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Expert Group Meeting on More Effective Utilization of Industrial Research in Developing Countries

Copenhagen, Denmark, 23-27 August 1971

AIDE-MEMOIRE 1

Background

Industrial research institutes established in developing countries aim at providing various services to the Government, local and foreign enterprises and other industrial development agencies. Their effectiveness must be measured by their usefulness to the industrial community and the extent to which various undertakings make use of their services. This will not take place automatically, nor can it be brought about by offering services at subsidized rates or even free. In addition to these institutes endeavouring to make their services better known to the various industrial enterprises operating in their respective countries, it is essential for these enterprises to encourage these institutes by utilizing their available skills and facilities.

Project description

It is planned to held an Expert Group Meeting in August 1971 for one week to examine the possibilities of promoting the utilization of facilities and

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skills available at local industrial research institutes by:

- local business community and industrial enterprises; and
- foreign consulting firms and business concerns operating in the country.

The work that these institutes may undertake for these various enterprises would include:

- testing and analysis of local raw materials and natural products and investigation of their availability and suitability;
- assessment of local conditions; and
- market and techno-economic studies.

Various schemes for such a co-operation will be discussed and methods of their implementation recommended. These discussions will be based on two papers, one each on Asia and Latin America, prepared in advance of the meeting and distributed to the experts.

Participants

The group of experts, who will be selected in their individual capacity and on the basis of their experience, will comprise:

- two experts to prepare and present papers on the "utilisation of skills and facilities available at local industrial research institutes";
- four executives from industrial enterprises in developing countries involved with industrial research activities and/or utilizing foreign expertise; and
- four executives from consulting firms, industrial research organisations or tusiness enterprises from industrialized countries undertaking large operations in various developing countries.

Papers

Two papers will be prepared and presented by the author at the meeting for discussion. The first will be on -

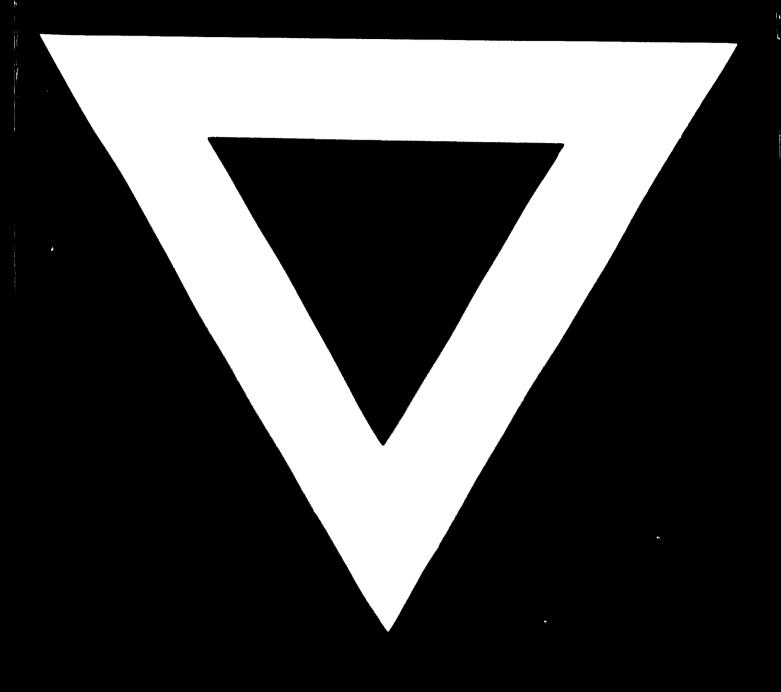
"The Utilization of Local Industrial Research Facilities by the Local Business Community and Industrial Enterprises"

The second paper will deal with "The Utilization of Local Industrial Research Facilities by Foreign
Concerns Operating in the Country"

The first paper will cover a selected Asian country and the second will deal with a Latin American country. Although the papers will be focused on the selected countries, some sections will cover matters of a regional nature.

Project follow-up

Based on the recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting, it is planned to organize an interregional workshop for the Stimulation of Industrial Research Activities in 1972. It will be attended by directors, managers or high officials of organizations or companies dealing with or applying the results of industrial research. This would enable an exchange of experience in the utilization of available local industrial and technical research facilities and services by local and foreign business companies. Possibilities of wholly or partially sub-contracting projects in industrial research and technical investigations would also be explored and practical ways and means suggested for the realization of such programmes.



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