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United Nations Industrial Development Organization

**Industrial Development Board**

Second Session



**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE PLATFICHE MEETING**

Held at the Haus Hofburg, Vienna,  
on Wednesday, 17 April 1968, at 3.15 p.m.

**MEMBER STATES**  
**President:**

**Mr. JELIĆ (Jordan)**  
**Mr. SCHNEIDER (Austria)**

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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.

## OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The ACTING PRESIDENT declared open the second session of the Industrial Development Board.
2. Mr. WALDHEIM (Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria) conveyed the welcome of the Austrian Government to the Board on the occasion of its first meeting in Vienna, where UNIDO now had its headquarters. Thanks to the skill and industry of the Executive Director and of the Director of Administration, the Organization's move to Vienna had been achieved with care and efficiency and it could now perform the functions with which the General Assembly had entrusted it. With the help of the Municipality of Vienna, the Austrian Government had made all the arrangements necessary for the Organization's adequate installation and equipment pending the construction of its permanent home. Austrian architects and United Nations experts were already drafting the specifications for the new buildings, for which architects would submit plans in an international competition.
3. Now that UNIDO had been satisfactorily transferred and installed, the Board could and should devote all its efforts to encouraging industrialization in developing countries and thereby helping them to bridge the gap separating them from the developed countries. Industrialization was, however, a highly complicated process, which the developed countries had taken several centuries to achieve. The Board must therefore study the methods best calculated to ensure the balanced development of the countries of the Third World in view of the interdependence of industry and agriculture.
4. Austria was particularly well placed to understand the needs and problems of developing countries, since it had itself passed through a period of intensive industrialization immediately after the Second World War, which had virtually ruined its economy. This successful experience perhaps made it an especially suitable headquarters for an organization devoted to industrial development.
5. Unfortunately, the Organization's resources were restricted. Moreover, they were related to a number of different development programmes governed by

a variety of financial and administrative procedures. One of the Board's main tasks at its present meeting would be to bring these discordant elements into harmony and build upon them a well-knit and effective campaign of industrialization.

6. Although the Board's task was hard and heavy, it must not forget that by its success it would help to reduce international tension. He rejoiced that his country had been chosen as the home of an organization whose aim was to solve one of the crucial problems of the present day. Austria, and more particularly Vienna, had always been a link between East and West; its selection therefore met the sincere desire of the Austrian people and its Government (which followed faithfully therein its policy of permanent neutrality) to help developing countries and so consolidate peace and international co-operation.

7. Mr. ABDEL-RAHMAN (Executive Director) thanked the Austrian Government for its collaboration, whereby UNIDO had set up its headquarters in Vienna under the most favourable conditions and was there holding the second session of the Industrial Development Board.

8. He was delighted that the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs was attending the inaugural meeting; he recalled the vital part which Mr. Waldheim had played in the negotiations leading up to the installation of UNIDO at Vienna. He was confident that the Organization and the Austrian authorities would continue to collaborate with the greatest efficiency and mutual confidence.

9. The ACTING PRESIDENT pointed out that UNIDO, though a new organization, was in fact only continuing the work done by the Industrial Development Centre since the summer of 1963 and thus maintaining continuity in industrial development.

10. As a number of delegates had pointed out, five problems should particularly engage the attention of the Board during the session. First, the Board should examine the budgetary implications of the Programme of Work and activities of UNIDO and draw up an order of priorities. Second, it might accord greater importance to operational activities according to the needs of the developing countries. Third, as some delegates had suggested at the first session, it might set up a standing Committee on programme. The fourth problem, that of the structure of the UNIDO Secretariat, had already been discussed at length during the first session, when some representatives had emphasized that the success of

UNIDO would depend very largely on the competence and efficiency of its staff members. Lastly, the main topic in the Board's deliberations would undoubtedly be the financing of the Organization's activities.

The meeting was suspended at 3.35 p.m. and resumed at 4 P.M.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

11. Mr. McCORDICK (Canada) nominated Mr. Standenat (Austria) for the office of President.

12. Mr. ROCHE (France), Mr. AWAN (Pakistan) and Mr. FELE (Romania) supported the nomination.

13. Mr. Standenat (Austria) was elected President by acclamation.

14. The PRESIDENT said he would speak at greater length at the proper time. At present he would merely make a few comments based on his personal experience of the work of various international organizations and of missions to industrially-developing countries.

15. Much time and money had been wasted or lost in spite of the most praiseworthy and best-meant efforts to speed the industrialization of backward countries. The Board must learn from past mistakes and experience to avoid spending too much time on procedural and minor matters, and endeavour to tackle as soon as possible the serious problems which demanded practical and realistic study. Every donor and every recipient must learn to make the concessions indispensable for real progress.

16. He was sure that the members of the Board had, like himself, often suffered from a feeling of frustration in international relations, and would understand the reasons for his comments. He hoped that the Board would show a real spirit of mutual understanding and search positively for a modus vivendi between developed and developing countries.

17. Mr. WARSAMA (Somalia) proposed that the speeches made by His Excellency the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Executive Director and the retiring President should be published as documents of the Board.
18. It was so decided.
19. Mr. SIBI (Ivory Coast) nominated Mr. Warsama (Somalia) for the office of first Vice-President.
20. Mr. AWAN (Pakistan) and Mr. SCHUTZAL (Czechoslovakia) supported the nomination.
21. Mr. Warsama (Somalia) was elected first Vice-President by acclamation.
22. Mr. de CASTELL-FLORES (Spain) nominated Mr. Richards (Trinidad and Tobago) for the office of second Vice-President.
23. Mr. SALAMA (United Arab Republic) and Mr. ORTIZ DE ROSAS (Argentina) supported the nomination.
24. Mr. Richards (Trinidad and Tobago) was elected second Vice-President by acclamation.
25. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), on behalf of the group of socialist countries, nominated Mr. Petrov (Bulgaria) for the office of third Vice-President.
26. Mr. LOPEZ KULIHO (Cuba) and Mr. AGHASSI (Iran) supported the nomination.
27. Mr. Petrov (Bulgaria) was elected third Vice-President by acclamation.
28. Mr. SINGH (India) nominated Mr. Aghassi (Iran) as Rapporteur.
29. Mr. ELDOAIQ (Kuwait) supported the nomination.
30. Mr. Aghassi (Iran) was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.



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