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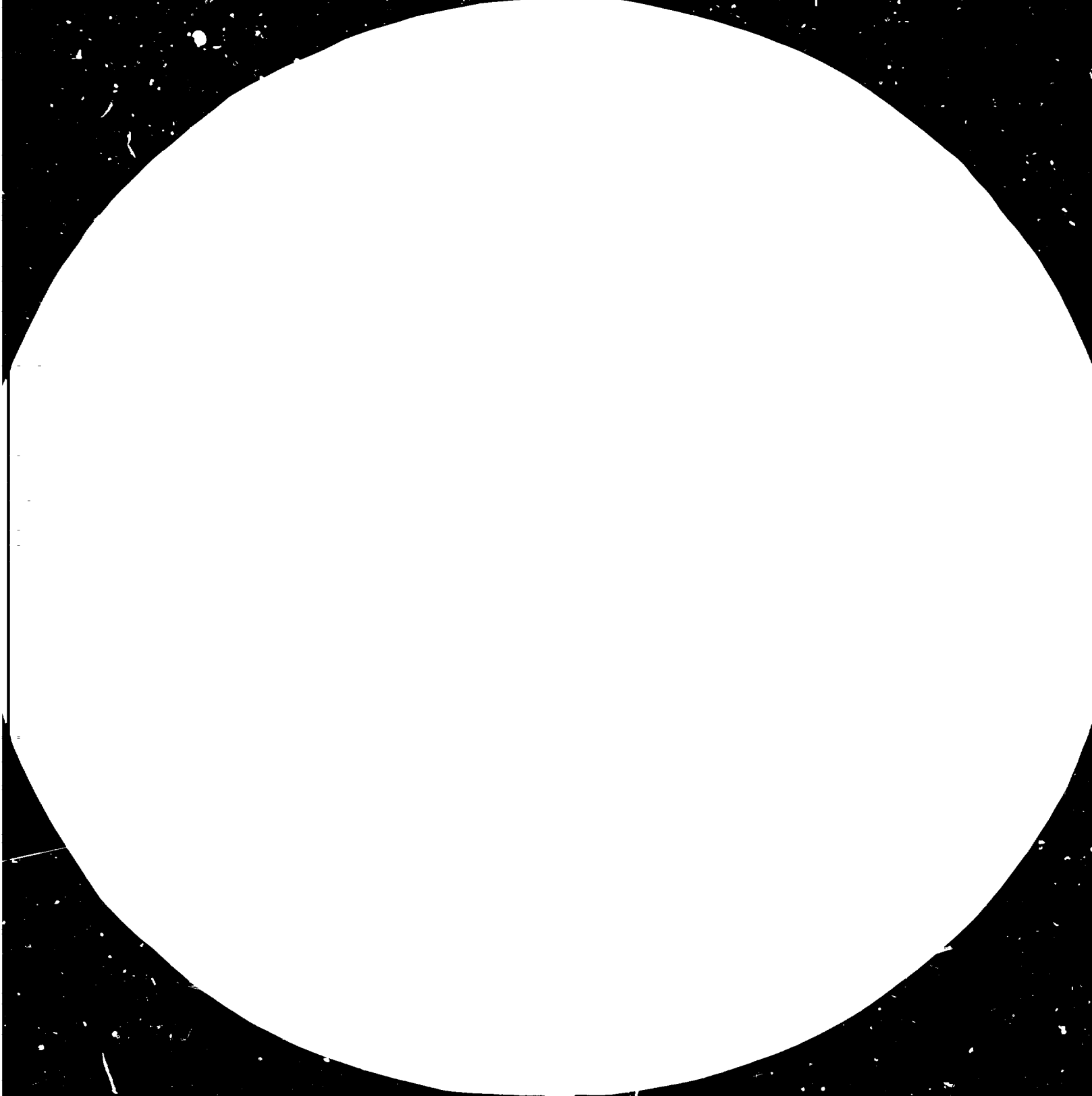
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"The Tenth Round Table of Developing Countries  
Industrial Development and Co-operation among  
Developing Countries from Small-Scale Industry  
to the Transnational Corporations"

Zagreb, Yugoslavia, 15-17 September 1982.

The Special Unit for TCDC of UNDP \*  
and The Potentials of Promoting Industrial Development

By

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\*\* IDC: Institute for Developing Countries.

1. Although the Buenos Aires Plan of Action does not have a specific recommendation to Governments and international organizations on the promotion and implementation of TCDC within the area of industrial development, it does however advocate the undertaking of programmes of action in certain fields including industrialization.

2. Renewed emphasis was given to the possibilities of achieving industrial development through TCDC by the decision 1/8 of the High-level Committee on the Review of TCDC at its first session in 1980. This decision requested the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in co-operation with the competent United Nations organizations, to undertake inter alia, an appropriate study on the role and potential of TCDC in industrial development. In pursuance of this decision, the Special Unit for TCDC of UNDP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) are co-operating in preparing the study for submission to the High-level Committee on the Review of TCDC at its third session in 1983 in New York.

3. The above-mentioned references to the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and the first session of the High-level

Committee have guided the promotional activities of the Special Unit for TCDC in industrial development. Before mentioning these in particular, however, some more general information on the Unit and its activities are provided.

4. The Special Unit for TCDC was created following the UNDP Governing Council's consideration in May 1974 of the report of the Inter-Governmental Working Group on TCDC (DP/69). Staff of the Unit were fully involved in the organization and preparation of the documentation for the regional intergovernmental and preparatory meetings prior to the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries. The Unit supplied the principal substantive and backstopping staff at the Buenos Aires Conference itself in 1978, and was given, in Recommendation 34 of the Plan of Action, major functions for promoting the implementation of TCDC activities.

5. For its work programme, the Unit established 10 goals which include actions such as: undertaking TCDC programmes and activities; serving as secretariat for the High-level Committee on the Review of TCDC; supporting governments in strengthening their institutional and procedural arrangements for undertaking TCDC; mobilizing financial resources for TCDC projects; preparing and implementing training programmes on TCDC; expanding, strengthening and promoting the use of the Information Referral System (INRES); and lending support to public information programmes on TCDC.

6. In brief, the Unit has so far contributed in the financing, from its allocation of UNDP's Special Programme Resources, of some 21 promotional projects of TCDC. These

concern diverse sectors and were undertaken in collaboration with the United Nations specialized agencies and regional commissions. There have been three projects within the area of industry: "Technology for the People (trade fair)", INT/80/902; "Establishment of an investment promotion service in Bahrain", INT/80/903; and "The use of non-metallic minerals in the construction industry" (INT/80/90&).

7. The Unit has also serviced two sessions of the High-level Committee on the Review of TCDC in 1980 and 1981. For the sessions, about 25 studies and reports were prepared on topics ranging from "The promotion of TCDC through the building of new knowledge by women in development in Africa", "TCDC among National Chambers of Commerce (NCCs) of developing countries", to "Administrative, legal and financial arrangements for TCDC". One paper on "Methodologies for promoting horizontal co-operation among developing countries in scientific and technological research" (TCDC/2/12) contains a chapter on industrial research.

8. A training manual with the title "An Introductory Trainer's Guide to TCDC" has been produced and distributed to governments, agencies of the UN system and the resident representatives of UNDP around the world. The Manual is also being used in connection with seminars for senior government officials in the regions. A successful Seminar was held at the end of April 1982 in New Delhi for the Asia and Pacific Region. Preparations are under way for the seminar for the region of Latin America and the Caribbean to be held in March 1983. Seminars for Africa and the Arab States are also scheduled during 1983.

9. In the area of information, preparations are under way for the Information Referral System (INRES) to be greatly expanded and made more effective. The second edition of the Directory of Focal Points for TCDC has been published and widely distributed. It now contains almost complete coverage of the governments of developing countries and additionally the focal points for TCDC within the organizations of the United Nations system. Within public information, the Unit has distributed globally on request information on individual governments' TCDC activities and has continued co-operating with the Division of Public Information of UNDP in the production of the quarterly "TCDC News".

10. In those activities specifically involving industrial development and TCDC, the Special Unit's close working relationship with UNIDO has to be underlined. Apart from the preparation of the study on "The role and potential of TCDC in industrial development" and the three promotional projects mentioned above, the Unit together with the regional bureaux of UNDP has supported and participated with UNIDO in the solidarity meetings of the ministers of industry for co-operation in the industrial development of Haiti, Bangladesh, Sudan and Upper Volta. The Unit sees the solidarity meeting as an excellent vehicle to promote TCDC within projects of mutual advantage and lasting benefit. For TCDC to thrive and last, the parties concerned should recognize each other's potential benefit and strive to bring it about in a lasting way.

11. Finally, with respect to the potential of



promoting industry through TCDC or using TCDC within industrial development programmes, it has already been brought home very clearly in the joint UNDP/UNIDO preparations of the study for the 1983 High-level Committee that the role and potential of TCDC is vast. Activities need not be limited to consultations or feasibility studies or production improvement, nor on training programmes at all levels but can embrace the qualities of sharing, exchanging, reciprocating and contributing in activities of research and development, technology transfer, raw material usage, marketing, production, selling, financing and management. In fact, TCDC can be used in most aspects of industrial development for the mutual and lasting benefit of all parties. UNDP with its Special Unit for TCDC is ready to co-operate, on request, in working with Governments to implement their initiatives in the important area of industrial development.



