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OCCASION

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNIDO
TO THE INDUSTRIAL FREE ZONE TRAINING WORKSHOP
AT SHANNON, REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

It gives me great pleasure to welcome the participants to this first Training Workshop on "Industrial Free Zones as Incentives to Promote Export-oriented Industries", organized by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), in co-operation with the Department of Industry and Commerce, the Industrial Development Board of Dublin, and the Shannon Free Airport Development Company in Shannon, Republic of Ireland.

As you are aware, we are now entering into the United Nations Second Development Decade, and in the strategy prepared for the Decade strong emphasis has been placed on the expansion of exports of manufactured and semi-manufactured products from developing countries.

This emphasis is clearly reflected in the UNIDO work programme. The programme includes a number of extensive projects to promote the establishment of export-oriented industries in the developing world. In these projects, UNIDO acts to stimulate such activities as international subcontracting and product adaptation and development for export in the developing countries.

An important part of this effort is assistance in the establishment of industrial free zones as incentives to promote export-oriented industries. Here, the success of our hosts can serve as an example for any developing country considering the creation of an industrial free zone. We are fortunate to have gained their co-operation in organizing this Training Workshop allowing us to share their practical and widespread experience in this sphere.

I therefore hope that you will make the best possible use of this opportunity to benefit from the maximum extent of the knowledge and experience made available to you, and wish you every success in your deliberations.

I. H. Abdel-Rahman
Executive Director