (consisting of 6 staff-members) headed by Mr. G. Van Laethem, Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs, and UNCTAD (also 6 staff members) headed by Mr. Stein Rosson, Deputy Secretary General. Other international organizations included

the FAO, UNDP, CAAT, OECD, World Bank and IMF. In addition, representatives from the International Energy Agency, the Inter-American Development Bank, OPEC and SELA participated at the conference.

The U.N. system have very limited offices and secretariat facilities: these are co-ordinated by Mr. Claude Joffroy, Chief, U.N. Representation Office to the Conference on International Economic Co-operation.

His assistance in co-ordinating the activities of the U.N.-family and mobilizing secretarial and other facilities are appreciated.

II. Proceedings of the Conference

A. General Tone of discussions

The work of the various Commissions proceeded at a slow pace:
in general, depite the affable atmosphere and the absence of a feeling
of "confrontation", it took three to four sessions to
arrive at an agreed agenda of work for the present meeting as well
as for future weetings. Certain commissions, such as the Energy Commission,
faced some difficulty in reaching an agreed work programme for the
present and future meetings. Once an agreed work programme was approved,
however, the dialogue between the two groups was engaged in a friendly
and co-operative spirit. This promises to be a long and arduous process
which may continue well into 1977 before hard issues can be defined for
eventual negotiations.

B. <u>Proceedings of the Commission on Development</u> (See Annex A for detailed account of discussions)

1. Organizational aspects

The initial three meetings of the Commission on Development (on 11, 12 and 13 February) were mainly procedural ani organic tribulal in character. The meetings were chaired successively by two Co-chairmen: For the Group of 19'H.E. Messaoud Ait Challal (Algoria), Chief of Delegation. Ambassador of Algeria to the Benelux Countries, and to the EEC; for the Group of 8: M. Edmund Wellenstein, Director-General, Commission of the European Economic Community.

The fifteen member countries of the Development Commission are: Algeria, Argentina, Cameroon, Canada, EEC, U.S.A., India, Jamaica, Japan, Nigeria, Fakistan, Peru, Sudan, Yugoslavia and Zaire.

One of the first items of business was to confirm the seating of the following international organizations with the status of permanent observers:

- United Nations (UN)
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Industrial
 Development Organization (UNIDO)
- General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
- Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (ODCD)

- Economic System for Latin America (SELA)

Ad Hoc Observers: World Food Council, IMF

and regional organization, the rules of procedure adopted were those agreed at the inaugural Ministerial Conference on International Economic Co-operation (16-19 December 1975).

The meeting then turned to the question of the work programme topics and sub-topics, their priority, the number of "readings" and "specificity" of each topic and the chronological order.

At the beginning of the debate on topics and sub-topic, there emerged certain "hard" lines and positions between the Group of 8 and the group of 19 with the former suggesting broad, general topics, and the latter asking for the introduction of specific issues and problems, and proposals for remedial measures. The Group of 19 recognized that within the time available it was not feasible to have a "tour d'horizon" of all items, and that some of them may require several meetings (or readings) before all recipients are aired.

When the positions of the two groups diverged, these were resolved on the level of internal working groups of the 8, and the 19. It was agreed that the follow of discussions should proceed a) from issues offering the possibility of quick agreement to those presenting "hard" positions; and b) from immediate pressing problems such as finance, resource transfers, etc., to long-term structural problems on development such as food and agricultural constraints, trade flows, and industrialization.

At the third meeting, agreement was reached on the following topics, their priority and their chronological order for the remainder of this session, and the following three sessions of the Commission's work: -

1st Session: 11-20 February 1976

- Trade
- Balance of payments

2nd Session: 19-27 March 1976

- Agriculture and food
- Infrastructure economic and social

3rd Session: 21-28 April 1976

- Transfer of resources
- Industrialization transfer of technology

4th Session: 8-15 June 1976

- Foreign investments. Transnational corporations
- Least developed and most seriously affected countries, landlocked countries and islance state.

Finally, there was general consensus that (a) the item on Permanent Sovereignity and effective control of developing countries over their national resources (item 3.11 of document GCE 1 - CP 2 of 26 January "List of Subjects Prepared by the Group of 19") will be included for reference purposes only and (b) the item on Pollution Measures (item 3.9 of the above-mentioned document) will not appear as a separate heading, but will form part of the discussion on industrialization (3 Session in April).

Substantive discussions on the items of Trade and Balance of Payments started on 16 February 1976 with proposals for sub-headings. Again, the views of both groups were slightly divergent in their placing of emphasis and/or priority, and these differences were reconciled in internal working parties of both groups. For example, the sub-items presented by the Group of 19 entitled "Principles which should govern International Trade" and "Institutional Provisions" became the subject of prolonged debate between the two groups. Following several recesses to allow for consultations among each group to reconcile the broad versus the narrow definition, the following sub-headings were agreed upon:

1. International Trade

- 1.1 Consideration of the International Trade Situation
- 1.2 Access to Markets
- 1.3 Trade Promotion: including trade among developing countries

2. Balance of Payments and Development

- 2.1 Structural Problems and Short-term Problems
- 2.2 Measures to cope with Balance of Payments Problems of Developing Countries including LDC's, MSA's, land-locked and Island Countries.

B. Specific Aspects (see Annex A for daily account of meetings)

The debate on trade proceeded with the call of the Group of 8 for liberalizing trade flows, the importance to continue negotiations for the improvement of the trading position of developing countries within the framework of the MTM and GSP scheme, with special consider ion for LDC's and MSA's. The developed countries on the other hand, to the recessionary/inflationary constraints which existed in their economies during 73/74 and which affected the world trade situation. but that the economic recovery will have a beneficial effection espec for the export arising of the developing countries. The devel plant countries along with Sweden (whose delegate submitted specific proposals i.e. on a stabilization scheme of export earnings, debt relief with regard to ODA credits for LDC's and MSA's), called for introducing long-term structural changes in world trade which would increase their export potential, and further that trade difficulties of the developing countries are not wholly attributable to world recessionary factors, and the increase in oil prices. It is interesting to note the statement of the delegate from Pakistan who emphasized the need for structural changes, in particular, a re-shaping of the structure of world trade in

commodities and action to expand the expert capacities of developing countries.

The observers from GAAT, UNCTAD and GECD gave a general picture on the work of their organizations: GATT in the field of tariff and non-tariff negotiations MTN; the creation, in 1974, of a new Special Assistance Unit by GATT to help developing countries determine products with export potential and the existing tariff and non-tariff barriers hampering their access to developed markets. For UNCTAD, on expanding the application of the GSP and that it was too early to assess the effects of the U.S. joining the GSP scheme. The observer from OECD agreed with the Swedish Delegate that many countries still remain marginal beneficiaries of the GSP and MTN.

The UNIDO observer, in commenting on the remarks by the UNCTAD observer that long-term structural adjustments in trade must be linked to rapid industrialization, underlined that most speakers had stressed the structural aspects of trade problems and he emphasized the link which exists between trade in manufactures and industrial re-structuring recommended by the bims Conference and the Seventa Special Session of the General Assembly.

On item 1.2 "Access to Markets" the developed countries, with the EEC taking the leading role, pointed to the need to work towards greater access to developed markets within the framework of existing negotiating machinery such as ETM and GSP, and that a case-by-case approach be taken in considering the special needs of a developing country. Furthermore, the removal of trade hand and free access to developed markets can best be achieved the sector-by-sector agreements. Finally, the developed countries agreed that special measures and principles chould govern megalized with LDC's and MSA's (such as the principle of non-discrimination, non-reciprocity and differential treatment). Some developed countries (such as the U.S. and Canada) made continuing references to the effices of the world-wide economic slump on market access.

The developing countries with Pakistan, India, Algoria and Cameroon taking the lead, stressed their goal for complete elimination of tariff barriers pointing out that duties escalate with the degree of product processing (i.e. semi-manufactured products).

On Trade Promotion, item 1.3, developing countries (with Jamaica) listed certain constraints facing them in trade promotion: i.e. the absence of financial, commercial and industrial infrastructure, heavy dependence on marketing, technological and port-handling facilities available in or from developed countries. Trade promotion and access to market is magningless without full and unhincered access to technology and help in product adaptation according to the Indian Delegate.

The discussions on Balance of Payments (item 2) was divided into two sub-topics: Balance of Payments and Development: - Structural Froblems and Chort-term Problems; and measures to cope with the balance of payments problems of developing countries including the LDC's, MSA's, land-locked and island countries. There was again the call by the developing countries for structural adjustments to ease their balance of payments difficulties which has been exacerbated by the world recession and by the sudden decline in commodity prices from the "boom" times in 1972/73. For the developed countries, there has been a concurrence of structural (rise in oil prices), and cyclical (economic recession) problems which, are responsible for the estimated \$37 billion deficit on trade, services and private transfers in 1975 for the non-oil exporting developing countries. Expectations are that this aggregate deficit may fall back to about \$34 billion in 1976.

However, as discussions proceeded, there appeared increasing divergences between the two groups as regards roots and causes for the balance of payment deficits of the developing countries and the remedial measures to be undertaken to alleviate the delet. of balance of payment deficits on the development plans of the owin countries. The Group of 8 on one hand, with the U.S. taken the lead (but with the notable exception of Japan and Sweden), strested in Francish effects of oil price increases on the balance of payment Price the pressures of the world economic recession. The Group of 19, on the other, while acknowledging the role of world-wide inflation in increasing balance of payments, emphasized the need for detailed financial arrangements such as debt relief, easier access to markets, massive transfer of resources from developed to the developing countries, moratorium or cancellation of outstanding debts, a commitment by developed countries to raise the .7% level of development assistance (ODA) to at $1e_{3/3}t$ 1%, compensationy financing by P.F., and other measures to improve or open

its lending Pacilities aspecially to UDC's and MSA's, and (ac proposed by Steeden) the setting up of a stabilization scheme for expert earnings of developing countries (as called for in the Seventh Special Session of the General Assembly).

At the final session of the Commission on Development held on the afternoon of 20 February 1976, it was unanimously agreed that the Commission will resume its work on Friday. 19 March with the item: Agriculture and Food. The Chairman suggested, with the concurrence of the Commission's members, that the item of Infrastructure will be sub-divided into economic and social infrastructure.

In their concluding retarks both Chairmen. Ambassador Air Chollal and Mr. Wellenstein felt that this "jump into the unknown" has proven its worth, through the friendly and oc-apporative atmosphere which has reigned throughout the talks. Despite the differences of opinion or broad principles, problems, and remedial action, a spirit of comprehension concessions, and vederstanding prevailed which portends a new could interessional relations where equilibries interesses are disparded in Involutional delicities of currence.

III. Conclusions: Conerd indications for UNIDO

- 1. At informal discussions with the Co-chairmen, it was accordanced that UNIRO will be expected to take active part in the discussions on industrialization at the Third Section (21-28 April 1976) and to Unit effect, contribute a paper related to the possible action to the April and the field of industry as a consequence of the sema Unclaim.

 From at Action. It was include agreed that a force of the preparation will be prepared for informal discussions at the coming based Section. Massel on views and community for iver, if a first version of UNIDO's presentation will be drafted.
- 2. The attitude of the Commission wavards U.N. observers was positive and it was generally felt by the Co-chairmen and the delegates that they have effectively contributed to the course of the Assate, and their active participation in future debates is strongly counted upon in introducing the themes and trends under discussion. As far an UNICO is concerned, this will have implications for its active participation not only in the debate on industrial mation and transfer of technology (21-28 April).

at the Commission for Development, but also in discussions on related topics such as the processing of raw materials. In this connexion, UNIDO was admitted as ad hoc observer in the Commission on Raw Materials.

- 3. For the purpose of JNIDC's future participation, it will not be necessary to detail a full-time staff member to Paris on a permanent basis, since between sessions, the Conference is practically inactive.
- 4. From the tenor of discussions on item 1, Trade, and the interventions by U.N. system organizations such as UNCTAD, IMF and GAAT, there is a consensus among participants at the meeting, that at this stage of the talks, only general and broad principles are involved. On both sides, there is an evident spirit of co-operation and "relaxed" atmosphere: there was a heartening absence of "polemics" and a desire to air problems in their broad context, and to have a dialogue on remedial measures.

Summary of Proceedings Eevelopsent Commission

Conference on International Economic Co-coordion

11 Pebruary 1976: 9:45

Co-chairmen: Ait CHALLAL (Algoria)

E. WELLENSTEIN (C.E.E.)

The meeting of the Development Commission opened with a statement by Fr. Ait Challal on such organizational matters as the rules of procedure and the seating of the observers. On the former, it was agreed that the rules of procedure will be those adopted at the inaugural Vinisterial Conference on 19 December 1973. On the latter, the Co-chairman read the names of the nine international organizations with Permanent Observers status at the Development Commission. These are:

U.N., UNCTAD, FAO, UNIDO, GAAT, LERD, UNDE, OFFD and SELA.

The Co-chairman informed the meeting that the following organizations have requested ad-hoc observers status:

- Three Regional Development Banks:

African Development Bank

Inter-American Development Bank

Agian Bank

all of which will be represented by a minute representative.

- The IBRD/IMP Development Committee
- IMF, when matters of interest to the Fund are raised. No objection was raised to this procedure.

The Co-chairman then turned to the organization of work of the Commission, in order to establish an agenda of specific subjects; he emphasized the importance of identifying the specific problems before the next session in March, so that delegates could have sufficient time to consult their governments. Three main groups of subjects were identified by the Co-chairman (reference document OCET - CP2 of 26 January 1976: Presentation of Group 19: List of Subjects Prepared by the Group of 19):

First Group: (in order of priority)

- 1. International Trade (item 3.1)
- 2. Balance of Payment Difficulties (item 3.8)
- 3. Development of Agriculture and Supply of Food (item 3.6)
- 4. Development of Infrastructure (item 3.7)
- 5. Transfer of Resources (item 3.3)

Second Group: (in order of priority) (for March Session)

- 1. Industrialization (item 3.3)
- 2. Transfer of Technology (item 3.4)
- 3. Trans-national Corporations (item 3.5)
- 4. Special Measures for LEC's, Seriously Affected Countries, Land-locked Countries, Island Countries (item 3.10)

Note: - the Co-chairman deemed it desirable that item 3.10 should also be taken up when considering other topics mentioned above which may affect the LDC's, etc.

- 5. Anti-pollution Measures (item 3.9)
- 6. Permanent Severeignity and Effective Control of
 Developing Countries over their National Resources (it 3 17)

Note: - the Co-chairman stated that this last item is being included as a general reference and as an item for discussion.

The Co-chairman then requested for suggestions from the floor. The Representative of the <u>C.E.E.</u> suggested the following grouping of themes:

- International Trade
- Transfer of Technology
- Industrialization
- Agriculture/Nutrition.

The Representative of Canada then took the floor to express his basic agreement to the assignment of topics. He felt, however, that the broad question of <u>financial flows</u> should be transferred to the Development Commission. He further suggested that the following topics should be assigned some priority:

ODA (Official Development Assistance)
Food and Agriculture
Technological Transfer and Industrialization
Trade Siberalization

The Representative of Canada finally stressed that discussions should be issue-oriented, and that a start be made with those topics where agreement is most likely. The U.S. Representative in agreeing with the statement of the Canadian Representative, raised several quastions dealing, inter alia, with the inclusion of the balance of payments difficulties under the item of Trade; with the structure of discussions under such major there; and finally with the organization of the figure.

The Representative of Japan stressed the reed to identify the problems in "neutral terms", and then to debute neutral for coping with them. He felt that certain items reserved for discussion in the Finance Commission should be discussed in the Development Commission.

The Representables of Jamaica requested that the Representative of the C.R.R. specify his proposed in uniting. He then broke what the offer the Colloving answer to the quaries raised by the U.S. Captagni these

- a) beliance of dayments difficulties is not limited to to be and finance alone, but is wider in scope:
- b) Structure of the discussions: the Representative of Junaten suggested the formation of a small committee to decide on the order of themes for discussion:
- c) It is not possible to provide a "tour d'horizon" of all items at one session, therefore several sessions are necessary.

The Representative of Sueden stated the priority which should be attached to the Balance of Payment problems (especially debt servicing), followed by instituting measures for accelerating the target of .7% in the flow of developed countries.

The Co-chairman took the floor to explain that the basis of the debate and the themes were not at question but the problem was how much weight should be given to each chapter heading and to their chronological order. The Development Commission has to discuss finance matters but from a different perspective. Further, each delegation could raise any item concerning the discussion which was pertinent. Regarding the phasing of chapters, he agreed with the proposal of the Jamaican Representative for a small group to meet and undertake an ordering of the basic themes under each chapter heading. It was, therefore decided that each delegation would make its proposal in writing and that a working group prepare the chapter headings according to priority. The session was adjourned until 9:30 on 12 February 1976 when the written proposals would be submitted by the delegations.

Summary of Proceedings

12 February 1976 10:05

Co-chairman: W. Mellenstein

The omission continued its deliberations on the organization of work and the chapter headings. The meeting opened with the Representative of Jamaica requesting that the industrialized group of countries give their comments to the proposal of the Crown of 19 which were made in yesterday's session.

The E.E.C. Representative had three basic comments on the chapter headings: 1. Balance of Payment should not be placed under the item of Irade. 2. (in Pollution and Sovereignity, there was agreement with the Co-chairmen, Ait Challal. 3. (in 1901's and 1991-looked and island Countries, he assured that this item will be brought up during the discussions of other items. There appeared to be overall agreement on points 2 (Pollution) and 3 (Sovereignity).

asked that the Commission adopt a flexible approach concerning the first and second reading of the items. The Commission should in at an initial in-depth substantive reading of major themes by Tune. The present session should have two objectives: " a first or probability reading of main chapter headings allowing for clear definition of subjects and sub-themes" and 2) establish a plan of work for subsequent sessions until June with detailed themes for "hard-core" themes.

The U.S. Representative stressed that the "flow of discussions" should proceed from immediate pressing problems such as finance, resource transfers, etc. to long-term structural problems on development such as food and agricultural constraints, trade flows, and industrialization. He agreed that two readings of each subject should be attempted: first in

general, and the second in depth.

Concerning the order of topics proposed by the Group of 19, the U.S. Representative felt that as international trade problems may not yield immediate agreements, it should not be placed as the first item. The Representative of Canada agreed with the U.S. Pepresentative that trade liberalization should come later, and that discussions should concentrate on themes where potential results can be expected. He referred to the need for a more precise timing and time-frames for discussions.

The Co-chairman, Ait Challal gave a few clarifications on the proposal of the Group of 19: 1) Balance of Payment issue is directly tied to trade flows and balances. 2) Concerning WSA, LDC's and land-locked countries he agreed with the position of the E.E.C. 3) Pollution is a secondary problem and could be either eliminated or inserted as a secondary item under industrialization. 4) Permanent sovereignity on natural resources, there is overall agreement that there will be no discussion of the item, but that it will be noted for reference only. 5) Finally, he agreed with EEC's and U.S.'s Representatives statement that it may not be possible to exhaust a single theme at a single session, hence the need for a disciplined but not necessarily a rigid approach. The Representatives of Japan and Sweden commented on the list of topics presented by the Group of 19. The Co-chairman in summing the course of debate, emphasized that agreement has been reached on the following points: 1) Pollution and Permanent Sovereignity; 2) future sessions during the 2nd half of the year (i.e. after June) will be less intensive than present de allered one until June; the programme of discussions during the second belf of the year will depend on how much has been achieved between now and June.

Concerning the work-spread and major heading, the Co-chairman suggested that agreement could be reached between the Group of 19 and industrialized countries, and requested counter-proposals from the Group of 19. The Co-chairman stated that he has no objection but wishes to consult the Group. A 20 minute recess was agreed.

At the resured session, the Co-chairman stated that the Group of 19 agreed with the Jamaican proposal to set a working group to discuss with the <u>industrialized</u> countries, the items for discussion: the working group will consist of Jamaica, Nigeria, India, Zaire and Argentina. Polloring a brief intervention by the U.S. and Canadian Representatives in which they agreed with this procedure, the Delegate from the D.E.C. requested a short recess to consider the proposal made by Ait Challal in the name of the Group of 19.

Following the short recess, the Representative of Jameica feld that there is a broad measure of agreement on topics and details that fall under each heading. However, he singled out two areas which are suffering from lack of detail - 1) financial question: should not be too limited in scope; - ?) trade subjects: should be considered in their breader aspects and not only in the context of GSP and MTN; trade has been discussed in various forums, but certain specific trade issues should be tackled now because of the possibility of reaching a quick agreement, and the fact that the Group of 19 have a mandate from the Group of 77 to report to UNCMAP IV on the progress made in their present deliberations.

Both the U.S. and E.W.C. Representatives supported the Jamaican Representative's statement. Following a short recess requested by the E.E.C. Representative to enable him to discuss with his delegation the composition of a working group representing the Group of S, is accepted the setting up of a small working group in which the E.M.C. will be represented to discuss the chapter headings.

The Co-chairman added that the sub-headings will be dealt with during a second phase. The other members of the working group representing the industrialized countries are: U.S., Japan, Canada and Sweden.

The meeting of the working groups will begin at 3 p.m. This will be followed by a meeting of the two Co-chairmen at 5:30 to determine the measures of agreement reached on the procedure question.

Development Commission

Meeting of 14 February 1976

10:15

The Co-chairman representing the industrialized countries, Mr. Wellenstein, presided the meeting and reported on the agreement reached at the Working Group level at their meeting on 13 February, on the subject of the agenda and the timing of discussions for the Development Commission until June.

Document CCEI-DE-5 of 13 February was distributed listing the proposed programme of work as follows:

1st session : February

- Trade
- Balance of payments

2nd session : March

- Agriculture and food
- Infrastructure

3rd session: April

- Transfer of resources
- Industrialization transfer of technology

4th session : June

- Foreign investments. Transnational corporations
- Least developed and most seriously affected countries, landlocked countries and island states.

The following additional comments were offered: The Co-chair: on suggested that the item of Pollution be discussed as a sub-theme of industrialization and transfer of technology. He left open the possibility that slight modifications of themes and the sequence may be arrived at by consensus. As there were no objection, the Co-chairman declared the formal adoption of the work programme.

The Representative of Japan suggested a broader heading for the item on "Agriculture and food products" such as Agriculture and food. This was agreed by the Co-chairman.

The Co-chairman before adjourning the meeting, suggested that the meeting be resumed Monday, 16 February 1976 at 15:30 when proposals should be presented by delegations for sub-headings for discussion.

The U.S. Representative emphasized the importance of agreement on the order of sub-headings. The Canadian Representative requested the deletion of his <u>listing</u> of sub-headings as it was for illustrative purposes only.

No further delegates having asked for the floor, the Co-chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:55 A.M.

COMMISSION ON DEVELOPMENT MEETING

of 16 February 1976 3:45 p.m.

Co-Chairman: Mr. AIT CHALLAL

The meeting opened with the request of the Co-Chairman for proposals concerning sub-headings under the topic of trade as agreed at the conclusion of the meeting on 14 February.

The EEC and Argentina respectively for the Group of 8 and the Group of 19 introduced a list of two separate lists of sub-headings which included certain items of convergence and divergence. The EEC proposal included a list of four sub-topics (examination of situation with regard to international trade, access to markets including tariff and non-tariff barriers and GSP, marketing and trade promotion, and finally trade among developing countries. The Group of 19 on the other hand, while also including a general debate on international trade, access to markets and trade promotion and marketing, added two items which became the subject of prolonged debate: principles which should govern international trade and institutional provisions.

The Co-Chairman felt that the views of both sides could be better reconciled in a separate meeting of the two groups, and suggested a 30 minutes recess.

At the resumed session, the EEC Co-Chairman, speaking in the rame of the Group of 8, took the floor to comment on the Group of 19 proposal:

Point I (see Annex B) requires a broader and more comprehensive matrix such as: Examination of situation with regard to international and a under comprehensive matrix.

Under Point II "Access to Markets", GSP and MTN should be included; under Point III "Trade promotion", the rubric should be as broad as possible ("commercialisation"). On the last Points IV and V, principles which should govern international trade, and institutional provisions, there were several questions and objections.

The Representative of Argentina suggested in the name of the Group of 19 the following sequence: I) General Debate on International Trade;
II) Access to Markets (MTN and GSP); III) Trade Promotion and Marketing including a) principles and b) institutional arrangements.

The discussion continued on the sequence, of the sub-headings and their substance with statements from the EEC, U.S. and Sweden. This revealed some divergence of views with one group wanting a broader formulation, while another preferred a narrower definition. As specific proposals were made by the U.S. and Sweden, the Co-Chairman asked if the spokesman for the Group of 19 was prepared to respond. The Delegate of Argentina then stated that in general there is an overall agreement on Points I (Debate on International Trade) and III (Trade Promotion and Marketing). He agreed that Point II (Access to Markets) would take into account MTN and GSP. However, he insisted that Point IV (now re-worded as: Improvement of the structure governing international trade) should be maintained.

At this point the Representative of the EEC requested that as there is agreement all around on Point I, discussion start immediately, with other points being held in abeyance until they are ironed out at later meetings. The Argentine Representative asked for approval on all points before the start of debate.

The Co-Chairman put forward two alternatives: to start debate now on Point I (although he had reservations on the EEC proposal) with understanding that an agreement will have to be reached on other items; or to adjourn the meeting until tomorrow. His preference was for the debate to start now on Point I of the draft agenda.

The Delegate of Argentina asked for a short recess to enable the Group of 19 to meet since the draft agenda was agreed on the busin of concessions reached by both groups, and hence certain questions need to be ironed out before the debate on Point I starts.

Following a 30 minutes recess, the session resumed and the Delegant of Argentina announced the final list of topics on the Agenda:

I) Examination of the situation of International Trade; II) Access to Markets (including GSP, and MTN); III) Marketing and Trade Promotion including Trade among Developing Countries. This List was finally adopted.

The EEC requested if certain international organizations such as CAAT, UNCTAD could start by giving a general picture of trade. The Co-Chairman expressed his preference for a delegation to start debate, but if no one was willing to start, he requested if any observers were ready to make a statement. The observer from GAAT stated his readiness to speak on MTN but tomorrow, while the observer from UNCTAD preferred to see the general debate take a more specific course before interveneing.

The Delegate of Sweden asked for the floor to make a general statement on Point I. The main gist of his statement concerned the support of his country for the reduction of tariff barriers, the need to avoid slipping back to an era of protectionism, the granting of more favourable trade concessions to developing countries geared to their needs and development objectives, the importance that the Kennedy Round be followed by other trade negotiations, and finally that Sweden places great importance to MTN (with special considerations to LDC's), but that the results of the MTN's were unimpressive so far.

The meeting was adjourned until 9:30 on 17 February with the two groups meetings in caucus.

COMMISSION ON DEVELOPMENT MEETING

of 17 February 1976 9:55

Co-Chairman: Mr. Wellenstein

Several delegations made general statements on Point I of the Agenda (see Meeting of 16 February). The Delegate of Japan stressed the need for a constructive dialogue between developed and developing countries in search of a solution of common economic difficulties. The second part of his statement dealt with economic situation of Japan (negative growth rates, deflationary measures, etc...). Finally he referred to the Tokyo Declaration of 1973 which set in motion the MTN, and that it, and the GSP should continue to be the standard bearer for trade expansion.

The Delegate of Canada emphasized the effect of recessionary forces on trade, and this was specially telling on developing countries. He felt that trade liberalization measures through MTN, industrial adjustment programme, and that special forums of assistance for LDC's and MSA's should continue.

The Yugoslav Delegate supported all measures for removal of trade barriers which is in the interest of both developed and developing countries.

The U.S. Delegate pointed out the importance of trade to developing countries. He agreed that the stimulation of exports of developing countries is an important tool in expanding world trade. He then agreed to quote statistical data on exports of developing countries to the U.S. from 1960's to the 1970's. He identified two problem which shows be separated: in short run there will be a de-acceleration in the second run there will be a de-acceleration in the second run the second half of 1975. In the longer run, he called for a basic structural change in world trade, which would allow developing countries to take full advantage of access to developed markets (through the MTN). The U.S. Delegate then suggested that the discussion of market access could be presented by GAAT, and the GSP scheme by the UNCTAD. He concluded that the U.S. will present detailed positions on both the GSP and MTN aspects of trade liberalization.

The EEC Representative stated that the EEC at large has been more accessible to exports from developing countries (in 1974, 47% of EEC -imports came from developing countries of which 2% from oil exporting countries). He stated that the uneven distribution of trade between developing countries themselves is 'disturbing', in particular between oil-exporting and non-oil-exporting countries.

The Delegate of Pakistan started his intervention by quoting figures on the share of developing countries in world trade. He continued that the common interest of both developed and developing countries is a more favourable access to markets for exports from developing countries. In summing up an extremely well set-out statement, the Delegate of Pakistan mentioned the continued deterioration in the trade situation of developing countries, and that the solutions proposed so far do not help in changing the existing structure of world trade. He therefore suggested a reshaping of the structure of world trade in commodities and expanding the export capacities of developing countries.

The Delegate of India described India's position as having the 'dubious honor' of being the largest most Seriously Affected Country.

He felt that the trade difficulties of developing countries are long-term (to be corrected by re-structuring of world trade), and not short-term (recession), the latter having aggravated the former. He appealed that concrete proposals and conclusions be reached here and not later.

The Delegate of Algeria offered some clarification to statements made earlier.

responsibility of developing countries. In referring to the power of multinationals, trade unions, he stated that it is time inst develope countries re-organised internal policies. The increase in oil process was not, he added, a contributory factor to world inflation. The Delegate of Nigeria finally mentioned that UNCTAD - which serves three interests - the developed countries, the developing countries, and the East European countries - is a static organization and cannot deal with the dynamic problems of world trade.

The Chairman then called on several observers from international organizations to make statements on Point I. The observer from GAAT made a general statement on the work of his organization on the MTN, tariff and non-tariff negotiations, and the creation in 1974 of a Special Assistance Unit to help developing countries determine products with export potential and the existing tariff and non-tariff barriers hampering export possibilities. The GAAT statement was followed by questioning from the Chair the U.S. and Nigeria.

The Observer from UNCTAD took the floor to speak on the general work of his organization on GSP, the assistance that UNCTAD has been rendering to help developing countries derive full benefits from GSP. He referred briefly to the problem of restrictive business practices and of access to markets (safeguard system), etc... In this connection, the UNCTAD Observer stated that long-term structural adjustments must be linked to repid industrialization (as stated in the Lima Declaration).

The OECD Observer gave a general account of OECD's work in the area of trade; looking to longer-term perspective in trade, he fully supported the SGP-scheme, although many countries remained marginal beneficiaries. Regarding the MTN, while stressing its importance, there were problems in implementing the objectives set out in the Tokyo declaration (such as differential measures).

The UNIDO Observer briefly took up the remarks of the Observer from UNCTAD on access to market, and emphasized the link which exists between the restructuring of trade and industrialization (in particular as a rear manufactured products), and UNIDO will of course, make detailed state during the third session, when the industrialization item will be at add.

The Chairman requested the EEC Representative if his statement on access to markets could be delivered, but as he explained that this will take 40 minutes, the Chairman decided to adjourn the Meeting till a greatly.

of 18 February 1976 9:50 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. AIT CHALLAL

During the first part of the meeting, the Commission continued consideration of <u>sub-item II</u>, <u>Access to Markets</u>, and heard statements by representatives of EEC, Japan, Pakistan, Canada and the U.S.

The representative of the EEC has maintained a policy of access to EEC markets as typified by Yaounde and Lome conventions with African states. The request of developing countries for market access can be achieved through the MTN and can be dealt with under two sub-headings: differential treatment and improvement of GSP. He suggested that needs of developing countries be tacked on a case-by-case basis. Liberalization of tariffs, and of rules of origin, and the improvement of the GSP (to include a wider scale of products) are some of the proposals to be considered in international forums.

The Delegate of Japan emphasized the unique opportunity offered by the MTN and the GSP scheme.

The Delegate of Pakistan appealed for complete climination of all tariff barriers and pointed out that semi-manufactured and manufactured export products from developing countries are not pronted free increased to developed markets; he gave as an example exports of textile as against raw cotton. He called for the elimination of discriminators quotas - which are against GAAT rules - on manufactured imports. Finally in a comment on the EEC statement, the Pakistan Delegate mentioned the negative effects of Britain joining the EEC on Pakistic is exports to Britain, which heretofore were, had free access.

The Delegate of Canada usggested that most appropriate means for removal of trade barriers and freer access to markets would be sector-by-sector agreements. For LDS's he suggested that the principles of non-discrimination, non-reciprocity and preferential treatment should govern all negotiations.

The Delegate of the U.S. again referred to his previous statement on 17 February that short-term problems are reflection of recession in industrialized countries, and that in long-term the problem is structural in nature. He agreed with the Pakistan Delegate's statement that duties excalate with the degree of product processing from developing countries. He finally commented on the GSP, and the U.S. participation in the scheme which became effective in July 1975.

Following a brief recess, the Commission heard statements from India, Sweden, Argentina, Cameroun, Algeria, the EEC and Pakistan.

The Delegate of India spoke on the GSP's objectives and their fulfillment. He felt these have fallen short of the objectives, especially as regards exports of textile manufactures from developing countries and that the inadequate tariff cuts in this sphere act as a disincentive to investment and industrialization. There is, therefore, an urgent need to improve the GSP scheme: broaden its coverage, remove non-tariff barriers, liberalization and harmonization of rules of origin, relaxation of quotas, elimination of restrictive practices, etc.. He wanted the conference to commit itself to improving GSP, and that EEC proposal falls short of developing countries demand.

The Delegate of Sweden elaborated on his Government's views on access to markets and referred to the limited progress in GSP and MPM and now that recovery has started solid negotiations should begin.

The Delegate of Argentina reserved his right to make a detailed reply tomorrow on the statement from the EEC Representative after he had a little analyse his statement.

The Delegate of Cameroun referred to the 7th Special General Assembly. Session and re-iterated the need to eliminate restrictive business place locs. He called for the creation of a Centre for collection of information on restrictive business practices, technical assistance to developing countries, and finally the development of a code of conduct on restrictive business practices.

The Delegate of Ageria felt that the conference should provide decisions on complete and effective access to markets of developed countries, and that the latter should effer "stimulants" to exports from developing countries.

The EEC Representative took the floor to reply to some comments from Pakistan on the effect of the enlargement of the comments on Pakistan's textile exports to U.K. The Pakistan Representative in replying to the EEC Representative stated that developed countries have not given access to semi-finished textile products, and that no effort had been made by them to redeploy labour to less competative fields, but on contrary, developed countries had been investing heavily in textile. He pointed out that out of 50,000 tons of cotton-yarn exports to the EEC, it grants duty free access to 500 tons only. Regarding the extension of the EEC, he asked the EEC Representative when and if positive steps will be taken to redress the tariff disadvantage to Fakistani imports into the U.K. which used to have free access while now a 60% duty is imposed.

The EEC Representative then spoke on the item: Trade Promotion — and gave as examples the Yaounde and Lomé agreements and the newly signed agreements with the Maghreb countries. He mentioned the diversity of trade promotion measures makes it difficult to provide a proper perspective. He then listed certain remedial measures which the EEC is undertaking to encourage trade promotion such as Training Programmes and Vocational training, information centres to advise developing countries on trade policies of EEC; and studies and surveys carried out on products from developing countries. He stressed that artisanal exports from Africa should be adapted to requirements of European importers.

At the end of the meeting, the Chairman announced that the World Food Council has requested to be granted ad hoc observer status. This was agree

Meeting of 19 February 1976

Commission on Development

Chairman: Mr. Wellenstein

The meeting opened with the Chairman stating the IMF is to be granted ad hoc observer status for discussion on the Balance of Payments item.

The Delegate of Argentina (as requested in the meeting on 18 February 1976), gave detailed comments on the EEC's remarks on Access to Markets. He asked for formulation of policies based on differential treatment in favour of developing countries and the elimination of protective barriers. He wondered if other industrial countries share the EEC's willingness to enter into a dialogue on differential treatment. He referred to the effect of the EEC's common agricultural policy on Argentina whose exports is made up mainly of agricultural products.

The Delegate of Japan in reply to the Indian representative's statement on 18 February on international commodity trade, felt that the GATT and the MTN are the proper forum to discuss this matter. Access to markets does not mean one should overlook access to supply. He asked for detailed examination of individual commodities and the price fluctuations which affect both supplier and consumer, hence the need for a price stabilization scheme related to supply and demand.

Following brief statements from Canada and the EEC, the Chairman opened the debate on item 1.3 <u>Trade Promotion</u> and <u>Marketing including</u> <u>Trade among Developing Countries</u>. The Delegate from Canada referred to his country's efforts in helping developing countries through the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Assistance, the Export Development Programme, support for UNCTAD/GATT/ITC (Canadian contribution in 1974 and 1975: \$300,000 in each year) assistance to Cameroon in developing of the Douala port.

statement on the constraints developing countries face in trade promotion: the lack of product information stemming from absence of commercial infrastructure; the fact that they have to rely on information from developed markets where there is a single buyer under a 'brand name' already established and familiar with the product and the technology involved. The handling facilities at the port are in hands of non-nationals. There is also the problem of financial infrastructure and lack of credit facilities. In addressing himself to the EEC, he asked for an explicit acknowledgement of existing problems and an undertaking that developed countries will assist in their resolution. He finally referred to institutional arrangements and the temptation to deal with short-term problems instead of undertaking the necessary structural changes in international trade.

The Delegate of the U.S. mentioned the efforts of his country in stimulating trade promotion: he referred to the work of the World Trade Centre in New York, and the assistance it renders to developing countries, the Private Investment Corporation and Trade exhibitions and fairs.

The Delegate of Japan stressed the importance to develop marketing controls such as quality controls and specifications. His country was ready to share with the developing countries its experience in the trade promotion field through such institutions as JETRO and Japan International Cooperation Agency among others.

The Delegate of India felt that product adaptation was not enough, nor was access to markets. What was needed above all is access to know-how, which is not easy to come by since private firms are unwilling to share their technological know-how and fully co-operate in this field with developing country exporters. Transfer of know-how is basic to trade promotion. A second imperative is financial and credit assistance.

Following a brief recess, the Chairman put before the Commission the item on <u>Balance of Payments</u>. After a brief debate, it was agreed that this item will read: Balance of Payments and Development: a) Structural problems, b) Short-term problems.

The Delegate of Nigeria, representing the Group of 19, gave a general exposé on the deterioration of the balance of payment deficits of developing countries since 1973.

The U.S., followed by the observer of the IMF, gave an assessment of the balance of payments difficulties, and that in the past (pre-1973), the problem of financing deficits from revenues did not arise, but that this has been exacerbated by the economic slump (see detailed paper by U.S. and IMF).

Meeting of 20 February 1976 Commission on Development

Chairman: Mr. Ait Challal

The Commission continued its deliberations on the item: Balance of Payments and Development - a) Structural problems b) Short-term problems. It heard statements of Representatives from Jamaica, Japan, the EEC, the U.S., Algeria, Sweden, Canada and India, as well as observers from UNCTAD, and the IMF. The general tenor of the intervention showed the increasing divergences between the developed and the two groups as regards roots and causes for the balance of payment deficits of the developing countries and the remedial measures to be undertaken to alleviate the deleterious effects of balance of payment deficits on the development plans of developing countries. Group of 8 on one had, with the U.S. taking the lead (but with the notable exception of Japan and Sweden), stressed the harmful effects of oil price increases on the balance of payments deficits and the pressures of the world economic recession. The Group of 19, on the other, while acknowledging the role of world-wide inflation in increasing balance of payments emphasized the need for detailed financial arrangements such as debt relief, easier access to markets, massive transfer of resources from developed to the developing countries, moratorium or cancellation of outstanding debts, a commitment by developed countries to raise the .7% level of development assistance (ODA) to at least 1%, compensatory financing by IMF, and other measures to improve or open its lending facilities especially to LDC's and MSA's, and (as proposed by Sweden) the setting up of a stabilization scheme for export earnings of developing countries (as called for in the Seventh Special Session of the General Assembly).

The Delegate of Jamaica pointed out to the problem of financing balance of payment deficits and the limited option available to developing countries in obtaining credits to cover balance of payment deficits. He suggested that steps be taken for debt re-scheduling, as new sources for financing deficits in balance of payment are quickly dwindling.

The Delegate of Japan to the general economic recession and its effect on the Japanese growth rate. He estimated, that with recovery on its way, the \$4.7 billion deficit in current account in 1973/1974 will be turned to a \$6.6 billion surplus in 1976.

The EEC representative acknowledged the importance of the balance of payment problems to developing countries, but felt a more technical expose would have to come at a later stage of the Commission's work when sectorial themes would be discussed. He pointed out the gap in earnings between non-oil and oil-producing developing countries and its effect on the balance of payment problems, the elimination of the commodity price boom in 1972. He pointed out to longer term remedial measures such as: improving market situation; industrial co-operation in international trade between the two groups; common efforts to solve dependence of developing countries on food imports; and expansion of international trade between the two groups and between developing countries themselves.

The UNCTAD observer made a brief statement on the effect of the balance of payment difficulties on development programmes and that heaving borrowing will affect their capacity to service the external debt.

The U.S. representative repeated the Kissinger proposal made at the Seventh Special Session for setting up of a new development Security Facility to stabilize commodity price fluctuations; a Special IMF---administered Trust Fund; and finally, an increase in members' quota at the IMF. The Trust Fund would be funded by the sale of IMF gold holdings and member's contribution, and would be used to alleviate the balance of payment difficulties. Pointing to the role of the IFC, he also suggested that it should be expanded by creating an International Investment Trust, to help mobilize private capital in developing countries.

The Algerian representative concentrated on short-term problems raised by the balance of payment difficulties and the effects of the economic recession. In addition, he pointed to such factors as commodity price fluctuations (on sugar, tea, copper, etc.), general bad export performance of developing countries. Oil imports, he felt, has a small impact on the balance of payment difficulties on non-oil producing developing countries. He called for protecting buying power of developing countries, cancellation of external debts, and increasing in the transfer of resources from developed countries.

The Swedish representative asked for a moratorium or cancellation of outstanding debts, accelerating the ODA .7%, a stabilizing scheme for export earnings of developing countries, and finally a special financial assistance scheme for LDC's and MSA's.

The Canadian Delegate stressed the effects of oil price increases on the balance of payments situation. She felt that a detailed analysis of the balance of payment difficulties and overcoming them should be discussed in the Finance Commission.

The Indian representative put forward a two-fold solution: in the short-term, devise detailed financial arrangements for the balance of payment deficits; and in the longer term, improve the viability of the poorest among developing countries through promoting development of infrastructure, industry and agriculture. He stressed the above measures can only be done through massive transfer of resources from developed countries. Finally, he defined the task of the Commission that it should examine how developing countries can develop a reliance to economic ills affecting them, and thus achieving new international economic order.

The IMF observer took the floor to state that developing countries should not over-estimate the resources available to the IMF as a result of the Kingston meeting, and the liberalization of access to IMF does not necessarily lead to credit worthiness of developing countries. Finally, regarding the ease of conditionality on the use of IMF resources, this may lead to converting it to another aid agency, and this may affect countries (mainly LDC's) who most need the IMF facility.

The Chairman felt that the questions posed by the IMF observer need not be commented on at this stage.

Finally, the U.S. Delegate took the floor to re-emphasize the oil price increase as a direct cause of the balance of payment difficulties, and in this connexion, he disputed figures quoted by the Algerian and Nigerian (on 19 February 1976) representatives. While not denying the generosity of OPEC's assistance to relieve this problem, he felt it was not commensurate with overall increases in oil prices.

Summary of Proceedings
Development Commission

Resumed Gession

20 February 1976: 16:30

Co-chairman: Fr. Ait Challal

The Chairman opened the resumed session of the Development Commission with a brief statement on the items for the next session starting 19 Larch - i.e. Agriculture and Food and Infrastructure. At his suggestion and with the unanimous agreement of the members of the Commission, it was decided that the item Infrastructure would be divided into 2 sub-headings: Conomic Infracture and Social Infrastructure.

The Chairman then gave a synthesis of the discussions on the Balance of Payments stating that although differences of opinion have been expressed on this issue, he was happy to note the friendly and co-operative atmosphere which prevailed.

oarried out in a spirit of human solidarity opening up a new era in international relations where national interests would give way for the well-being of the greatest number of people. The dialogue, he said, has started and the structures have been laid down. To state a problem is to start to solve it. It will only be seen later whether negotiations will follow.

PROPOSAL OF THE GROUP OF 19

Discussion Plan for the subject 'International Trade'

- I. General debate on international trade.
- II. Access to markets taking into account trends in multilateral trade negotiations.
- III. Sales Promotion
- IV. Principles which should govern international trade.
- V. <u>Institutional provisions</u>

COMMISSION ON THIRD TOWN?

Meeting of 11 - 20 February 1976 (Paris)

LIST OF LOCULENES

Document No.	Presented by	Agenda Item	Title
<u>Date</u>		Samuel Control Control	
February 1976	(T)	1.1, 1.2 rade) 1.3	Morld Roomomin Cutlook 1970-1972
Webruary 1976	CATORU	1.1, 1.2	Prode Prospects and Capital Persisents of Tevalarian Courtnish 1676-188
Jonuary 1976	IMP	2	Key Issues in the World Roomania Outlook
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CCDEI-DE 1 11 February 1976	FFC		Preliminary Statement of NEC
CCDSI-2 2 February 1976	U.S.)Elaboration of List of Themes)for Development Genminsion
CCDEI-3 11 February 1976	Group of 19		Proposal for Manaming work of Nevelopment Commission
CCDEI-4 11 Pebruary 1976	<u>Canada</u>		Proposal for organizing work of the Development of the Proposal Continues of the Proposal Contin
00001-00 5-5 13 February 1976	Morking Party Document		Proposed Programme of work for Development Commission
16 February	Sweden (Trade	1.3 Promotion)	Swedish Statement
CCDEI-DE7 17 February 1976	(1.1 Trade)	Agenda adopted during Reeting held on 16 February 1976 on item 1:)International Frade
CCDEL-DE 8 17 February 1976	U.S. (Balance	1.3 of Payments)	Elaboration on Winancing and Growth Situation in Won-Oil Developing Countries
CCDEI-DE 9	FIEC (Agr	3 riculture)	Neutral sub-headings proposed by EEC to regroup subjects under Agriculture and Food
CCDEI-DE-10 18 February 1976	Sweden (Access	1.2 to markets)) Stabilization of Export Earnings
	(Balance	1.3 of Payments)	

Title

Apenda Item

Presented by

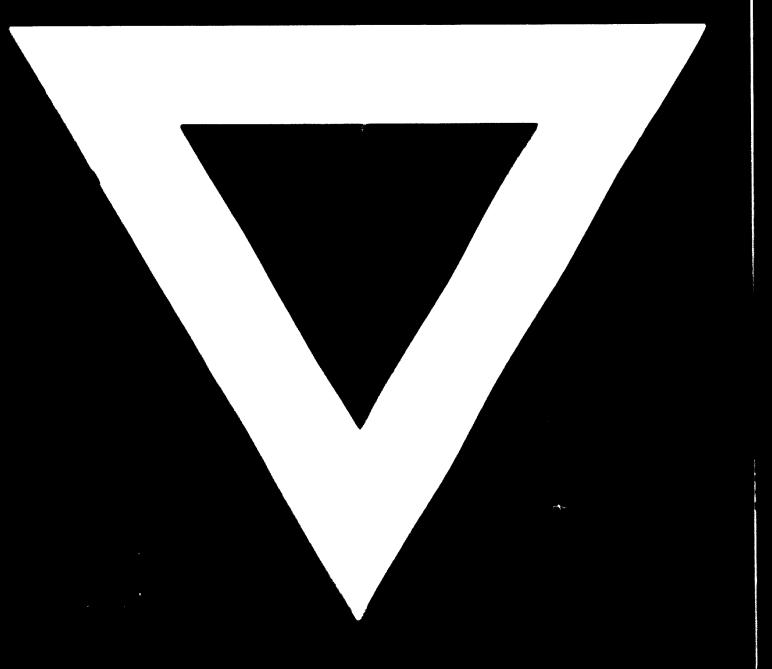
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18 February 1976	U.S. (Access	1.2 s to markets)	U.S. Statement
00D2I-DE-14 19 February 1976	Sweden (Balance	2 c of Payments)	Debt relief with regard to CDA Gredits for ANO's and MSA's
000EI-DE-12 19 February 1976	<u>0077</u> 3aeooA)	1.2 s to markets)	NTO Statement on Access of Markets
19 February 1976	्ष्याः (Trade	1.3 Promotion)	Marketing and Promotion of Products exported by developing countries

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

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