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for a sustainable future

OCCASION

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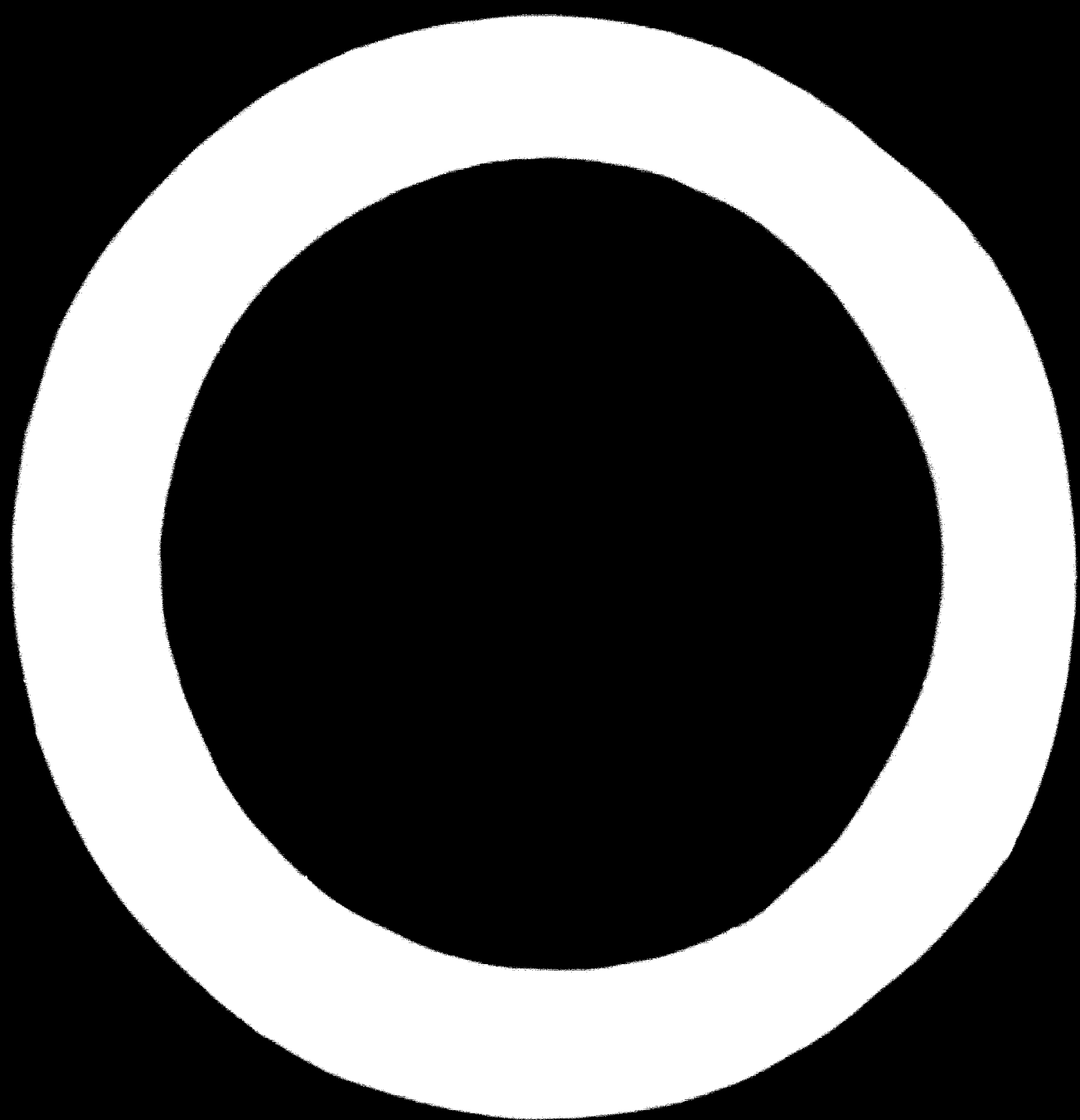
PANAMA 1/

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^{1/} The views and opinions expressed in this paper are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the secretariat of UNIDO.

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INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTIVITY CENTER

The Industrial Development and Productivity Center, in the Republic of Panama, is a result of the merging of human and industrial resources. It is therefore in the public interest, and all the funds used derive from the national budget.

OBJECTIVES

The main goals of the Industrial Development and Productivity Center are:

- (a) To promote and facilitate investments, both domestic and foreign, in the industrial sector in Panama
- (b) To provide technical assistance to enterprises for the purpose of improving their efficiency and productivity.

SCOPE

In order to achieve its above objectives, the Center has two principal tasks: to coordinate and control all the use and use of work, energy

- 1. The industrial and productive departments.
- 2. The technical assistance department.

FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The work of the Department includes:

- (a) Technical studies,
- (b) Productivity studies. The productivity studies aim to provide a basis for management contribution to the development of the country and offering a level of productivity attractive to investors - so they can be carried out at the request of government agencies or private companies.
- (c) Financial analysis

(d) Acquisition and provision of basic information. The sources of economic, scientific and technical information to which the Industrial Development and Productivity Centre currently has access are:

- Periodicals;
- Reference works;
- Reports by public, private and mixed domestic and foreign enterprises;
- Information provided by international organizations;
- Surveys and interviews.

Information is gathered and classified in accordance with the scientific method based on the classification of economic activities adopted by the United Nations.

The information is disseminated primarily through the official publications of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and through replies to inquiries from investors and businessmen.

The Studies and Promotion Department has a technical staff composed of:

- One highly experienced consultant,
- One enterprise administrator,
- Two economists,
- One specialist in marketing techniques,
- One engineer.

II. Technical Assistance Department

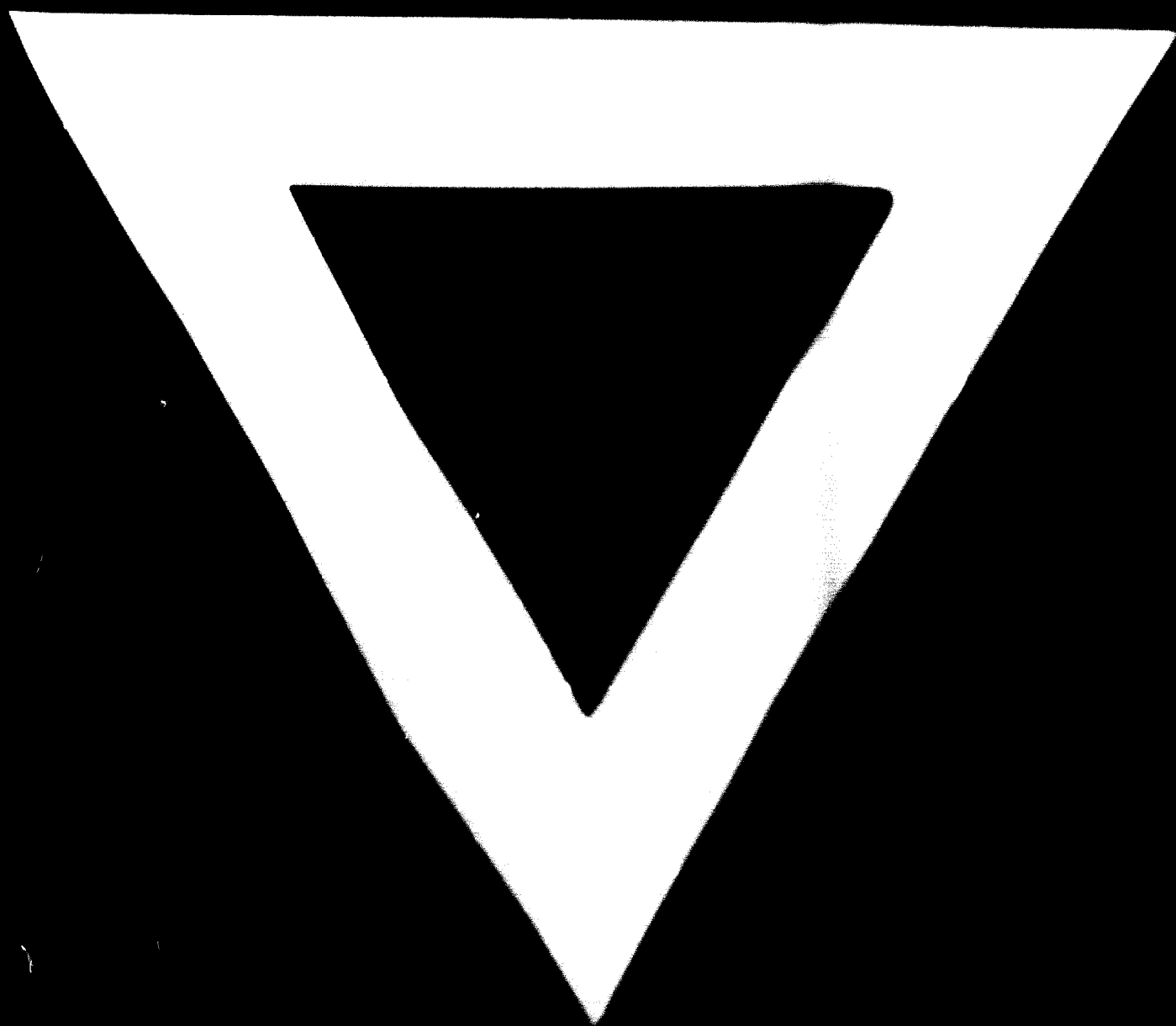
This department deals with the following areas:

- (a) Industrial engineering,
- (b) Credit to small-scale industry, comprising the provision of funds to small-scale industrial enterprises under a joint programme of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Desarrollo Industrial, S.A. (DISA), and AID.

The Technical Assistance Department has a professional staff composed of:

- One architect,
- One economist,
- Four engineers.





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