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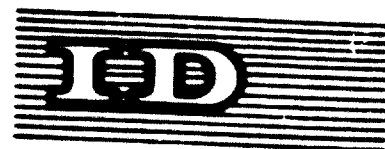
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D04185

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Distr.  
GENERAL

ID/B/72  
28 January 1970

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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## Industrial Development Board

Fourth Session

Vienna, 20 - 30 April 1970

SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Report by the Executive Director

1. In its resolution 22 (III), the Industrial Development Board at its third session requested the Executive Director "to consult Governments participating in the work of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization within ninety days of the closure of the third session of the Industrial Development Board, in order to study the possibility of convening a special meeting of all member States of the organization within the framework of the twenty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1970 ... at the highest possible level of governmental representation, to consider the long-term participation of the organization in industrial development in the developing countries and, in particular, its participation in achieving the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade in regard to industrial development, taking into account the work of the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade". The resolution further requested the Executive Director "to submit a report on the results of his consultations, together with the report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its third session to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session".

2. In compliance with the above resolution, a circular letter was sent out by the secretariat of UNIDO to all Governments of member States of UNIDO inviting them to communicate to it their views on the matter. As indicated in the report of the Executive Director submitted to the General Assembly,<sup>1/</sup> the replies received on the subject could be summarized under the following groups:

(a) Governments fully supporting the holding of a special meeting:

Barbados, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Ceylon, Chile, China, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, India, Italy, Ivory Coast, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Spain, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Republic, Yugoslavia and Zambia;

(b) Governments prepared to support the holding of a special meeting under certain conditions: Austria and United States of America;

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<sup>1/</sup> Document A/7693 and Add.1.

- (c) Governments not in favour of the convening of a special meeting but prepared to participate if it is held: Australia, Federal Republic of Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden and Switzerland;
- (d) Governments not in favour of the convening of a special meeting but proposing an alternative solution: Belgium and Canada;
- (e) Governments not supporting the convening of a special meeting: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Hungary, Japan, Norway, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;
- (f) Governments not wishing to offer any views on the matter: Ireland and Luxembourg;
- (g) Governments whose views would be communicated at a later stage: Argentina, Ecuador and Libya.

3. After the discussion of the report by the Executive Director,<sup>2/</sup> the General Assembly, at its 1834th plenary meeting, adopted by 61 votes against 8 and 35 abstentions resolution 2578 (XXIV) on a Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.<sup>3/</sup> In this resolution, the General Assembly

<sup>2/</sup> Summary record A/C.2/SR. 1305; document A/7774/Add.1.

<sup>3/</sup> The detail of the vote is as follows:

Countries in favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cuba, Cyprus, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kuwait, Laos, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Southern Yemen, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Countries against: Australia, Canada, Greece, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Countries abstaining: Belgium, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mongolia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Syria, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Upper Volta.

suggested that "a special international conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, at the highest possible level of governmental representation, be held at an appropriate time, ensuring that this conference and the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development are not held in the same year, within a framework which will reduce the expenditures for holding the conference to a minimum". It further requested the Industrial Development Board to consider this suggestion and "if necessary, to propose the venue, date and duration of the special conference, and to formulate its provisional agenda and its basic objectives, including the longer-range orientation of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, its organizational structure and the question of financing". The Executive Director of UNIDO was requested "to prepare a report on the above-mentioned subjects for consideration by the Industrial Development Board at its fourth session".

4. In compliance with the request of the General Assembly, expressed in the above resolution, the Executive Director is submitting to the Board the following considerations concerning the holding of a special international conference. The considerations are presented in the form of alternatives, taking into account the terms of resolution 2578 (XXIV) and, in particular, the recommendation that the conference be held within a framework which will reduce expenditures to a minimum.
5. The first alternative would be to have a special conference of relatively short duration (e.g. of one week) that would be held in Vienna in conjunction with one of the next meetings of the Industrial Development Board, either simultaneously or immediately preceding the session of the Board, so that it would overlap with the session of either the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination or the Board itself. The short duration of the conference would imply a somewhat restricted agenda that would, however, still broadly cover the points indicated in the resolution of the General Assembly, as well as a simplified organizational structure (e.g. no subsidiary bodies, the conference being limited to plenary sessions). For the same reason, only limited preparatory work by the secretariat would be required for the documentation and preliminary consultations with member Governments and other organizations, as the meetings would be held in conjunction with the sessions of the Industrial Development Board and its Working Group, the servicing could be

assured to a large extent by the regular secretariat staff with little additional assistance, thus keeping the cost of holding the conference relatively small under this alternative. As a rough estimate, the cost would be in the order of \$50,000.<sup>4/</sup>

6. Under a second alternative, the special conference would also be held in Vienna, in conjunction with one of the sessions of the Industrial Development Board, but on the basis of a more expanded agenda and longer duration (e.g. a minimum of two weeks might be considered). Because of its enlarged scope, the holding of the conference would require preparation of appropriate documentation by the secretariat and consultations with Governments and with other organizations of the United Nations family. A more elaborate organizational structure of the conference might also be expected in the form of functional committees. The paper on the financial implications, prepared by the Secretary-General in connexion with the discussions in the General Assembly, was based on the assumption that this type of a conference would be held and estimated the cost of such a conference to be in the order of \$400,000.

7. For the sake of completeness, mention will be made of a third alternative; namely to hold the special conference independently of the session of the Board, which would leave the date and venue of the conference completely open. No attempt is made to provide an indication of the cost under this alternative, as the cost involved would in any case be incompatible with the requirement specified in the resolution that expenditures be kept to a minimum.

8. One of the provisions of the General Assembly resolution is to the effect that the UNIDO conference should not be held in the same year as the Third United Nations Conference on Trade and Development which, according to the latest available information, is tentatively listed for 1971.<sup>5/</sup> As regards the timing of the conference, the first alternative, in view of its limited scope both from a financial and organizational point of view, should not, however, raise any problems of conflict with the Third United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Under this alternative the special UNIDO conference

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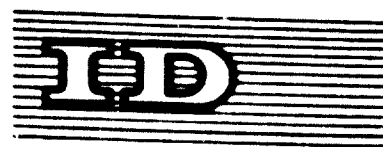
<sup>4/</sup> This does not include the cost of publication of the proceedings of the conference, should this be decided upon.

<sup>5/</sup> Report of the Committee on Conferences: General Assembly, Official Records: Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 26 (A/7626), page 41, item no. 90 and footnote.

could still be held, if necessary, in 1971 in conjunction with the fifth session of the Industrial Development Board. In the case of the second alternative, a period of consultation and preparation of documents is involved so that the conference could not be held before 1972. At least on the basis of the present plans for the Third United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 1972 should also be an acceptable year on that account. The same would apply to the timing of the conference in the case of the third alternative.

9. The Industrial Development Board may wish to take the above considerations into account in making its proposals for action in the matter of the special international conference to the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly.





United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Distr.  
GENERAL

ID/B/72/Add.1  
2 March 1970

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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## Industrial Development Board

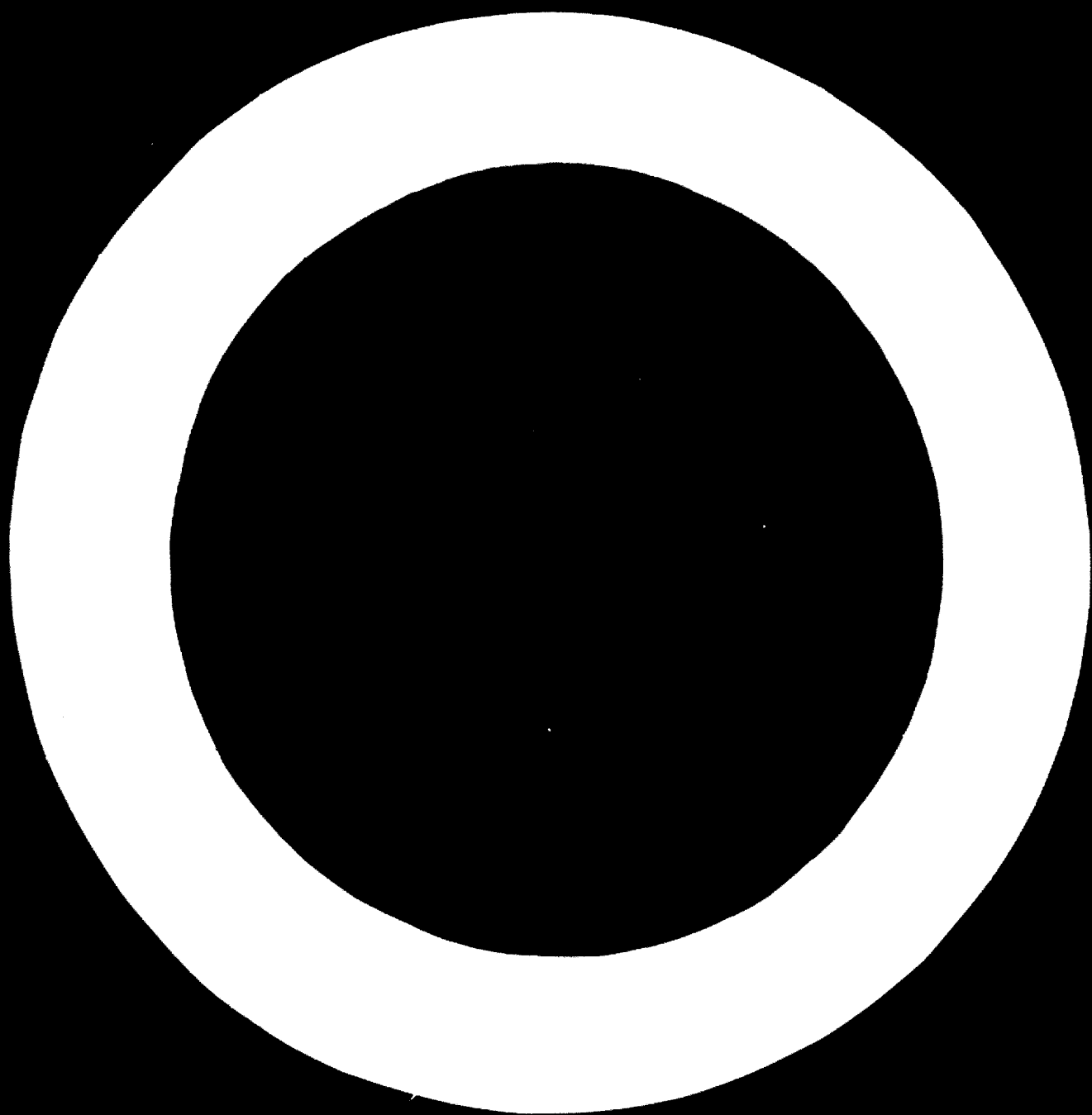
Fourth session

Vienna, 20 - 30 April 1970

SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Addendum 1

1. In paragraph 8 of the report by the Executive Director on the above subject (document ID/B/72), it was indicated that the Third United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, "according to the latest available information", was "tentatively listed for 1971".
2. Since the issuance of document ID/B/72, information has been received from the Secretary-General of the Conference on Trade and Development on the date of the Third United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. According to this information, the Trade and Development Board, at its 237th meeting on 14 February 1970, agreed that ... "Provisionally, and subject to further consultations to be conducted by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, the third session of the Conference might be scheduled for early 1972, the UNIDO Secretariat being informed accordingly".





United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Distr.  
GENERAL

ID/B/72/Add.2  
2 April 1970

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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## Industrial Development Board

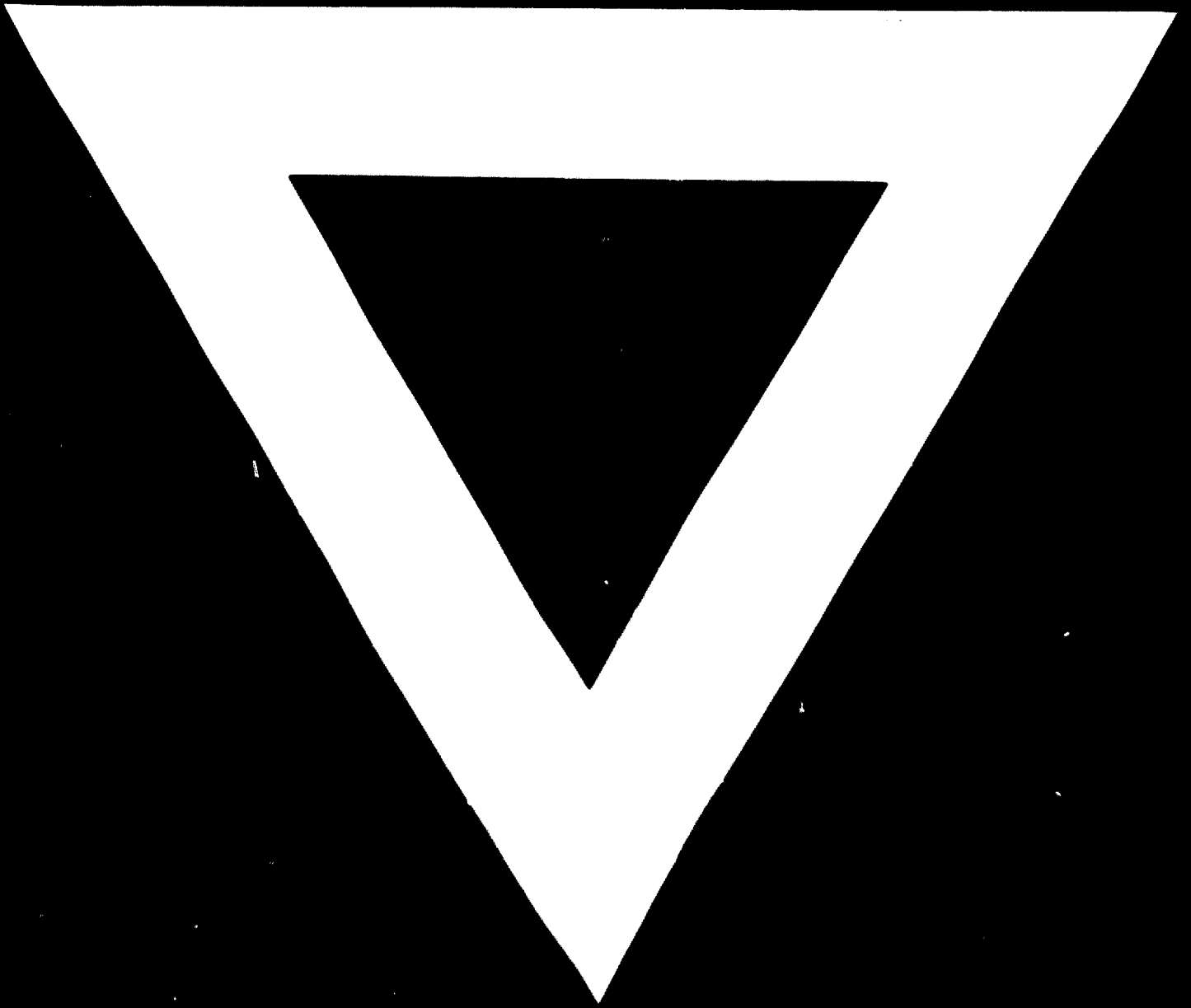
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SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE  
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Addendum 2

In paragraph 2(e) of document ID/B/72, Poland should be added to the countries not supporting the convening of a Special International Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.



**22.3.74**