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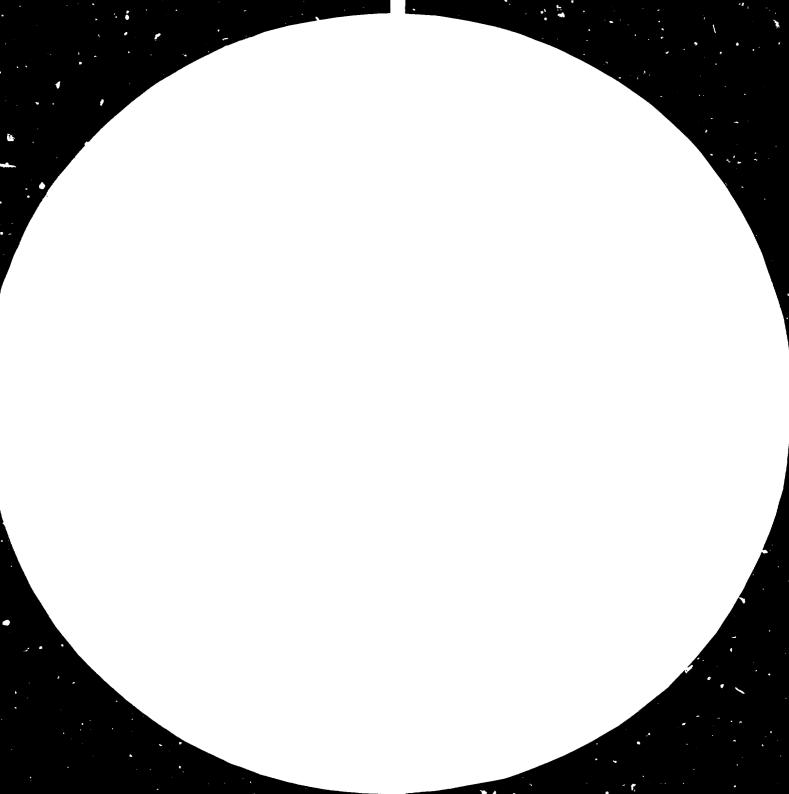
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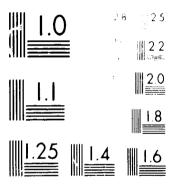
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# WOOD AND WOOD PRODUCTS INDUSTRY IN INDONESIA \*

by

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<sup>\*</sup> The views 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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As a furniture manufacturer, I will only deal with secondary wood processing and furniture industries in Indonesia.

Among the neighbouring countries, Indonesia is one of the biggest wood producing countries, but export-wise, its performance ranks among the lowest in the region.

The industry is much in need of assistance. Although its supply to the local market is sufficient to meet the demand, there is much to be desired to make it exportable according to international standards.

The development of wood industries depends largely on the economic situation of the country. It is to be noted since the establishment of a new government in 1966, the development of wood industries is growing gradually. Nevertheless, there are certain priorities, in this case some factors related to one another, that requires serious consideration. Among these are:

## 1. Location of the plant

Mejority of the industries is located in the island of Java, whereas the manufacture of forest products is situated outside. Even in west Irian where there are still large virgin forests existing, the primary and secondary wood processing industries are minimal and freight/transportation are mostly to be considered. In fact, the government has a regulation not to build plywood factories in Java anymore.

# 2. Skilled manpower

Lack of skilled manpower in the field of woodworking machineries and wood technology is evident in the industry. At present, there is only one private school in Semarang, Central Java engaged in wood technology training. This is not sufficient, of course.

Based on my experiences, I have difficulties obtaining skilled manpower for my factory. Our recourse is to train them instead for 2-3 months. This is, of course, a loss to the company.

Considering the importance of wood products for export, the wood processing knowledge is necessary. In this occasion, we propose the establishment of more similar schools in different parts of the country.

## 3. Plant layout

Plant layout know-how is one of the most important factors necessary to raise production.

A lot of manufacturers are disappointed by the wrong selection of woodworking machineries which is caused either by poor information or wrong advertisements.

Seminars or training programs should be regularly organized, abroad or locally, in order to educate producers and/or manufacturers in the proper selection of machineries and equipment.

#### 4. Furniture accessories

Furniture accessories like fabrics, finishing materials, hardwares, glues, etc., should be adequately provided for. Majority of the raw materials are still being imported, except glue. Prices, too, are not competitive and this results in increasing production costs.

#### 5. Woodworking machineries

100 per cent of woodworking machineries are still imported. It is time to consider the local manufacture of woodworking machinery in Indonesia. The country can even consider joint ventures with other countries. For example, the first step is to produce kiln dry elements basic machines like circular saw, planer, sanding, boring, etc.

This business in selling wood machines is flourishing now in Indonesia.

# 6. Design

There are university graduates for furniture design in Bandung and Yogya. The majority, however, have inadequate knowledge in wood technology due to the poor facilities in their institutes. They need to have contact and training with designers from developed countries.

There is also no copyright privileges in this field. As a result, a lot of companies copy from one another. This is a very common phenomenon and has a negative influence for the development of design in general.

