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United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Industrial Development Board

Third Session

Vienna, 24 April - 15 May 1969

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna,
on Tuesday, 13 May 1969, at 3.45 p.m.

President: Mr. ORTIZ de ROZAS (Argentina)

Secretary: Mr. HILLNER (Sweden)

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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.

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND ~~RESOLUTIONS~~

1. The PRESIDENT announced that the Contact Group had reached agreement on five draft resolutions. The first was draft resolution ID/B/L.64/Rev.1, relating to agenda item 10.

Draft resolution on the recruitment of experts (ID/B/L.64/Rev.1)

2. Mr. BEECROFT (Nigeria), chairman of the Contact Group, submitted draft resolution ID/B/L.64/Rev.1.

3. Mr. DIXIT (India) said that his delegation supported the draft resolution.

4. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) also supported that draft resolution, which he said was particularly important in view of the comments made on it by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania and by other delegations.

5. His delegation wished, however, to reiterate, as it had during the previous meeting, that Article 101 of the United Nations Charter, which particularly mentioned the principle of geographical distribution, was equally applicable to the recruitment of experts, the subject of the draft resolution. Of course no one could impose an expert on a host country against its will; but such assistance should be given in an atmosphere of mutual understanding. He emphasized, as he had already done in a number of United Nations bodies, that some officials were inclined to treat experts from socialist countries unfairly. Rather than tell a developing country that an expert could be provided from one of those countries, they asserted that no qualified expert was available. That attitude unfortunately showed itself in the UNIDO secretariat too. Subject to the host country's approval, the expert must be able to work in a favourable atmosphere.

6. Mr. ZONGO (Upper Volta) asked that the draftsmen of revised texts of draft resolutions should indicate the portions changed. Otherwise delegations could not understand the exact position and considerable difficulty might arise, leading, for example, to the reopening of debate on a draft resolution already adopted.

7. The PRESIDENT explained that the debate on draft resolution ID/B/L.57 had not been re-opened: the draft resolution had not yet been adopted.

8. The President put draft resolution ID/B/L.64/Rev.1 to the vote.

9. Draft resolution ID/B/L.64/Rev.1 was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution on the utilization of computers and computer techniques in industrial development (ID/B/L.62/Rev.1)

10. The PRESIDENT, turning to consideration of draft resolution ID/B/L.62/Rev.1, stated with regard to the financial implications that the **secretariat** would try to meet out of its current resources the cost of the work entailed by the resolution.
11. Mr. BEECROFT (Nigeria) said that the draft resolution had received the unanimous approval of the Contact Group; the only new matter was operative paragraph 3.
12. Mr. LEDUC (France) pointed out that a mistake had crept into the French text. In the third preambular paragraph the words "dans l'intérêt des régions peu développées" should be replaced by the words "au développement".
13. Mr. SERRANO (Chile), submitting draft resolution ID/B/L.62/Rev.1 said that its importance was **two-fold**. The General Assembly had recognized the importance of the problem in its resolution 2458 (XXIII) on international co-operation with a view to the use of computers and computation techniques for development.
14. The draft was, however, more important for philosophical reasons, and the fact that the Czechoslovak delegation had originated it was particularly symbolic. It was clear to everyone that mankind was in a difficult period of transition, marked by a bitter struggle in which the human spirit was pitted against technology. Revolts in the universities of many countries bore witness to the rejection of a purely mechanistic civilization; and the search in other countries for a new humanism proved that the conflict was not a mere hedonistic battle for bread and butter. Their goal was to solve the problems posed by a society whose very life was being stifled by technologies and machines, in a nightmare landscape which Hieronymus Bosch would not have disavowed.
15. Capitalist and socialist countries alike were struggling to escape from the robot civilization and to bring into being the new humanism without which man himself would become a robot.
16. The origin of the proposal in the delegation of Czechoslovakia was particularly remarkable. That was the country in which the first **automaton** had been constructed in the sixteenth century, and a Czech writer had invented the word "robot". Yet another Czech writer, Franz Kafka, had deployed the greatest talent and vehemence in his denunciation of the evils and absurdity of an inhuman society.

17. But history could not turn in its tracks, and the world was bound to move on. Even if man lived by bread alone, those who had little but spiritual nourishment - the developing countries - must be drawn into the forward movement and be allowed to use computers in a world in which the soul would at last have overcome the machine.

18. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he believed that the representative of Chile, in spite of his attack on the technological society, had really been defending the draft resolution which he had introduced and which the Soviet Union delegation supported.

19. The PRESIDENT put to the vote draft resolution ID/B/L.62/Rev.1.

20. Draft resolution ID/B/L.62/Rev.1 was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution concerning a UNIDO Pledging Conference for announcement of contributions (ID/B/L.55/Rev.2)

21. Mr. BEECROFT (Nigeria) presented draft resolution (ID/B/L.55/Rev.2), submitted by the Group of Twenty-Five and examined by the Contact Group, which had agreed on a number of amendments that had been included in the second revised text of the draft. The members of Group B had proposed an amendment to operative paragraph 3, but the Group of Twenty-Five and the group of socialist countries had refused to insert it in the text of the draft. The Contact Group had therefore agreed to refer the matter to the plenary meeting.

22. Mr. STIHRAVY (United States of America), speaking on behalf of the members of Group B, explained that the purpose of their amendment to operative paragraph 3 was to make endorsement of the tentative guidelines for the utilization of voluntary contributions, subject to the deletion of the third sentence of the eighth principle (ID/B/43, annex VII, paragraph 12), which stated that contributions from East European countries were particularly applicable to the organization of regional or interregional meetings. There were no grounds for specific reference to a geographical region or for according preferential treatment to a particular group of countries.

23. Mr. LERENA (Argentina) also considered that no distinction should be made between donor countries in the utilization of voluntary contributions. As a draftsman of the resolution, he accepted the amendment submitted by the delegations of Group B.

24. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) considered the amendment by the countries of Group B to be totally without foundation, since paragraph 3 of the draft resolution dealt only with the guidelines to be given to the Executive Director for the utilization of voluntary contributions, and did not refer to donor countries. If there were any justification at all for the amendment, the countries of Group B should have introduced it during consideration of the report on activities of UNIDO in 1968 (ID/B/43).
25. Mr. STIERAVY (United States of America) observed that the matter had not been brought up during consideration of the Executive Director's report, and that directives for the utilization of voluntary contributions were being submitted to the Board for the first time. In proposing the amendment the Group B countries had wished to ensure that voluntary contributions, whatever their source, should not be used in a discriminatory way.
26. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that paragraph 3 should quite simply be deleted.
27. The proposal of the Soviet delegation was adopted.
28. The PRESIDENT drew the attention of the Board to the proposal submitted by the Group B countries to amend the first line of operative paragraph 5 to read: "Calls on all countries participating in UNIDO, developed and developing alike, to increase their".
29. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) hoped that as many countries would participate as possible. The German Democratic Republic, for instance, was excluded from UNIDO's activities although it had several times expressed its desire to support the Organization's work and help developing countries.
30. Draft resolution ID/B/L.55/Rev.2 was adopted by 27 votes to none, with 14 abstentions.

Draft resolution on co-operatives in industrial development (ID/B/L.65/Rev.1)

31. Mr. BEECROFT (Nigeria), Chairman of the Contact Group, said that the text of the draft resolution had been completely recast and unanimously approved by the Contact Group. The following countries had asked to be named as co-sponsors of the draft: Canada, the United Kingdom, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Sweden, Czechoslovakia and Upper Volta.

32. Mr. SAHLOOL (Sudan) proposed that in the last line of operative paragraph 3 the words "and the specialized agencies" should be inserted after the word "UNIDO".

33. Mr. GLINSKI (Poland) recalled that the draft resolution gave effect to General Assembly resolution 2459 (XXIII) on the role of the co-operative movement in economic and social development, adopted on a motion by Poland. He felt bound to draw the Board's attention to the considerable influence which that movement might exert on the industrialization of the developing countries. He supported the amendment submitted by the representative of the Sudan.

34. Mr. SCHEJBAL (Czechoslovakia) was also convinced that the co-operative movement would considerably help UNIDO's activities in the developing countries. Czechoslovakia had conclusive experience in the matter. The Czechoslovak Council for Co-operatives had maintained a fruitful relationship for many years with the International Co-operative Alliance and had thus been able to organize many training courses for the managers of co-operatives, and to grant fellowships to technicians and economists in developing countries. The Czechoslovak Government had placed at the disposal of the International Co-operative Alliance, twenty-five highly-qualified specialists, some of whom had been sent to developing countries.

35. The amendment proposed by the delegation of Sudan was adopted.

36. Draft resolution ID/B/65/Rev.1 was adopted.

Draft resolution on the establishment of subsidiary organs of the Industrial Development Board (ID/B/L.59)

37. Mr. SERRANO (Chile) said that his delegation would like to be listed as a sponsor of the draft resolution.

38. Mr. BITTENCOURT (Brazil) introduced draft resolution ID/B/L.59. He wished to make it clear that, in referring to "permanent" committees, the sponsors did not intend that the committees in question should be in session all the year round, but rather that they should meet between the regular session of the Board, possibly once a year, to perform the functions enumerated in operative paragraph 1. Many delegations had stressed that the recommendations on which the Board was called upon to decide should not come from the secretariat. In the view of the sponsors, the function of preparing such recommendations should be performed by intergovernmental advisory committees.

39. The idea behind the setting up of such committees was quite different from that underlying the proposals that had been made for machinery to consider the long-term programme of UNIDO. The present proposal was for subsidiary committees of a practical nature, whose work would be closely related to that of the Board and would facilitate the Board's work. The existence of such committees would save the Board from having to give undue attention to subjects of relatively minor importance.

40. As these committees would be open to all states which participated in the activities of UNIDO, and not only to members of the Board, they would enable UNIDO to benefit from the contributions of a wider range of countries, including present members of the Board after their terms of office expired.

41. He believed that experience showed that supporting organs were needed to share the increasing burden which fell on the Board as UNIDO expanded its activities and assumed greater responsibilities.

42. Mr. BRILLANTE (Philippines) said that the proposal was of undoubted interest but should be subjected to extremely close scrutiny. Unfortunately, the Board no longer had the necessary time at its disposal. For that reason he suggested that the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination be instructed to examine the matter at the fourth session. The Executive Director should communicate the text of the resolution to all countries, whether or not they were members of the Board, with a request for their comments. The Board would then be able to come to an informed decision on whether such subsidiary organs should be set up or not.

43. The PRESIDENT read the following note prepared by the secretariat concerning the financial implications of the proposal: "The adoption of the resolution will certainly have important financial implications. The secretariat will, however, need further details from the Board concerning the composition of the committees, the organization and periodicity of their meetings, and the documentary material required for accurate estimation of their financial implications. The available information does not enable the secretariat to provide an accurate estimate of the additional costs."

44. Mr. ARCHIBALD (Trinidad and Tobago) approved the draft resolution since a greater number of countries would be able to participate directly and continuously in UNIDO activities; the proposed committees would also, by submitting proposals and recommendations, help the Board to discharge its duties.

45. Mr. BEECROFT (Nigeria) said that the Contact Group was in favour of the draft resolution.
46. Mr. GLINSKI (Poland) thought that the Board should have examined earlier the draft resolution on the Long-Term Programme of Work of UNIDO (ID/B/L.61). It would doubtless be useful to set up three permanent intergovernmental committees, but their functions should be better defined. For example, according to the draft the Committee on Technology and Manpower with its very complicated tasks seemed ill-adapted to reality. His delegation therefore supported the proposal of the representative of the Philippines.
47. Mr. SARWAN (India), like the representative of the Philippines, thought that the draft required careful consideration. While its aim might not be controversial, its administrative machinery proposals called for caution. There was no real need to set up three committees to enable a greater number of countries to participate directly in the activities of UNIDO. With regard to the preparatory work, the secretariat could very well communicate all the appropriate information on the most important matters to every country before the Working Group's session. The financial implications were most uncertain; and for that reason in particular he supported the proposal of the representative of the Philippines.
48. Mr. AWAN (Pakistan) unreservedly supported the proposal of the representative of Brazil for he thought that UNIDO ought to set up subsidiary organs of the Board. It was, however, premature to take a decision on the draft resolution, since many points remained to be clarified. For example, the exact boundaries of the fields of competence of the various committees were not clear. He too, therefore, held that consideration of the draft should be deferred until the next session of the Working Group, and that meanwhile the Governments should be consulted.
49. Mr. SERRANO (Chile) approved the proposal of the representative of Brazil. In his opinion the establishment of subsidiary organs was essential for the future work of the Board; no other example was needed than the permanent committees of UNCTAD. The committees would be all the more important since their work would be integrated with the preparations for the Second Development Decade and could help the Board better to define the order of priorities and the policies to be followed in development strategy.

50. Mr. LERENA (Argentina), while sharing the views of the representative of Brazil, thought like the representative of the Philippines that it was too early to decide that question, which should therefore be referred to the next session.

51. Mr. STIERAVY (United States of America) thought that the proposals of the representative of Brazil deserved the Board's attention, but that it would be preferable to defer their consideration until the next session.

52. Mr. BITTENCOURT (Brazil), on behalf of the co-sponsors of the resolution, accepted the comments made by the majority of representatives. He therefore withdrew the draft resolution, which would be submitted to the Working Group at its next session for its consideration, on the understanding that, as suggested by the representative of the Philippines, the text would meanwhile be circulated to all member countries of UNIDO for their observations.

Draft resolution concerning a special meeting of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (ID/B/L.60/Rev.1)

53. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the secretariat, though unable to give exact figures before it could make a cost analysis, thought that the financial implications of the resolution would be substantial.

54. Mr. BEECROFT (Nigeria), Chairman of the Contact Group, explained that owing to differences of view among its members, the Group had agreed to leave the procedure of consideration, and the text of the draft resolution, for decision by the Board. The delegations of the socialist countries, while acknowledging the importance and authentic interest of the draft resolution, considered that delegations should have adequate time to consult their Governments and that consideration of the draft should therefore be deferred until the fourth session of the Board. The co-sponsors, for their part, had urged that the Board should take a decision before the end of the third session. The Contact Group thought that proposed amendments to the draft resolution should only be considered if the Board took a decision on the text itself.

55. Mr. SERRANO (Chile) expressed surprise. In his recollection the representative of Nigeria himself had brought the discussion in the Contact Group to an end and declared that the text should be submitted to the Board in plenary session. The Group of Twenty-Five, for its part, had decided to present the text and to recommend its adoption by the Board.

56. The co-sponsors of the draft resolution thought only an extraordinary meeting of UNIDO could take cognizance of a problem so important as the part to be played by UNIDO in the Second Development Decade. UNIDO was the only organization in the United Nations system which did not hold any assembly or general conference attended by representatives of all its Member States. It was essential that Member States, and especially the developing countries, should appoint representatives to UNIDO as they did to WHO, FAO or UNCTAD. Those representatives should have an expert knowledge of industrial development and not be diplomatists or politicians, in order that they might have the competence necessary to enable them to communicate their Governments' views on industrialization problems.

57. The co-sponsors had certainly not intended, by submitting their draft resolution, to set up permanent machinery. They had thought that UNIDO, after four years' work, had reached a certain maturity and acquired a certain amount of knowledge, and that circumstances would be particularly favourable to such a meeting as they proposed. The United Nations was to hold the twenty-fifth session of its General Assembly in 1970. Furthermore, as the Secretary-General had pointed out, the Second Decade provided an opportunity which would not occur again, as in ten years it would be too late to close the gap between the rich countries and the poor.

58. Mr. CALLE (Peru) said that his delegation would like to become a co-sponsor of the draft resolution. The First Development Decade had not fulfilled the hopes of the developing countries, and the Second Development Decade was about to begin in dramatic circumstances, when UNIDO was at something of a disadvantage and had not yet been able to bring together the representatives of all Member States at a general conference. Such a gathering would allow a fruitful exchange of views, leading to the steps required for UNIDO to join the ranks of the specialized agencies.

59. Mr. SIERRA (Spain) said that the reference to the twenty-fourth regular session of the United Nations General Assembly in the fourth line of operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution was doubtless a mistake, as the twenty-fifth session was surely meant.

60. Decisions regarding the Second Development Decade must be taken at once. UNIDO had been created recently but must reach maturity without delay, because the world was evolving rapidly; a political impetus must therefore be given at the highest level.

A special meeting seemed the best way to enable the representatives to all Member States to lay down the guiding principles which UNIDO should follow in its activities during the Second Development Decade, and to ensure that the part which it intended to play was widely known.

61. Mr. THOMPSON (Trinidad and Tobago) urged the Board to take a decision on the draft resolution, of which his delegation was a co-sponsor. In view of the importance of the part which UNIDO must play in the Second Development Decade, he thought that no argument could justify the postponement of a decision by the Board until its fourth session.
62. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) felt that the draft resolution was somewhat illogically set out. In its substance the co-sponsors gave evidence of wishful thinking. The agreement of a majority of Member States to the suggested meeting was not enough to make it take place. As the experience of the first United Nations Conference on Trade and Development showed, the first need was to obtain the approval of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. The wisest course would therefore be to defer consideration of the draft until the fourth session. Meanwhile, the Executive Director would consult Member States and take any necessary measures in accordance with established procedure.
63. Mr. LERENA (Argentina) supported the draft. A special meeting of Member States would mark the culmination of a process which would enable UNIDO to take its proper place in the work of promoting industrialization. That a task could be successfully fulfilled only if all Governments were willing to participate actively, and the procedures laid down must naturally be followed: consideration by the Economic and Social Council and a decision by the United Nations General Assembly.
64. Mr. WANCHOO (India) said that the policies of States remained the same irrespective of the form in which they were represented in international organizations. The Board should take a decision without further delay, for the Second Development Decade was about to begin and a special meeting of the world's experts on industrial development would have a decisive impact. The procedural difficulties had been mentioned; but if the Industrial Development Board adopted a resolution the Secretary-General of the United Nations could hardly ignore it. With regard to the financial implications of a special meeting, many other at least equally expensive proposals had been accepted; if the meeting were held at the same time as the General Assembly its cost would be less.

65. Moreover, since most of the States which participated in UNIDO's activities were also Members of the United Nations and therefore represented in the General Assembly, it was difficult to imagine that they could take a different position there from that which they had taken in the Industrial Development Board. The problems of the industrialization of the developing world were too urgent for the Board to defer its decision until a later session.

66. Mr. SERRANO (Chile) pointed out to the Soviet Union delegation that the co-sponsors of the draft resolution were proposing that the special meeting should be held on the occasion of the twenty-fifth and not the twenty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly; that would leave the Executive Director time to consult all Member States and then to follow the normal procedure. He was surprised that those who had fertilized immense desert areas in the nineteenth century and embarked on the conquest of space in the twentieth should hesitate to accept a relatively small outlay in convertible currency and to send a delegation to New York to participate in such an important gathering, aimed at promoting the industrial progress of the developing countries.

67. Mr. BITTENCOURT (Brazil) said that his delegation too would like to become a co-sponsor of the draft resolution. The text was perfectly clear: the Board was not being asked to convene a special meeting, but simply to invite the Executive Director to consult Governments of Member States for the purpose of convening such a meeting through the normal procedure. His delegation, like others, had difficulty in understanding why stress should be laid on the expense of a special meeting, since each Member State would simply have to attach one or two industrial development experts to its delegation to the General Assembly session.

68. Mr. BRILLANTES (Philippines) declared that UNIDO, as the youngest member of the United Nations family, must make itself known and accepted in the central role assigned to it in General Assembly resolution 2152 (XXI).

69. The draft resolution, contrary to what had been said, was perfectly logical. Not until a majority of Governments of Member States expressed themselves in favour of a special meeting would the Executive Director, after reporting to the Board at its fourth session, take the required measures in accordance with established procedure.

70. Mr. STIBRAVY (United States of America) was prepared to accept the draft resolution, since it was confined to asking Governments their views on the holding of a special meeting on UNIDO within the framework of the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly and in no way prejudged the outcome of the proposed consultations. But he hoped that the co-sponsors would consider the following amendments proposed by the Group B delegations: in the second preambular paragraph, to replace "co-ordination" by "an overall view"; in the fifth preambular paragraph, to delete "the developing countries advocated that UNIDO should" and insert instead "UNIDO was established to"; in the second line of the same paragraph, after "central role", to insert "within the United Nations system of organizations"; at the end of the paragraph to replace "at the world level" by "in the developing countries"; in operative paragraph 1, first line, to delete "Member Governments" and insert instead "Governments participating in the work of UNIDO"; in the third line, to replace "with a view to the" by "on the question of"; also in the third line, to replace "twenty-fourth" by "twenty-fifth"; and to delete the whole of operative paragraph 2 after the words "Executive Director" and insert instead "to report the results of his consultations to the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly, together with the report of the third session of the Industrial Development Board".

71. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) did not believe that the Board was paying proper attention to the financial implications of such a meeting. The first Trade and Development Conference had cost US\$3 million, half UNIDO's budget. The General Assembly was therefore by no means certain to agree again to such an expenditure. The problems of an overall approach to development could be perfectly well settled at the highest level, by the Second Committee of the General Assembly, without any need to convene a special meeting of UNIDO. The ordinary procedure was therefore to refer the matter first of all to the General Assembly and to await its decision. Consideration of the draft resolution should thus be deferred until the fourth session.

72. Mr. LORENZI (Uruguay) said that, if the draft resolution had been submitted in its original form, he would have had doubts as to whether it would be accepted. But the proposed procedure had been modified: it was now simply a matter of requesting the Executive Director, within a certain period of time, to consult member Governments regarding the idea of convening a conference at the highest possible level. Whether such a conference was opportune or not would be for Governments to say after studying

the matter, and action would be taken only when a majority of affirmative replies had been received. The consultation proposed was democratic and the draft resolution could be accepted.

73. Mr. CASILLI d'ARAGONA (Italy) proposed that in the second line of operative paragraph 1 "sixty days" be replaced by "ninety days", and that the words "with a view to the convening of" be replaced by the words "to examine the possibility of organizing". The term "at the highest possible level" should be replaced by more precise words: States Members of UNIDO should be represented at the special meeting by "governmental" industrialization experts rather than by purely political delegates.

74. Mr. BLITTENCOURT (Brazil) moved the closure of the debate in accordance with rule 41 of the rules of procedure.

75. Mr. WANCHOO (India) and Mr. WIAFE-ANNOR (Ghana) supported the motion.

76. The motion for closure of the debate was adopted without dissent.

77. Mr. BEECROFT (Nigeria) proposed that further consideration of the draft resolution be deferred until the fourth session.

78. Mr. ARKADIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) supported the proposal.

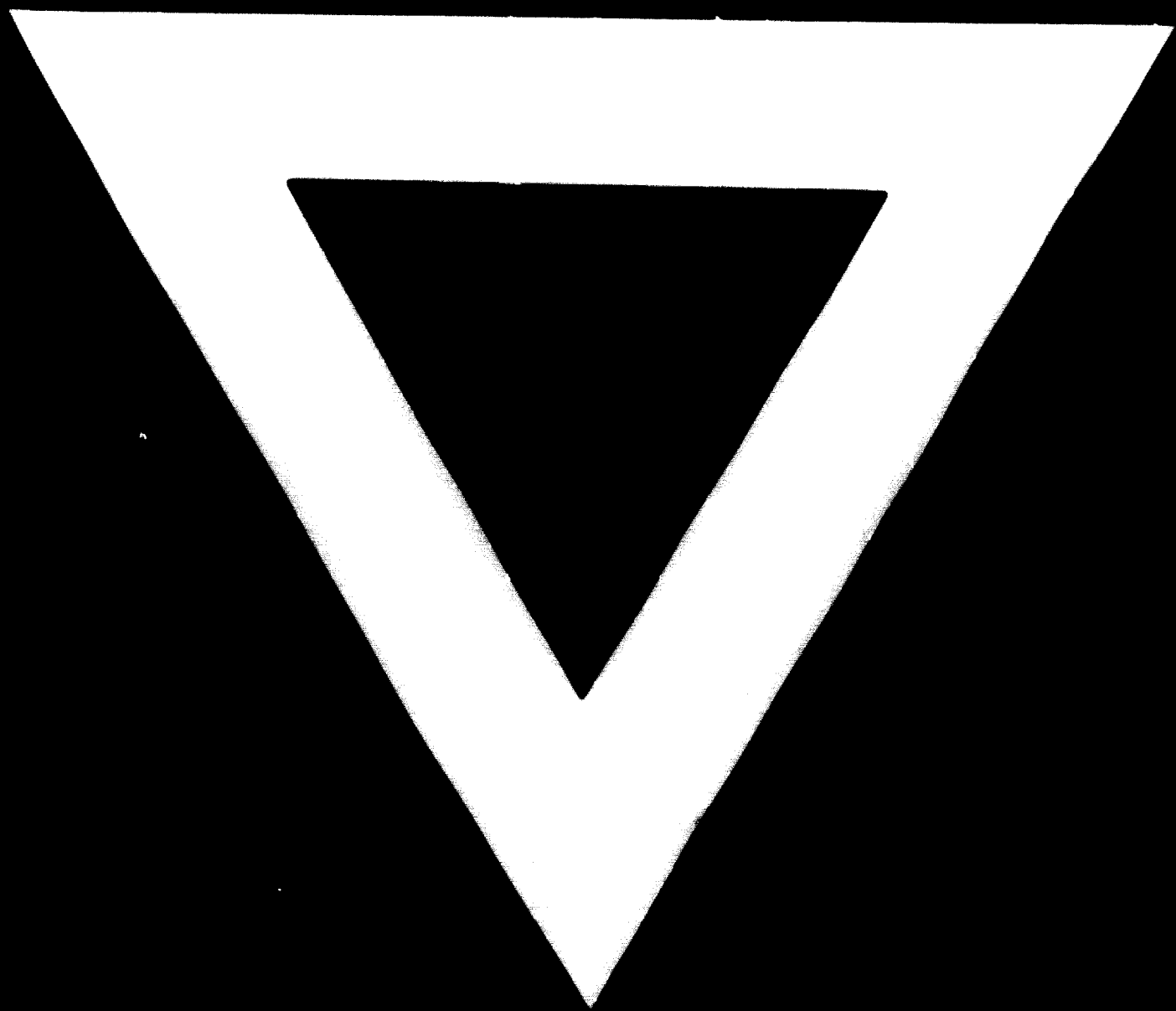
79. The proposal put forward by the delegation of Nigeria was rejected by 17 votes to 15, with 5 abstentions.

80. Mr. SERRANO (Chile) said that the co-sponsors of the draft resolution would accept the amendments proposed by the delegations of the United States of America and Italy.

81. Draft resolution ID/B/L.60/Rev.1 was adopted by 19 votes to 4, with 14 abstentions.

The meeting rose at 7.55 p.m.





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