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**Sixth Advisory Group Meeting of the  
Industrial and Technological Information Bank (INTIB)**

Vienna, Austria, 9-12 May 1995

**REPORT\***

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\* This document has not been edited.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. UNIDO should concentrate its information provision activities on the delivery of information generated by or for UNIDO.
2. UNIDO should consider the establishment of databases comprising UNIDO-specific industrial information, e.g. information about all UNIDO's industrial information products, services and tools; the publishing of a printed catalogue of all UNIDO information products services and tools accompanied by a price list to be distributed by UNIDO and also by National Focal Points (if needed, it should be translated into the national languages).
3. The production of a CDROM containing the stock of available UNIDO industrial information should be considered.
4. UNIDO should assist industrial information activities in developing countries inter alia by compiling directories of technology transfer databases and services and of other sectorial and general information sources.
5. To improve the use of industrial information in developing countries, UNIDO should concentrate on activities helping the development of national and regional information networks as well as interregional cooperation.
6. The ITMIN concept, i.e. the establishment of private sector-based, self-sustaining national networks providing full services in the field of industrial and business information, should be promoted by technical assistance projects formulated, implemented or executed by UNIDO or in cooperation with regional centres.
7. INTIB should be supplied with national data on SMEs for the creation of a market place for Member States on business information.
8. Further efforts should be taken in strengthening cooperation between UNIDO, other UN organizations and international NGOs in providing information services to Member States, to have better synergy leading to strategic alliances.
9. Emphasis should be given to include adequate training as an essential component in any UNIDO technical assistance projects and to provide adequate training courses.
10. The international referral system should be made available for direct use (sending inquiries directly to the specialized sources of information) by qualified information centres and networks in developing countries.
11. Industrial and technological information systems used within UNIDO and those provided by UNIDO to Member States should use the same application software and should use the same standards (nomenclatures, classifications etc.).
12. When providing information systems to Member States, the preparatory steps, methodology and organizational setup should not be prescribed by UNIDO or other donor agencies in order to enable existing or already designed facilities to be taken into account.
13. In order to promote actively the use of information systems and networks, the concept of information brokers, functioning individually or as SMEs, should be encouraged by UNIDO. UNIDO might consider the publishing of appropriate guidelines for this purpose.
14. There should be one unit in UNIDO responsible for, and therefore informed on, all industrial information activities within UNIDO. The Industrial Information Section seems to be the most appropriate candidate for this task. The given unit should be strengthened by staff and funding to fulfill this and additional tasks. Internal procedures should be introduced in UNIDO to guarantee the flow of information to enable the selected unit to fulfill the task properly.

## ORGANIZATION

The Advisory Group Meeting was attended by 16 participants from various member countries, international as well as inter-governmental organizations (see Annex I for the list of participants).

In the opening statement of the Director-General, delivered by the Managing Director of Administration, he pointed out that while industry is a dynamic instrument of growth, industry itself is becoming more and more an information based activity. Information is a real resource for growth and competitiveness. The fast technological developments in recent years, particularly in the area of telecommunications, multimedia, and digital technologies have increased sharply our alternatives for fast and effective information access. He stated that the overall strategy for UNIDO over the next few years had been summarized in the medium-term plan for 1996-2001 and that it reflected that the effectiveness of the work of UNIDO depends in no small measure on a well directed and comprehensive information effort. Because of the high priority attached to it, industrial information was included as one of the programmatic themes that are proposed to constitute the thematic focus of UNIDO for the biennium 1996-1997. He acknowledged the importance of the INTIB Advisory Group in ensuring the continuous reorienting of INTIB's activities according to emerging needs of the international community.

In his statement, the Director, Strategic Planning Office, stressed the importance of the necessity to tailor information to specific needs and to make it available at the right moment. He informed the Advisory Group on the restructuring of UNIDO, which followed the recent developments in Member States and worldwide. One of these important changes is the shift towards development requirements in the private sector. He informed the audience about the five development objectives of UNIDO:

- industrial and technological growth and competitiveness;
- development of human resources for industry;
- equitable development through industrialization;
- environmentally sustainable industrial development;
- international cooperation in industrial investment and technology

To achieve these development objectives, UNIDO acts as:

- a focal point for industrial technology;
- an honest broker for industrial cooperation;
- a centre of excellence on industrial development issues;
- a global source of industrial and technological information.

With respect to information as a priority theme, he described INTIB's main activities and those related to industrial statistics.

He expressed his hopes that the Advisory Group would contribute to the effectiveness of UNIDO's activities in the area of the programmatic theme for the next biennium: industrial information, investment and technology promotion.

### *ELECTION OF THE BUREAU*

The meeting was invited to elect a chairman and rapporteur. The meeting unanimously elected:

1. Chairman: Mr. Juergen Bischoff  
Director, Asia and Pacific Centre for Technology Transfer, New Delhi, India
2. Rapporteur: Mr. Erik Vajda  
Head, Development Project Team, National Technical Information Centre and Library, Budapest, Hungary

## WORKING SESSIONS

Mr. Rudolf Stefec, Director, National Information Centre, Prague, presented the findings and proposals of his evaluation report on UNIDO technology related information activities. He stressed the importance of concentrating on the provision of UNIDO-specific information and the transparency and coordination of UNIDO information services.

Referring to UNIDO's development objectives and activities, the Chief, Industrial Information Section, UNIDO, in the progress report on INTIB 1994-1995 activities and 1996-1997 work programme analysed the changes in the information needs of developing countries and stressed the importance of market information in addition to technology information. In the context of technological growth and competitiveness, reference was made to building up information capacities through technical assistance and activation of INTIB regional and national focal points. In this context he gave a short overview of the international referral system, technical assistance activities, regional efforts and the promotion of the use of the Internet for industrial information. In the framework of the development of human resources for industry, training programmes of UNIDO were described.

As INTIB's response to equitable development through industrialization, the speaker described activities for technology monitoring and assessment and various publications supporting the efficient blending of modern and traditional technologies. The project for energy and environment information system (EEIS) was mentioned as a response to the objective of environmentally sustainable industrial development. He then described INTIB's work in building up international cooperation in industrial investment and technology.

After summarizing the cooperation within UNIDO on industrial information he concluded with a quote from the Work Programme for 1996-1997, that the main objective for industrial information is:

"to develop and enhance the access of industrial actors in Member States to information sources on industrial technologies and investment opportunities. The programme is to support INTIB regional, national and sectorial networks - with a focus on strengthening of regional focal points".

The afternoon session of the first day was devoted to reports by INTIB staff that elaborated on: information resource management in UNIDO, the development of INTIB's international referral system, and on INTIB regional information programmes.

The second day was started by Mr. Moise Allal who described the information service on technological alternatives for development, INSTEAD, an information service developed for micro and small enterprises. The possibility was offered to Member States to make use of this service as INSTEAD's "antennas" (de facto focal points). The morning session continued with the presentations of: Mr. J. Bischoff, Director, AECTT; Mr. M. Nageri, Head of Information Services, African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT); Ms. R. Stille, Head, Science and Technology Division, Ministry of External Relations of Brazil, representing Latin American Technology Information Network (LATIN/RITLA); Mr. A. R. Kamaruddin, Islamic Development Bank, representing the Organization of Islamic Countries Information Systems Network Project (OICIS-NET); Mr. Y. Savostitsky, Deputy Director, Institute for Automated Systems (IAS); who presented a review and discussion of the operation of regional information networks related to INTIB.

The afternoon session was started by Mr. E. Vajda, the Chief Technical Adviser of the ITMIN project, who presented a paper on full service national information networks for industry and business. This was followed by a paper of Mr. V. Ratnarajah, Chief Operating Officer, Industrial Technological and Market Information Network Limited (ITMIN Ltd.) who spoke about the preparation and establishment as well as on the planned structure and activities of ITMIN.

The third day began with a paper by Ms. R. Launo, President of the International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID), on information superhighway--global information alliance. She presented inter alia the Tokyo Resolution on "Strategic Alliance of International Non-Governmental Organizations in Information to serve better the World Community", which was signed

by 32 international organizations on the occasion of the Centennial of FID. She also stressed the importance of UNIDO's role in training information professionals to work in the virtual companies of the future.

This was followed by the presentations of Mr. S. Dore, Director, International Innovation Services and the Chief, Technology Acquisition Section, UNIDO, under the common title "matching technology and investment partnership opportunities: choosing the right concept".

All the presentations were followed by vivid discussions in which all participants took part.

It was stated by the participants of the meeting that the recommendations of the 5th Meeting of the INTIB Advisory Group have been followed by the Industrial Information Section and were realized or their realization is going on.

Detailed negotiations between representatives of various regional centres and networks and managers of INTIB regional programmes, as well as ILO, FID and UNIDO representatives, resulted in practical agreements on joint actions to be implemented in the coming years.

#### **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

After detailed discussions, the meeting adopted the recommendations and the report.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The participants highly appreciated and acknowledged the excellent arrangements and hospitality provided by the Director-General of UNIDO and his staff, in particular INTIB for making the meeting efficient, effective and successful. They congratulated the Chairman for his efficient and smooth handling of the meeting and the Rapporteur and INTIB for preparing precise, exact and comprehensive reports and recommendations in the shortest possible time.

**Sixth Advisory Group Meeting of the  
Industrial and Technological Information Bank (INTIB)**

**9-12 May 1995  
Conference Room II  
Vienna International Centre  
Vienna, Austria**

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**Sixth Advisory Group Meeting of the  
Industrial and Technological Information Bank (INTIB)**

**9-12 May 1995  
Conference Room II  
Vienna International Centre  
Vienna, Austria**

**Meeting Programme**

**Tuesday, 9 May 1995**

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 9:00 - 10:00  | - Registration  |
| 10:00 - 10:30 | - Opening Session<br>Welcome speech - Mr. M. de Maria y Campos,<br>Director-General of UNIDO  |
| 10:30 - 10:45 | - Coffee break  |
| 10:45 - 11:00 | - Election of the Bureau  |
| 11:00 - 11:30 | - UNIDO Thematic Focus<br>Mr. H. Muegge<br>Director, Strategic Planning Office  |
| 11:30 - 12:00 | - Evaluation Report on UNIDO technology<br>related information activities<br>Mr. R. Stefec, UNIDO Consultant<br>Director, National Information Centre<br>Prague |
| 12:00 - 12:15 | - Progress Report on INTIB 1994/1995<br>activities and 1996/1997 Work Programme<br>Mr. V. Podshibyakin, Chief,<br>Industrial Information Section                |
| 12:15 - 13:00 | - Discussion  |
| 13:00 - 14:00 | - Lunch   |
| 14:00 - 14:30 | - Development of INTIB's<br>International Referral System<br>Mr. C. Carrier   |
| 14:30 - 15:00 | - Information Resource Management in UNIDO<br>Mr. P. Makin  |
| 15:00 - 16:00 | - INTIB Regional Information Programmes<br>Mr. J. Pavlik and Ms. S. Bakhait<br>Industrial Information Section   |
| 16:00 - 17:00 | - Demonstration of UNIDO Information Products   |

Wednesday, 10 May 1995

- 9:30 - 11:30 - Review and discussion of Regional Information Networks Operation related to INTIB  
Mr. J. Bischoff, Director, APCTT  
Mr. M. Nageri, Head, ARCT  
Ms. Renate Stille, Chief  
Science and Technology Division, RITLA  
Mr. A.R. Kamaruddin, OICIS-NET  
Mr. Y. Savostisky, Deputy Director, IAS
- 11:30 - 11:45 - Coffee break
- 11:45 - 13:00 - Continuation of review and discussion of the Regional Information Networks Operation
- 13:00 - 14:30 - Lunch
- 14:30 - 15:30 - Full service national information networks for industry and business  
Mr. E. Vajda, UNIDO Consultant
- 15:30 - 16:30 - ITMIN: Case Study of Sri Lanka  
Mr. V. Ratnarajah, Managing Director  
ITMIN Ltd.
- 16:30 - 17:30 - Discussion
- 18:00 - Reception

Thursday, 11 May 1995

- 9:30 - 10:30 - Information Superhighway-Global Information Alliance  
Ms. Ritva Launo, President, FID
- 10:30 - 11:00 - Discussion
- 11:00 - 11:15 - Coffee break
- 11:15 - 13:00 - Matching technology and investment partnership opportunities: Choosing the right concept  
Mr. S. Dore, UNIDO Consultant,  
Director, International Innovation Services  
Mr. J. de Caldas Lima, Chief  
Technology Acquisition Section
- 13:00 - 14:30 - Lunch
- 14:30 - 17:00 - Individual meetings and discussions

Friday, 12 May 1995

- 9:30 - 11:00 - INTIB strategy and services in changing information scenario - a programme for the next five years  
Round Table Discussion
- 11:00 - 11:15 - Coffee break
- 11:15 - 12:30 - Adoption of Report and Recommendations
- 12:30 - 13:00 - Closing session
- 13:00 - 14:00 - Lunch
- 15:00 - 17:00 - Visit to European Patent Office



## List of Documents

1. Meeting Programme
2. Aide Memoire
3. List of participants
4. Focusing of UNIDO activities
5. Technology related Industrial Information Activities of UNIDO
6. UNIDO Information Services - Progress Report on INTIB 1994/1995 activities and 1996/1997 Work Programme
7. Programme and Budgets, 1996-1997: Programme industrial information
8. Annual Report of UNIDO 1994
9. Medium-term plan, 1995-2001
10. Regional Workshop on Industrial and Business Information Services and Networks, Budapest, Hungary, 17-19 October 1994
11. United Nations Web and Gopher Servers
12. UNIDO Technology Acquisition Programme - an Overview, Mr. J. de Caldas Lima
13. UNIDO Information Resource Management, presented by Paul Makin
14. INTIB's International Referral System, presented by Claude Carrier
15. Regional Programme for Central, Eastern Europe and the Countries of the Former Soviet Union, presented by Jurai Pavlik
16. Regional Programme for Africa, presented by Shadia Bakhait
17. Information Superhighway - Global Information Alliance, presented by Ritva Launo, International Federation for Information and Documentation
18. OIC Information Systems Network Project (OICIS-NET) Concept, Plans and Progress, presented by Abdul Rahman Kamaruddin, Islamic Development Bank
19. Mechanism for Exchange for Technology Information, presented by Juergen Bischoff, Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology
20. TMIN's experience in setting up a national information network with on-line international access, presented by Vijit Ratnarajah, ITMIN Ltd.

21. Sourcing Industrial, Technological and Market Information for you. ITMIN Ltd.
22. Technology-related industrial information activities of UNIDO, National Information Center of the Czech Republic
23. Russian Computer Networks Development, presented by Yuri Savostitsky, Institute for Automated Systems
24. The New Technology-Business Connection between Russia, CIS and the West, Yuri Savostitsky, Institute for Automated Systems
25. Information Service on Technological Alternatives for Development, M. Allal, International Labour Organization
26. Final Act of the First Regular Meeting of the Latin American Technological Information Network- Ritla, Renate Stille, Ministry of External Relations
27. Full Service National Information Networks for Industry and Business, presented by Eric Vajda, Hungarian Central Technical Library
28. Factors Influencing Success at Integrating New Technology into SME's, presented by Steven Dore, International Innovation Services