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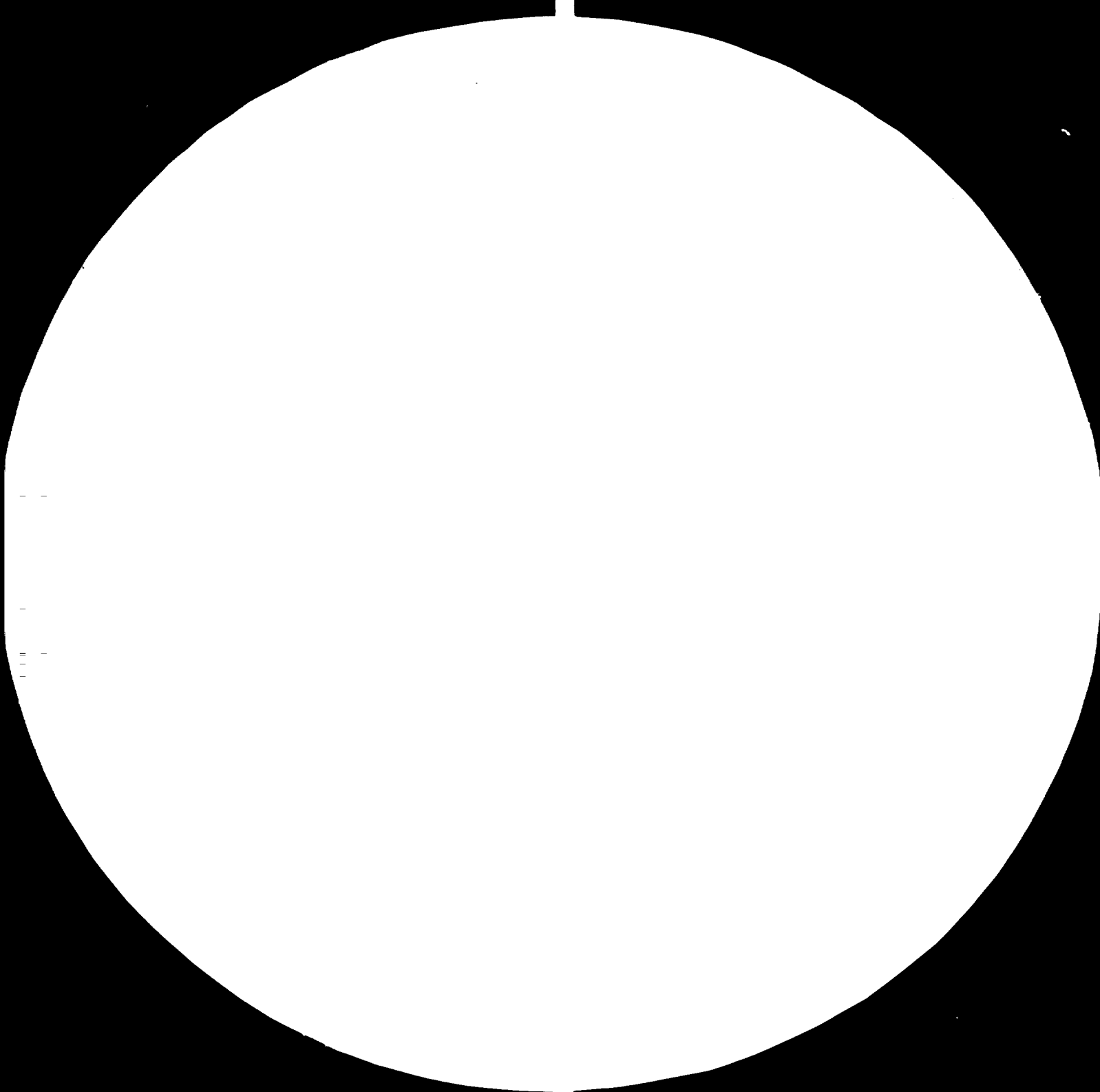
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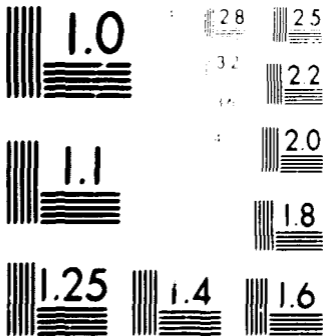
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Report on Mission to Mexico
from 13 to 20 March

to
Follow-Up and Discuss Trust Fund
Project Proposal Related to
Sectorial Planning at
Ministry of Programming and Budgeting

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Mission was carried out as a consequence of a preliminary project concept discussed with the Minister of Programming and Budgeting of the Mexican Government during a courtesy visit to the functionary. The latter stated a specific interest in the possibility of staging a Seminar on the state-of-the-art of Sectorial Planning with the concurrence of diverse top-level experts (please see my Mission Report to Mexico - from 15 to 19 February 1981, pages 2 and 3, of February 1981).

2. Conversations were held with :

- Mr. Francisco Labastida, Vice Minister for Programming
- Mr. F. Gamboa, Private Secretary to Minister
- Mr. Danilo Jimenez, Resident Representative
- Mr. Fernando Fajnzylber, Senior Industrial Development Field Adviser

FINDINGS

3. The project has been put in the hands of Mr. Francisco Labastida, (Vice Minister for Programming), as per the Minister's instructions.

4. Vice Minister, Mr. Labastida, expanded on concepts, methods and levels of planning in which the Ministry is engaged with the federated states and the Ministries.

5. It is apparent that some degree of inter-sectoral industrial and branch-proper-planning has been initiated particularly in the automotive, petro-chemical and steel industry : from supply-demand at product level to technological prospection for identification of comparative advantages.

6. The general framework of the planning system is the "Global Plan" (please see copy attached as Annex 1). Global-sectorised indicator/parameters derived establish the framework for industrial sectorial planning as carried out by the Ministry of Patrimony and Industrial Development (please refer to Annex 2 for a summary of the Industrial Development Plan 1979 to 1982).

7. The preliminary concept prepared by Mr. Zampetti and the writer (please see Annex 3) and presented to the Ministry as a baseline for conversation was reviewed on-the-spot. The Vice Minister proposed that :

- a) The relative role of Selected National Functionaries be enhanced to increase the Mexican contribution to the presentation based on the planning experience gained to date in Mexico.
- b) Planners from several Latin American countries and possibly others be invited to participate.
- c) A Seminar-Workshop mechanism is envisaged whereby Mexican participants, planners from other countries and several experts would interchange views on current planning practices.

8. The Ministry is generally receptive - in principle - to financing the Seminar-Workshop as was originally conceived in initial conversations with the Minister, in view of the general directive, and to our understanding the fact, that there are neither UNDP nor UNIDO resources available - now or in the near future for such a project.

9. In conversations held with Mr. Danilo Jimenez, Resident Representative, the procedure was centered for handling the project (as in essence was indicated in the telex 14510 of 5 March 1981 (iii) and (hhh), please see Annex 4) to greater detail, i.e. :

- a) that UNDP is receptive to the project provided that it be wholly financed by Ministry; Mr. Jimenez considered the project of interest.
- b) that whatever project concept and detail evolve, it would be entertained by UNDP on official reception of same through the channel of the Ministry of Foreign Relations;
- c) that the nature of sectoral planning, within the framework of global planning entrusted to the Ministry would imply intersectoral relationships and areas of multidisciplinary competence suggesting the project be channeled to the UN system and as a posterior consequence, to UNIDO, in the corresponding functional/participating share.

10. Mr. Fajnzylber, SIDPA expounded that several programmes are operational at the ministry related with the planning function at the Regional level, in relation to National accounts and also related to Prospective Technologies at the industrial branch level. Also, that industrial sectorial planning efforts would involve the coordinated participation of the Ministry of Patrimony and Industrial Development.

11. As a final and further follow-up to projects being promoted by IO/FCTY the Mini-Computer use and Diffusion for Small and Medium Scale Industries was discussed with Mr. Manuel Rosales, of the Coordinacion de Evaluacion for tapping the eventual interest of UPIICSA (Unidad Profesional Interdisciplinaria de Ingenieria y Ciencias Sociales y Administrativas) in the matter. The same treatment was given the industry school project (please see my Report on Mission to Mexico from 15 to 19 February 1981)

12. A new reunion was staged with Mr. Manuel Viejo Zubicavay, Director of FES (Facultad de Estudios Superiores - before ENEP) to further discuss the programme of "Centro de Asimilacion Tecnologica" to pin-point, if possible trust-fund project possibilities which may be of interest to channel to SIDFA offices in Mexico. There may be a specific breakthrough in this matter in the following ninety days.

13. On communicating with the Union Industrial Vallejo S.A. de C.V. (UCIV) as a follow-up to past-presented projects (documents) as suggested by the Acting Head of IO/FCTY, the following was found :

The UNIDO project document formulated by the writer was presented to the CONACYT (Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnologia through the offices of the Direccion General de Industria Mediana y Pequeña of the Ministry of Patrimony and Industrial Development i.e., Secretaria del Patrimonio y Desarrollo Industrial. The latter was approached by the UCIV and the Small and Medium Scale Industries Directorate adopted the project and proposed to counterpart it and promote its financing through CONACYT for bilateral project implementation with the Federal Republic of Germany. (please see Annex 5 for the referred presentation).

CONCLUSION

14. The promotions referred in the Report have involved, without exception, eventual trust-fund financing, expressed as a consequence of demonstrated interest, resulting in whatever project concept/idea has arisen on the part of Government and/or Government-related institutions during casual contacts and/or ad hoc conversations with the writer or that the writer has sustained.

15. The Vice Minister, Mr. F. Labastida indicated the Ministry will formulate a proposal for a Seminar-Workshop on Sectorial Planning based on UNIDO's initiative as a reply to the Minister's specific query on the means and ways UNIDO could cooperate with the Ministry to the effect, and as a result of UNIDO's cabled proposal the celerity of which was appreciated by the functionaries. As a result, notice was taken that under present circumstances an increasingly special effort would be required - in effect - to carry out the Seminar by June as originally contemplated by the Minister.

16. It was determined, during the conversations by Mr. D. Jimenez, the Resident Representative, and Mr. Fajnzylber, the SIDA, that :

- a) UNDP and SIDA Offices in Mexico would await the request for technical assistance from the Ministry of Programming and Budgeting via the Ministry of Foreign Relations.
- b) The project is in the domain of the UN System and the actions and role of UNIDO and /or other organisation are dependent on the nature and characteristics of the project concept to be presented by the Ministry via the Under Secretary.
- c) The project concept momentum was maintained, it is now in the process of being adjusted and channeled accordingly.

17. The project document formulated by the writer and denominated "Diagnostico Operativo y Planeacion del Desarrollo de UCIV" was in essence presented and accepted by CONACYT and the FRG for financing and bilateral technical assistance.

18. It may be recommended that :

- a) SIDFA Offices in Mexico City follow-up the Sectorial Planning project concept in the pace and to the degree considered convenient.
- b) Pursue contacts - if considered pertinent - with Mr. Manuel Rosales for UPIICSA Micro-computer Use/Applications project promotion, and with Mr. Manuel Viejo Z, Director of (FES) Facultad de Estudios Superiores.
- c) Follow-up possibility of a UNIDO participation in the UCIV project to be bilaterally developed under CONACYT auspices.

List of Annexes

- Annex I Plan Global de Desarrollo 198
- Annex II Summary Comments on Plan de Desarrollo Industrial
- Annex III Project Concept for Sectorial Planning
- Annex IV Cable Proposal/Concept to Ministry
- Annex V UCIV Request to Ministry of Patrimony and Industrial
Development and Project Presentation to CONACYT

