



TOGETHER
for a sustainable future

OCCASION

This publication has been made available to the public on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation.



TOGETHER
for a sustainable future

DISCLAIMER

This document has been produced without formal United Nations editing. The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries, or its economic system or degree of development. Designations such as “developed”, “industrialized” and “developing” are intended for statistical convenience and do not necessarily express a judgment about the stage reached by a particular country or area in the development process. Mention of firm names or commercial products does not constitute an endorsement by UNIDO.

FAIR USE POLICY

Any part of this publication may be quoted and referenced for educational and research purposes without additional permission from UNIDO. However, those who make use of quoting and referencing this publication are requested to follow the Fair Use Policy of giving due credit to UNIDO.

CONTACT

Please contact publications@unido.org for further information concerning UNIDO publications.

For more information about UNIDO, please visit us at www.unido.org



05639



United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Distr.
LIMITED

ID/WG.190/1
19 August 1974

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Preparatory Consultation of Packaging Experts,
Vienna, Austria, 11 - 13 November 1974

AIDE-MEMOIRE

Background

One of the consequences of the process of industrialization is the development of new techniques and the application of applied science to the technology of packaging for all types of foods, consumer goods and products.

In the light of this general development, packaging became a new discipline and packaging technology came to be recognized in the developing countries as a new and important industrial branch of applied science, needing the correct application of knowledge and research.

With the fast world-wide escalation in prices, and the shortage of raw materials, packaging assumes even greater significance than before. In an attempt to remain competitive on the international market, in the face of inflationary trends, producers, buyers, and others concerned with the packaging and distribution of products, search for ways to utilize materials to the best advantage, protect new products and to achieve efficient packaging at comparatively low cost.

Packaging is quite complex, involving a variety of elements; it is therefore necessary to decide on correct proportions and priorities, according to the general development of the national economy of each country.

In many areas of the world, packaging is still unsatisfactory as regards quality and quantity. If developing countries could export goods already packaged, rather than in bulk, a substantial increase in foreign exchange earnings would be achieved, together with the creation of a new labour market, and an opportunity would also be given to improve the packaging industry.

An evaluation has shown that approximately 15 per cent of the world's supply of food fails to reach the consumer because of faulty packaging, which, in the prevailing difficult economic situation, is a very important consideration.

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.

International meeting to be held in 1975

UNIDO should increase its assistance to the developing countries and help them modernize their packaging industries by the application of new technologies and the formulation of strategies that would enable such industries to keep up with the over-all industrial development of the particular country or region. For this purpose, UNIDO intends to organize an international meeting in 1975 on the strategic development and promotion of the packaging industry in developing countries.

As packaging is a relatively new field of industrial activity, and the problems connected with it are complex, special care is necessary for the preparation of the international meeting. An initial consultative meeting, entitled "Preparatory Consultation of Packaging Experts", will therefore be held in Vienna from 14 to 16 October 1974. Experts attending this meeting will prepare the working documents and main guidelines for the international meeting to be held in 1975.

Objective of the international meeting

The objective of the international meeting is to evolve a balanced strategy for the promotion and step-by-step development of modern packaging industries in the developing countries. For this purpose the co-operation of industrially advanced countries will be encouraged.

Development of a packaging industry

Development of a packaging industry within a country depends upon the general economic situation of the country, as follows:

- (a) Stage of development of the industry
- (b) General structure of the economic development (for example, if agriculture only)
- (c) Available raw materials
- (d) Manpower
- (e) Financial resources
- (f) Markets available

For countries at varying stages of development, different types of backstopping could be applied as necessary.

General stages of development can be distinguished according to the following:

- (a) Agriculture only, with production mainly for home markets;
- (b) Countries with available raw materials for developing the industry and processing food, to adopt a programme of quick industrialization and production for export;
- (c) Sophisticated systems, with a need for quick industrialization, with available financial sources for further development, and exportation, but with the packaging industry neglected.

Intercountry programming

Development in research is complicated by complexity of the mechanisation and automation of the production and packaging processes. Great care must be taken, therefore, to make sure that available funds are not squandered by excessive diversification over various fields. For this reason, it is recommended that a dual approach be made to the problem: first, depending on the geography of the region, one or more packaging centre(s) should be set up to do research on packaging systems, and material-testing methods. Secondly, the regional centre(s) should be backed up by national centres, whose prime responsibility would be local design, testing and quality control. The general objective would be to provide an integrated mechanism by which interested countries of the region could progress in the packaging industry.

Papers to be presented at the consultative Meeting

On the basis of the background, each participant should prepare and present either a country paper or a paper on the field(s) in which he is himself an expert; the latter is particularly appropriate to participants from industrialised countries. Subjects suggested for such papers are as follows:

- (a) Steps in development;
- (b) Amount of necessary research and size of laboratory for every possible stage of development and form of industrial co-operation;
- (c) Any problems of co-ordination in the country between producers, users, and other bodies dealing with packaging (transport, containerisation, trade, producers of raw materials, producers of machines and so on), and information on the co-ordinating committee;
- (d) Role of the pilot plant;
- (e) Role of industrial co-operation.

The paper should be sent to: Mr. Z. Zuczkiewicz, Industrial Development Officer, General Industrial Techniques Section, Industrial Technology Division, UNIDO, Lerchenfelderstrasse 1, A-1070, Vienna, as soon as the candidate receives

information that he has been accepted to participate at the Meeting. Twenty copies, for distribution at the Meeting, should reach UNIDO not later than 15 October 1974. On the basis of the prepared papers and results of the discussions at the Consultation, proposals will be elaborated by the Editorial Panel elected at the Meeting, which will be used to form the basis of the subjects to be discussed at the Problem Solving Meeting for Packaging Development to be organized in 1975.

Administrative arrangements

The Meeting will be held at UNIDO headquarters, Felderhaus, Rathausplatz 2, A-1010 Vienna, Room F-709, from 11 to 14 November 1974, for 4 working days.

Participants. Approximately fourteen participants are expected to attend the Consultation, and they will represent developed and developing countries as follows:-

Austria	1
Federal Republic of Germany	1
India	1
Brazil	1
Egypt - IDCAS	1
Poland	2
France	1
Switzerland	1
United Kingdom	1
European Packaging Federation	2
European Organisation for Quality Control	1
UNCTAD/GATT, International Trade Centre	1

UNIDO staff members will attend the Consultation to acquaint the participants with the United Nations procedure.

Report. A final report will be published after the Consultation.

Language(s). The Meeting will be conducted in English and consequently a good command of English is required. Simultaneous interpretation into French will be available.

Hotel reservations. UNIDO arranges to book accommodation in hotels, if so requested.

Financial arrangements

Financial arrangements for participants will be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the United Nations and will consist of:-

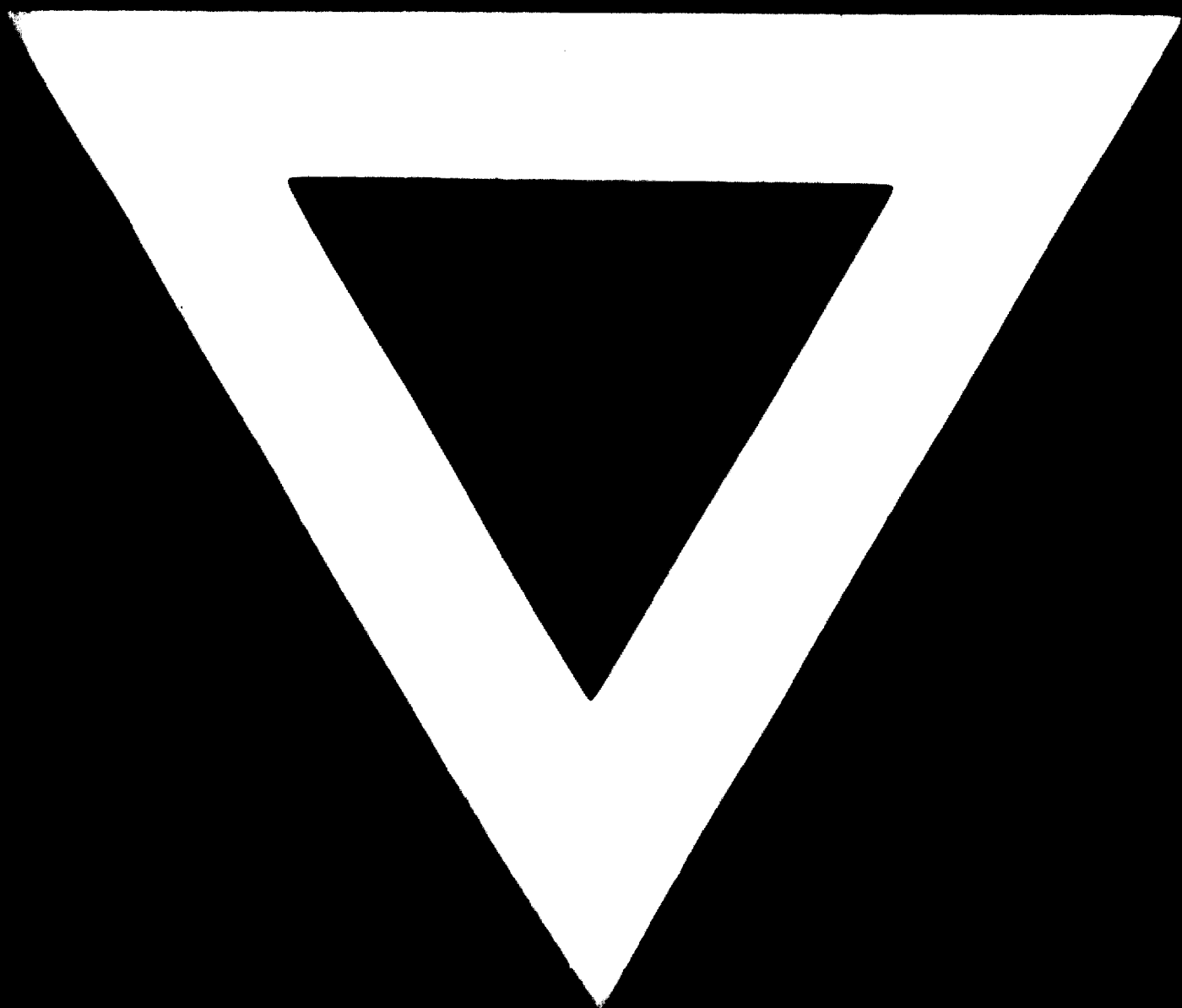
- Round trip economy class air transportation between the participant's residence and Vienna (Tickets will be provided by UNIDO);
- A subsistence allowance of \$36 per day for the duration of the consultation plus one travel day each for coming and returning, plus one day in lieu of miscellaneous terminal expenses.

Governments and Organizations nominating participants will be required to bear the following costs:-

- All expenses in the home country incidental to travel abroad, including expenditures for passports, the required medical examination, inoculations and other such miscellaneous items and internal travel to airport of departure in the home country;
- Salary and related allowance for the participants during the period of the Consultation.

UNIDO will not assume responsibility for the following expenditures:-

- Travel and any other costs which may be incurred by travel other than by the authorized mode and direct route;
- Costs incurred by participants with respect to travel insurance, accident insurance, medical bills and hospitalization fees in connexion with their attendance at the Consultation;
- Compensation in the event of death or disability of participants in connexion with their attendance at the Consultation;
- Loss or damage to personal property of participants while attending the Consultation.



74.10.1