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CO-OPERATION BETWEEN UNIDO AND EUROCEAN<sup>1/</sup>

by

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<sup>1/</sup> The views and opinions expressed in this paper are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the secretariat of UNIDO. This document has been reproduced without formal editing.

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The Association Européenne Océanique - EUROCEAN - is an association of European industrial companies and banks which have the common interest of exploiting the natural resources of the seas and oceans. The companies have recognized the complexity of most projects in this area and have decided to combine their efforts in developing the new technologies which are required. Frequently the problems are multidisciplinary and the correct mixture of different types of companies is needed. It is also established within EUROCEAN that proper consideration should be given to the environmental aspects of the projects.

EUROCEAN's current programme comprises projects on:

Floating islands

Deep sea mining

Energy

Living resources and mariculture

Intervention systems against marine pollution

Pharmacology and biochemistry

Remote sensing

The Association was created in 1970 and the major part of the long-term projects are still in the early stages. Some of them are so far advanced, however, that investigations into the building of pilot plants have started.

Cooperation between U.N.I.D.O. and EUROCEAN, aiming at transfer of technology and aiding the industrialization of developing countries will have to be based on actions which will be of mutual benefit.

The following scheme may exemplify such cooperation. Within a EUROCEAN group the member companies are studying the realization of an energy plant using the thermal differences in the sea. This energy could be used by a processing industry for a fertilizer or an aluminium plant, which could be installed on a floating structure. It could also be combined with mariculture - fishfarming. On the longer term, solutions for transporting energy could be studied, like the hydrogen system.

The fundamental requirements for an energy plant exist off the coastlines of some developing countries. It, therefore, would appear quite natural to cooperate on projects of the above-mentioned nature. Such projects demand the development and testing of new technology - the energy plant - but they would also use existing technology - a fertilizer or aluminium plant. The project should start with a pilot plant, which would have to be financed by U.N.I.D.O. and the developing country.

In very simple terms, cooperation in this respect could be summarized as follows:

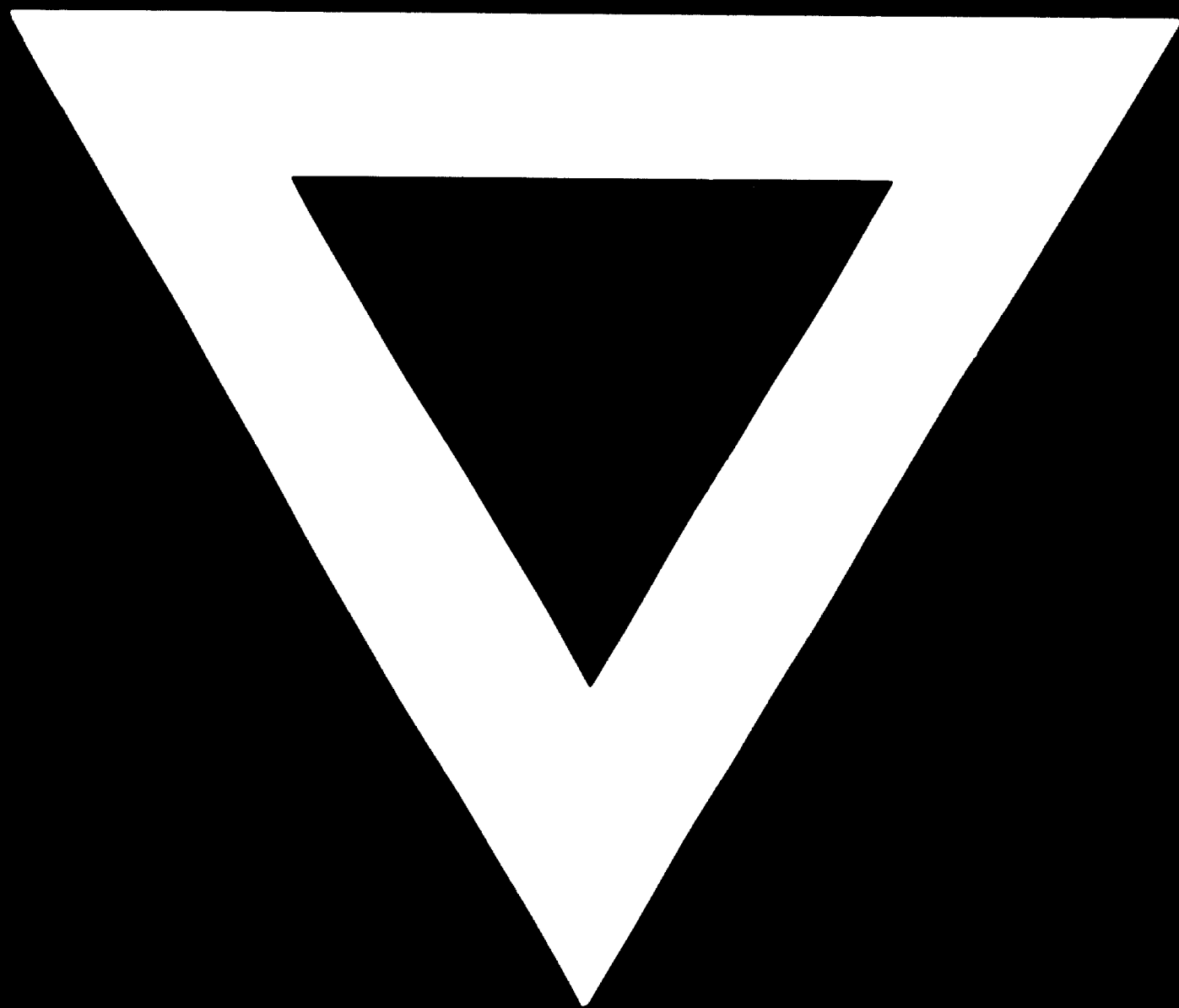
- The developing country provides the location with the natural resources, local services, government support and part of the financing.
- U.N.I.D.O. provides the rest of the financing and support in technology transfer with technical expertise.
- EUROCEAN members provide the hardware and the transfer of technology on a normal basis for industrial business.

In this way, both parties will benefit by cooperation - the developing country being aided in its industrialization and the EUROCEAN members extending their business and, at the same time, developing new technology.

The scheme outlined above may be regarded as a model and could, of course, be applied to suitable U.N.I.D.O. projects.



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