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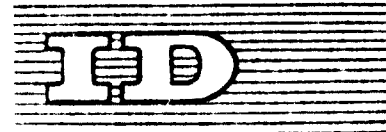
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05047



PROVISIONAL

ID/WG.18/SR.4
12 June 1969

Original: ENGLISH

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

UNDP/UNIDO AGENCY REVIEW MEETING
(Vienna, 10-11 June 1969)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 1969, AT 3.15 p.m.

ORGANIZATION OF SERVICES - RECRUITMENT

Mr. Birckhead (UNIDO) described the part played by the Division of Administration in the provision of Technical Co-operation. Wherever possible responsibilities had been delegated to separate units, such as those responsible for the recruitment of experts, equipment, finance and accounting. The Division of Technical Co-operation was thus served by the Division of Administration in the same way that a production department of a large manufacturing concern was served by the other departments involved in the concern's activities.

Mr. Holmes (UNIDO) said that UNIDO fully shared the view expressed by Mr. Hoffman at the Eighth Session of the Governing Council that the recruitment of experts constituted a "key operational problem". UNIDO encountered two main problems: the need to fill SIS posts immediately and the difficulty of communication between New York and Vienna. A new and interesting development in the recruitment of experts had been the establishment in UNIDO of a roster of experts. Since 1 January 1969 UNIDO had assumed responsibility for the recruitment and appointment of experts in all new SIS posts, and hoped to take over responsibility for recruitment and appointment of all other programme experts at the beginning of the following year. It would continue to rely on the recruitment centre in Geneva for interviewing candidates and to work through the national committees system and the North American recruitment section.

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.

On 31 May 1969, 396 posts had been vacant. Seventy-four candidates had been approved by their governments, the recruitment of 197 was in progress and candidates were being sought for the remaining 125 posts. At the end of April 1969, 234 experts were in the field as compared with 150 in January 1968.

An interdepartmental consultative commission had been set up to study ways and means of strengthening the recruitment teams. It would be issuing guidelines for the preparation of job descriptions and for the evaluation of candidatures to the substantive divisions. It intended to request candidates to complete technical questionnaires in addition to the usual curriculum vitae, and to build up the roster as far as possible. It had also introduced an "early warning system" to inform other departments concerned in advance of the termination date of experts' assignments.

It would welcome governmental assistance in recruiting experts and provide each government with a list of its nationals on the roster, inviting it to review the list and, when appropriate, complete it with new candidates for priority fields of action.

Mr. Newton (UNIDO) said that UNIDO had so far concluded eight contractual or frame agreements with organizations in six countries which were in a position to provide staff for short-term contracts. The number of organizations was likely to increase considerably and it was considered useful to try out the new system on an experimental basis. It was expected to give very encouraging results. He understood that the FAO had similar arrangements.

He would supply the UNDP with three papers, the first describing the contractual agreements and how they worked, the second describing the procedures followed by UNIDO for the selection of candidates and the award of contracts, and the third containing an account of UNIDO's experience with contractual agreements.

Mr. Paul-Marc Henry (UNDP) expressed his appreciation of the steps taken by UNIDO for the recruitment of experts. He hoped the UNIDO representative at the forthcoming session of the Governing Council would be ready to supply the latter with details of such activities on request.

REVIEW OF CURRENT PROJECTS AND THOSE UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION (continued):
LATIN AMERICA

Mr. Polit (UNIDO) described current projects in Latin America. One hundred and thirty-nine experts' posts had been approved. Seventy-three experts were in the field and 66 posts remained vacant. Forty-five fellowships had been provided for and nine awarded. We have repeatedly requested the governments to take advantage of fellowships offered, without results.

Mr. Paul-Marc Henry (UNDP) was concerned to note that approximately half of the experts' posts had not been filled. The matter should be given serious consideration. It might be that Latin American countries required more sophisticated types of services than we are offering them. Those countries are interested in establishing industries, specially those based on agricultural raw materials. A major effort to find ways in which UNDP could assist them should be made, possibly through pilot projects, and feasibility studies financed from the revolving fund. It might be useful to concentrate efforts in the least developed parts of Latin American countries if their governments agreed.

Latin American countries are being offered a very large number of fellowships from a variety of countries and organizations and there appears to be little co-ordination in handling them. It was possible that fellowships would only be used if offered as part of given projects.

Mr. Polit (UNIDO) suggested that all fellowships might be centralized in one institute, in the same manner as the Colombian Government is doing it. We may help these countries set up such an organization.

Mr. Abdel-Rahman (Executive Director, UNIDO) requested the UNDP representatives to help UNIDO in initiating new projects and he expressed confidence that the increasing activities of the Field Advisers should provide us with new opportunities.

Mr. Paul-Marc Henry (UNDP) said that many Latin American countries had moved out of the stage of economic planning and were now at the stage where a good many projects could be initiated. Unfortunately, however, many of their past efforts had not always been based on a realistic approach to the problem.

He recalled the text of a statement made to him by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile explaining why he did not consider the United Nations system as a possible source of technical assistance, and described the kind of assistance he required from the United Nations, namely, advice on advanced technology and on general economic policy.

Mr. Lurié (UNIDO) observed that there is little interest in the large Latin American countries for planning activities. The countries that have made most industrial progress are those that have done no planning at all. Countries like Mexico have expressed an interest in the kind of aid that United Nations has traditionally offered.

Argentina

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division, replying to a point raised by a representative of the UNDP, said that it had not so far been possible to find an expert to help plan the integrated development of the food industry. We have an export promotion mission in the field studying Argentina's export industries and neighbouring markets.

Mr. Polit (UNIDO) said that the plan of operation for the asbestos project had been transmitted to the Government in Spanish and to the UNDP in English. A project manager is already in the field. A private consultant firm has been engaged to take over the project. There is also the possibility of a mini-project for industrial estates.

Mr. Harland (UNDP) said the Government was anxious to go ahead with the asbestos project as soon as possible. The UNDP was ready to grant advance authorization to call for tenders for the plant required. It was important that action should be taken as rapidly as possible.

Mr. Kristovsky of the SIS Division, recalling the possibility that the proposed governmental contribution towards the cost of BOL24 might be too high, suggested that the duration of the project be reduced from five to three years. He asked if the UNDP considered that the Government would be able to make the smaller contribution involved.

Mr. Paul-Marc Henry (UNDP) believed that an evaluation should first be made of this project and of its interest to the Government by the new Resident Representative, Mr. Pérez-Arteta.

Brazil

Mr. Aguilar-Bolaños of the Section for America said that an ILO/UNIDO-UNDP mission had been sent to study the two Special Fund projects, and that UNDP representatives were aware of the situation. The report had been submitted to the Programme and Policies Division for study.

Mr. Harland (UNDP), referring to the recent joint ILO/UNIDO-UNDP fact-finding mission, observed that it was most regrettable that representatives of UNIDO had gone to Brazil with preconceived ideas about the proposed project failing to take into account the opinion of the other organization. The ILO representative had complained to him about this and furthermore, the Resident Representative in Brazil had 'phoned him to say that the mission did not stay long enough in the field to study the main problems.

Mr. Abdel-Rahman (Executive Director, UNIDO) said he understood that the two projects had been studied before the mission went to Brazil. He understood that the new project as envisaged in the report of the mission had the support of both the Federal and the State Governments. It might be useful, however, in view of the importance of the observations made, to hold a further discussion on procedures with the UNDP the next day.

Mr. Paul-Marc Henry (UNDP) said he had some knowledge of the local conditions and knew that the housing problem was very hard to solve. The project request in itself appeared to be simple, but implementation might prove to be very difficult. Experts would be hard to find for a project of that sort, and it was his feeling that what the mission should have done is to suggest how the available know-how and the technicians available in Southern Brazil could be brought to the north east under special inducements - the majority of the experts should be Brazilians with only one or two foreign experts. He felt that a new approach is necessary to the problem of development in the Bolivia area and he would form a feasibility study to find out the things that could be done by UNIDO, FAO, ILO and other organizations.

Mr. Abdel-Rahman (Executive Director, UNIDO) suggested that a new team might be sent to Brazil to discuss development policies on the spot and to stimulate local interest in the project, including local financing.

Chile

Mr. Polit (UNIDO) referring to the approved project in Chile: Metal Working Industry Testing Centre, informed UNDP that UNIDO had granted a fellowship to the Chilean counterpart director, and that a project manager candidate had already been submitted to the Government.

Mr. Harland (UNDP) referred to a possible project in Chile on which he had had discussions with Mr. W. Plucker, the UNIDO industrial field adviser for a pilot plant to extract the residue minerals from the copper ore. He said that the UNDP was ready to authorize a preparatory assistance mission to help the Government formulate a request.

Colombia

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Colombia are mainly centered around the Technological Research Institute, which is now in its second phase - there are no problems here.

Costa Rica

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division stated that two experts were working in Costa Rica in connexion with the Centre for Export Promotion, one of them from UNIDO and one from UNTADTC.

Cuba

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that as a result of the FAO report on forestry development in Cuba, UNIDO has already submitted a candidate to the Government who is an expert to advise on pulp and paper prospects. Another expert was being sent to advise on industrial fermentation.

Dominican Republic

UNIDO/UNDP activities in the Dominican Republic were briefly mentioned.

Ecuador

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Ecuador were briefly mentioned.

El Salvador

UNIDO/UNDP activities in El Salvador were briefly mentioned.

Guatemala

Mr. Polit (UNIDO) mentioned a project for the establishment of a Plastics Research Institute which might be presented in January 1970. There were great prospects for the plastics industry in Latin America, but as yet there was no centralized research organization. ICAITI, however, already had the physical facilities for such a research organization, and UNIDO felt that further assistance might be given to ICAITI so that it could help establish this center for the Central American region.

Guyana

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Guyana were briefly mentioned.

Haiti

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Haiti were briefly mentioned.

Honduras

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Honduras were briefly mentioned.

Jamaica

Mr. Harland (UNDP) referred to two pipeline projects in Jamaica. The industrial promotion project requirements had now been changed to a request for three SIS experts, to assist the Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation, while in connexion with the repair and maintenance project, one SIS expert was now working on a request for a Special Fund mini-project.

Mexico

Mr. Polit (UNIDO) said that a joint UNIDO/FAO food processing project in Mexico had not advanced very much so far, while another project in co-operation with the United Nations itself for the development of the Lerma river basin was in progress with the Project Manager already on his way.

Mr. Harland (UNDP) said that two UNDP representatives following separate missions had advised against moving ahead at the present moment on the food processing project.

Nicaragua

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Nicaragua were briefly mentioned.

Panama

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that the Panamanian Government wanted to establish a standards laboratory. UNIDO had asked ICAITI if it could help in the matter, and ICAITI had agreed to do so and would shortly be sending a candidate for UNIDO's approval.

Paraguay

Mr. Polit (UNIDO) introduced Mr. Hunt, the Project Manager to be of the Technical Standards Institute, who reported that the Paraguayan Government had requested the execution of the second phase of the Paraguayan Institute of Technology and Standards project. Under the first phase of the project, the testing laboratory and five divisions were now functioning, and fellowships had been awarded. Eighteen national standards committees were functioning, and 35 national standards had been issued. The new buildings for the Institute were now almost completed. There would be a shift of emphasis in Paraguayan policy towards the provision of more technical assistance to industry, and there was a particularly big need for further aid, especially to the wood and food industries. The second phase of the project is envisaged for three years at a cost of \$637,600.

Mr. Paul-Marc Henry (UNDP) said that he was in favour of the new emphasis under the new phase to start after August 1970 and of the cost of the project.

Peru

Mr. Polit (UNIDO) mentioned projects for a survey of the Peruvian textile industry and the establishment of a bagasse pulp and paper mill, both of them entrusted to private consultant firms.

Trinidad and Tobago

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that the Industrial Research Centre project in Trinidad and Tobago was going smoothly. Seven candidates for Project Manager had been submitted to the Government.

Mr. Harland (UNDP) said that he felt that UNIDO and UNDP should move as quickly as possible over the project in question.

Uruguay

Mr. Polit (UNIDO) said that he understood that a project for the establishment of an industrial complex in Uruguay was under consideration but was not yet official.

Mr. Harland (UNDP) said that he felt that caution was called for in view of Uruguay's difficult economic situation.

Venezuela

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Venezuela were briefly mentioned.

Regional projects

A representative of the Industrial Policies and Programming Division referred to the mission on industrial policies in the Caribbean, which he described as a very interesting project.

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that work was proceeding on the finalization of the protocols of integration of the petro-chemical and assembly industries in the region.

EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that while the Europe/Middle East region was not as big as the other regions, it had all their problems. About 100 experts and 130 fellowship holders were working in connexion with various projects in the region, and by January 1970 it was expected that the total UNIDO/Special Fund projects would reach a total of 10, plus 5 other projects where other agencies were the executing agencies. Special features of the Europe/Middle East region were its very high fellowship component and the fact that the fields of specialization of the experts tended to be narrower and more sophisticated than in the past. This often made it extremely difficult to obtain the right kind of expert. The Middle East's requirements for assistance were growing very rapidly in size and sophistication, and UNIDO was using consultant firms to an increasing extent throughout the region.

Albania

A possible project in Albania was mentioned.

Bulgaria

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division referred to two projects for a research institute for instrument design and a national laboratory in plasticity of metals. A team of five SIS experts had been sent to Bulgaria in connexion with the instrument design project, and had now recommended Special Fund assistance for it, submitted to UNDP officially.

Mr. Harland (UNDP) said that he understood that the Bulgarian Government had agreed to a joint UNDP/UNIDO mission in connexion with the instrument design project. He had been advised by Mr. Cohen, who is at presently in Bulgaria that the mission should go out in July or September, not August. This was important. Further that the Government was informed that the approval of the project could not be before June 1970. As far as the metals plasticity project was concerned, UNDP felt that it was a very highly theoretical and sophisticated project. He recalled that it had originally been promoted by UNESCO and rejected by UNDP. The Government is informed on the position of the UNDP.^{1/}

Cyprus

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that an expert on the production of asbestos cement goods was needed for Cyprus, but so far it had not proved possible to find a suitable expert, and now UNIDO has contracted a consulting firm.

Greece

Mr. Harland (UNDP) referring to the Industrial Estate project which would be approved in June 1969, called UNIDO's attention to the ILO Small Industry Development project in Greece which had been in difficulties for some time now. He felt for the new project that a strong project manager was needed for it.

^{1/} Note by TCD It is the Division's understanding that the UNDP representative indicated that the Government attaches second priority only to this project and for this reason it is not expected to come before the Governing Council until June 1970.

Hungary

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that the Hungarian Government had requested the services of a packaging expert. They have also many fellowships.

Iceland

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that there were two important projects under consideration in Iceland: a project for the production of sea-salt by freezing, which was now before the Government of Iceland for its decision, and a fishery project in respect of which a contract with consultant firm has been concluded and work has been started.

Iraq

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division referred to a project for the production of invert sugar from dates, in connexion with which there would probably be a request for a pilot plant. There was also a project for metrology standards and instruments, where UNIDO will participate.

Israel

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that the Israeli Industrial Research Centre project was a real headache for UNIDO, as it called for 20-25 very sophisticated experts which UNIDO was having considerable difficulty in finding. Apart from that, however, the project was working very well.

Jordan

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that UNIDO was preparing a first adjustment advice in respect of the Centre for Industrial Development in Amman. The project was a joint project with ILO, and the Jordanian Government wanted a combined UNDP/UNIDO/ILO team to consider the adjustment to be made to the project. As far as the proposal to set up a regional industrial development centre in Amman was concerned, there is a strong feeling that there was no need at present for such a centre, in view of the existence of a regional centre in Beirut. Finally, there was a most interesting project for making tubes and pipes from 300 mm to 2 metres in diameter from sand plus polyester. The process was based on an Austrian patent, and it was possible that the Jordanian Government might request a pilot plant in connexion with it.

Kuwait

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Kuwait were briefly mentioned.

Lebanon

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Lebanon were briefly mentioned.

Malta

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Malta were briefly mentioned.

Poland

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that there was an in-plant training project in Poland, in textile and also a number of fellowships.

Romania

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Romania were briefly mentioned.

Saudi Arabia

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that the Saudi Arabian Government was extremely keen that the industrial centre project should be continued for another year, and UNIDO was in favour of that request. The request has been considered by UNIDO.

Southern Yemen

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that Southern Yemen was in desperate need of emergency assistance from UNIDO.

Mr. Paul-Marc Henry (UNDP) asked UNIDO to make concrete proposals to UNDP in respect of Southern Yemen, as UNDP was very interested in that young country's problems.

Spain

UNIDO/UNDP activities in Spain were briefly mentioned. It was stated that the provision of the requested assistance was made more difficult by the language conditions imposed by the Spanish Government.

Syria

Mr. Nagelstein (UNDP) said that he felt that the Syrian request for extra funds in Special Fund project request had to be considered in the light of the various independent requests for SIS assistance made by that country.

Turkey

A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division referred to the small industry development programme and the industrial estate at Gaziantep and the project for an in-plant training centre for engineers at Kirikkale. UNIDO had thought that an autonomous Government unit would have been preferable for the small-scale industries development programme, but the Government had decided not to set up such an autonomous unit, and it was therefore necessary to consider what UNIDO's attitude should be now.

Mr. Harland (UNDP) said that he felt that consideration of the small-scale industry development programme should be postponed and a separate meeting be held to discuss the problems connected with this project.

Yugoslavia

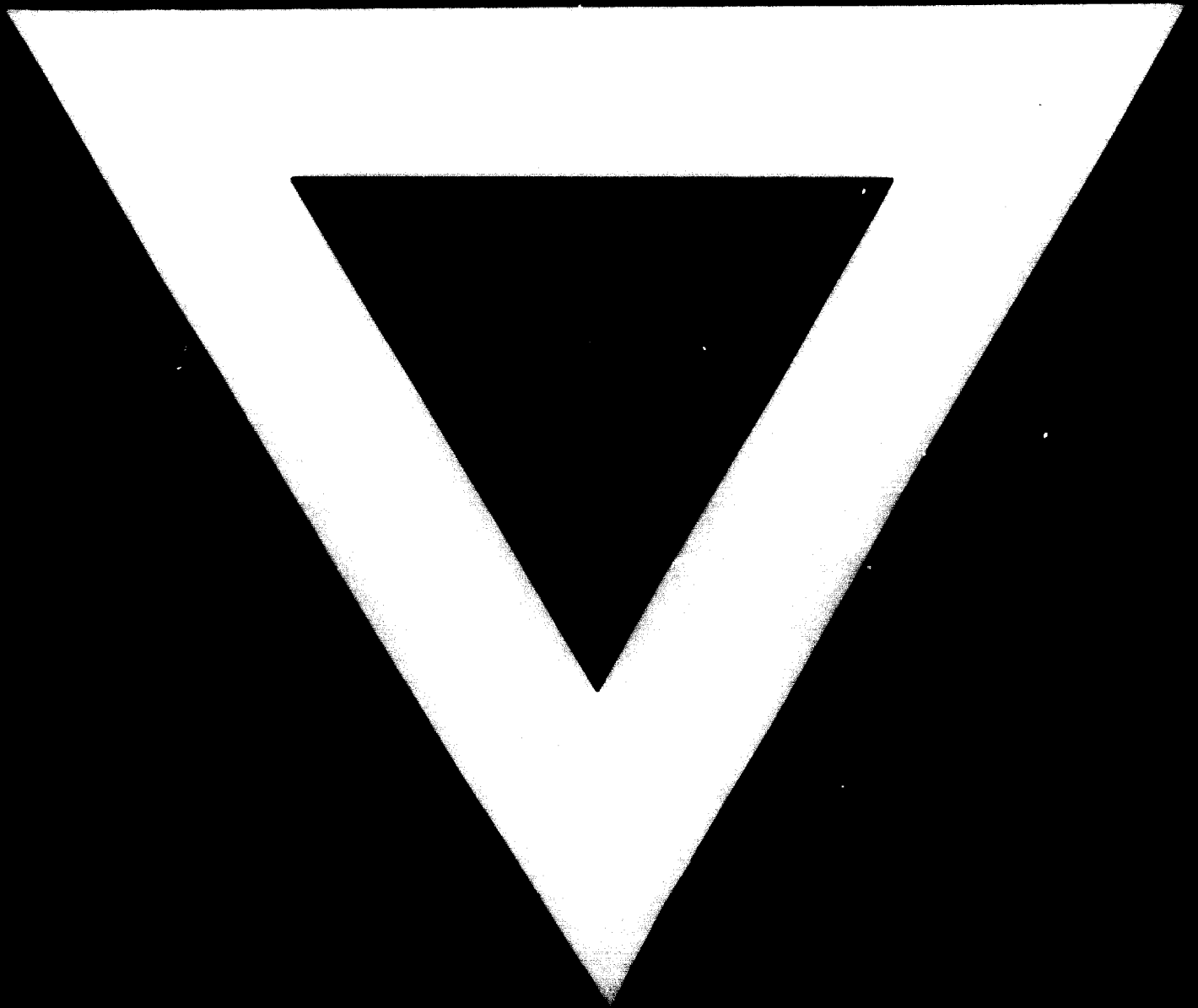
A representative of the Technical Co-operation Division said that possible joint participation of UNIDO and FAO in a forestry project in Yugoslavia had been discussed.

Closing remarks

Mr. Quijano-Caballero (UNIDO) expressed UNIDO's thanks to Mr. Paul-Marc Henry and his staff for their interest and assistance.

Mr. Paul-Marc Henry (UNDP) said that he was happy to note that the promise shown by last year's review of UNIDO/UNDP activities had been fully realized. The country review had been well prepared and carried out. Most of UNIDO's requests to UNDP were acceptable, subject of course to availability of funds. UNDP had agreed to a number of joint missions, and was always ready to discuss any matters with UNIDO. It was clear that the SIS programme was a most dynamic element in UNIDO's activities. He wished to express his thanks to Mr. Abdel-Rahman and the whole staff of UNIDO.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.



12.8.74