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**An Inventory of possible post-conflict
peace-building activities:**

UNIDO's Response

This document is a specific response to the 'Inventory of possible post-conflict peace building activities' and therefore rigidly follows the format of that document in order to facilitate easy identification of areas specified in the 'Inventory' in which UNIDO could be active.

*UNIDO CSPD/EUR
December 1995*

Revision 5

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The 'An Inventory of possible Post Conflict Peace Building Activities', prepared by the Task Force on Post Conflict Peace-Building presents a preliminary catalogue of activities that need to be considered in efforts to build and sustain peace in a region after conflict. This document responds specifically to the items mentioned in that document and aims to highlight those areas identified in the 'Inventory' in which UNIDO could play a role. Clearly many of UNIDO's priority areas of activity are only partially reflected in this document, since they achieve their full importance only at a later stage in the transition to sustained socio-economic development.

The basic premise underlying the role of UNIDO in post conflict peace building activities is that the reconstruction of industry and of the economy in general must begin as soon as possible after hostilities have ceased and peace is secured, in order that the area can regain some semblance of normality at the earliest stage, and attain a momentum whereby self regeneration is triggered. To this end UNIDO's role in the post-conflict reconstruction stage is relevant and important, and its continued assistance will lead the way to industrial and economic stability, which in turn will lay the basis for the pursuance of long-term sustained socio-economic development.

This document replies specifically to areas identified in the 'Inventory'. For a full appreciation of UNIDO's role in post-conflict peace building and reconstruction and restructuring, the document '*A proposal for a UNIDO inter-agency programme of technical cooperation*' prepared for the International Colloquium on post-conflict reconstruction strategies on 23-24 June 1995, and revised on 20 December 1995, should be considered as an essential companion paper to the present document.

I

RELIEF AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN THE POST-CONFLICT CONTEXT

a. POST- CONFLICT FOOD AID

UNIDO can play an important role in the area of food aid through its involvement in agro-based industries in general and in food production capacities in particular. Expertise in these areas puts UNIDO in a position to:

- rehabilitate food production capacities damaged by the conflict;
- ensure building reconstruction and repair of machinery, whilst at the same time taking the opportunity to improve efficiency and introduce a higher level of environmental sustainability through the introduction of improved technology;
- advise on and assist in the use of ecologically sound fertilizers and pesticides and making these available;
- make available fertilizers and pesticides that are also environmentally acceptable and user friendly;
- instruct on and assist in the adaptation of process and packaging techniques and technologies to extend the shelf life of the food products; and

- introduce some level of quality control to ensure a certain level of nutritional content of food produced and reduced wastage.

At the same time as rehabilitating food production, it is necessary to ensure that what resources are available are efficiently used. To this end, UNIDO can foster the development of local human resources in areas such as management of natural agricultural resources and systems and waste reduction and recycling techniques, enhancing the basis for further development of small rural agro-enterprises.

Even though it is not a humanitarian organization, it is important that UNIDO be involved from the beginning to some degree in discussions as to the provision of emergency food so as to avoid policies which could later lead to difficulties in the development of this industry. The successful establishment (as a basis for further growth) of any type of food production industry in the immediate post emergency situation will depend heavily upon the nature, degree, timing and efficiency of post-conflict emergency assistance, with which a natural integration and continuity must be achieved. More generally, UNIDO has an important interest in, and is influenced by, the post-conflict emergency activities which set the ground upon which the basis of economy and industry is to be rebuilt. To smooth over the transition from post-conflict emergency and humanitarian assistance to recovery and development, and to ensure that the earlier activities will support the later development to the greatest extent, it is important that UNIDO be involved at early stages.

UNIDO could act to:

- assimilate information as to the steps to be taken;
- assist in decision making; and
- offer advice where steps taken in earlier stages also prepare the ground for later action (when UNIDO becomes fully operational).

UNIDO would also welcome cooperation and close work with other organisations in these discussions and operations so that provision of relief is efficient and effective.

b. POTABLE WATER AND SANITATION

In conflict situations the water supplies are often contaminated such that they cannot support life and/or are no longer potable. Since conflict occurs in industrial regions as much as in rural areas, contamination may be a result of bad sanitation or industrial chemical leakage due to broken pipes or destroyed storage facilities and industrial plants. With respect to this problem, UNIDO's role lies particularly in the field of industrial pollution. Here its experience and expertise in the environmental aspects of chemical industries means it can offer invaluable assistance, training and advice in, among others, the following fields to help restore potable water:

- reduction/elimination of poisonous waste;
- treatment of industrial waste waters; and
- waste conditioning procedures including safe handling and disposal of toxic and hazardous waste.

- design and development of programmes for the decontamination of soil and waters, and assistance in their implementation; and
- rehabilitation of existing sewage treatment systems and facilities.

UNIDO's technical knowledge in industrial safety and technical services means it can also offer assistance in:

- surveying towns and cities to assess total requirements and assisting in feasibility studies;
- monitoring contamination;
- repairing pipelines and cleansing/detoxifying systems;
- introducing maintenance procedures in the clean up process;
- designing and implementing training programmes in maintenance, monitoring waste and hazardous waste management; and
- providing on-site chlorine generating units placed in key establishments.

UNIDO's expertise in building and construction might also be employed in the construction of new wells, reservoirs and systems, where possible, using locally available material to fulfill the new needs, and in the revival and use of the local water-purification related industry, where it has not totally been destroyed. This would also assist the development of the local community by providing some employment and helping enterprises to start-up or re-start. In some of the above mentioned cases, the cooperation with other agencies might be necessary to undertake these activities.

c. HEALTH

UNIDO can play an essential role in basic life-saving activities. Through the establishment and rehabilitation of water purification and decontamination plants, and the provision of purification units, potable safe water can be made available.

Enabling the food processing industry to provide good quality, nutritional food to their customers is another way in which UNIDO can assist in enhancing the quality of health care as part of their post-conflict peace-building activities. An example for a UNIDO project of this kind is the assistance to a bakery complex in the production of nutrient and vitamin enriched breads and biscuits. With the help of UNIDO, the development and strengthening of those food-related sub-sectors, which cater for the most urgent needs of the community they serve, can be encouraged. UNIDO further focuses on the adaptation of standard production and processing procedures as well as on quality assurance and quality control systems, all of which are of major importance with regard to ensuring food safety.

UNIDO is also able to help in the repair and construction of hospitals, laboratories and health care centres, by ensuring that local enterprises, e.g. in the building materials sub-sector, are in a position to assist in these activities. Furthermore, the Organisation plays an important role in providing aid and assistance to ensure that emergency health-care drugs - e.g., large volume parenterals (infusion solutions), vaccines, blood products etc. - are readily available in sufficient quantities. This is done by:

- giving advice and assistance in rehabilitation and repair of the pharmaceutical industry;
- conducting training in repairs and skills needed;
- assisting in supply of necessary equipment and parts, and
- supporting in the provision of basic health care items by rehabilitating the manufacturing health industry to restore home production of basic items e.g. syringes, bandages etc.

In these two industries, pharmaceutical and manufacturing of health care items, UNIDO is active in rehabilitating and repairing factories, and establishing start-ups in areas of particular need, and giving on-site training, particularly in places difficult to access. In this way a local supply of essential health care items and drugs can be established, and the economic development of the area assisted.

d. SECURING FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Based on its pre-conflict knowledge of the state of the region in question as well as its analysis of the current situation in the country (including programming briefs and country industrial support strategies), UNIDO is well positioned to determine and prioritize sectors and subsectors in need of assistance, and to prepare, with the Governments concerned, the appropriate response package.

With regard to the industrial activity and development of an area, drawing on its experience and expertise, UNIDO:

- carries out assessment missions to identify and prioritise needs, and offers assistance and advice in this field;
- develops the corresponding technical cooperation programmes designed to deliver the services necessary to meet these needs and priorities; and
- enters into partnerships with development finance institutions, governmental agencies and NGOs, public and private manufacturing plants and industrial associations, under its mandate to finance or implement these programmes.

Consequently UNIDO has considerable experience from which to draw in preparing and issuing, in consultation with the relevant parties, interagency appeals concerning the industrial sectors, to propose integrated operational plans within its sector of responsibility.

II

DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION AND REINTEGRATION

a. DISARMAMENT AND DEMOBILISATION

UNIDO can provide valuable assistance toward disarmament and demobilisation through the development of human resources, and also with regard to the integration of

women in industry. This training would be continued after demobilisation and may also be put to direct use in restarting basic industries and the initiation of particular industrial subsectors. Cooperation would also include:

- specific human resource development programmes in sectors sub-sectors that call for specific types of management skills for both private and public sectors;
- training skills to assess small and medium-scale enterprise start up;
- training for on-the-job skill enhancement;
- training of trainers attention focused on local resources, advantages, demand, projected growth and the need to achieve. Where possible, training will also incorporate the use of new technology and teach a heightened environmental awareness and approach in all industrial sectors;
- development of training institutions; and
- the integration of women into the industrial sector.

b. REINTEGRATION OF EX-COMBATANTS, REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS

UNIDO's part in the reintegration of ex-combatants, refugees and displaced persons is key in the initiation/ re-commencement of industrial activity. Involvement in early stages of emergency measure taking, as already indicated, is essential in providing the link to post-conflict reconstruction and development. For example, where emergency aid focuses on specific target groups these groups could then be encouraged and assisted to develop to form an industrial basis from which further economic growth can stem. With reference to reintegration of persons concerned, UNIDO can:

- provide basic tools and construction materials, both for emergency work and as part of a start-up kit for industrial development e.g. kits to construct prefabricated timber buildings or repairs of damaged houses;
- provide training in the use of tools and equipment provided; and
- implement quick impact micro-projects for specific needs, which could later develop into small-enterprises.

Through the experience and expertise of UNIDO's human resources development, the Organisation is able to assist in designing and implementing vocational training programmes to assist in the reintegration of refugees, displaced persons and ex-combatants, and to build on and develop the knowledge and skills of these people for productive (industrial) application. UNIDO can also provide assistance in establishing institutional frameworks which guide an area to industrialization and stability. Specifically, UNIDO's ability to assist in mobilising resources for SME start-up and growth, and its experience in the establishment of an institutional environment within which this may be encouraged, is invaluable, as too is the technological support which UNIDO traditionally gives. Moreover these activities also bring with them much needed jobs vital not only to the reintegration of persons but also to creating an essence of normality.

After training UNIDO continues to support and assist the ex-combatants, refugees and displaced persons by establishing business incubators. These centres enable them to establish small enterprises and carry out entrepreneurial activities in a common environment. By

providing common facilities and siting they can learn from each other and enjoy economies of sharing and scale. At the same time a signal of progress and normality is generated which may have a reassuring effect on the local population.

UNIDO also offers assistance in rural development, targeted at enhancing the integration of rural population groups alleviating poverty in these areas, increasing food security, strengthening local essential industry (e.g. agro and construction) and reducing the migration to, and thereby stresses on, urban areas. In this respect UNIDO has experience to:

- advise on the development of concepts and policy approaches;
- provide assistance in the development of a strong supportive infrastructure; and
- identify specific opportunities for rural development, advise and offer tailor-made training activities.

For the successful reintegration of displaced persons and to adequately provide for the basic needs of the local population, it is essential to ensure the provision of adequate shelter and housing. Since major armed conflicts invariably have a devastating effect on buildings as well as physical infrastructure, this step requires the repair or reconstruction of permanent housing.

UNIDO could assist by:

- providing prefabricated building kits for rapid shelter and community buildings, and by giving training in relevant construction techniques;
- identifying key production facilities over a full range of building materials (e.g. sawmills, brick and tile plants to cement and glass factories), and being instrumental in the rehabilitation and start-up of these;
- making use, wherever possible, of local materials and human resources, so as to best exploit labour intensive activities in the provision of employment and the further development of the area;
- offering training in construction techniques and in the range and suitability of various construction materials; and
- arranging for materials and energy where the industry is not operable/sustainable based on locally available inputs, until these items can be locally provided, or an infrastructure has been developed which can support their provision from elsewhere.

The restoration and reconstruction of housing is not only important in allowing displaced persons to return to their homes and the resumption of normal life, but also emits a visible and positive message as to the commitment of the local authorities to speed up the return to normality. Construction also helps to unite the community in the erection of buildings for common use.

c. WOMEN

Within UNIDO, a specific unit exists which focuses on the role of women in industrial development. This role is crucial during the post conflict period when the traditional workforce is of reduced capacity and ability. The unit operates by:

- promoting projects and policies ensuring women's participation in industry;
- advising on policy development; and
- monitoring and evaluating development in this area.

In this respect UNIDO's experience is indispensable and should be fully exploited during post-conflict reconstruction.

In the post-emergency phase a long-term consideration, in certain cases, is the education of women. It is necessary to concentrate on reducing the education gap between men and women, improvements of which will then be reflected in the role of women in industry and the economy later on.

In addition to dealing with the gender issues arising in longer term integration into the development process, this unit, with others, provides training and assistance for women to gain basic employment skills and create useful products that will enable them to fulfil a breadwinning role e.g. for survival where the major bread winner can no longer provide. The training would also teach the skills of trade and those needed for basic micro and small-scale industry and agro-industry. It endeavours to enable women at a later stage to establish some sort of industrial activity and economic activity. In the post-conflict situation this increases the size of capable labour force and economic output and thus puts the region on its road to recovery. In facilitating such steps of integration, part of UNIDO's method is to ensure the products are marketable and that a market for the products does in fact exist.

UNIDO would also recommend the introduction of social services to support the provision, implementation and effectiveness of plans as outlined above and to counsel management the need for social services in the integration of women.

The process, however, does not stop here. It is important to link this local activity for area start-up survival with the mainstream economic activities in order to achieve a sustainable improved situation and a basis for growth. UNIDO's task in assisting development and programmes and plans for industrialisation, puts it in prime position to foster local growth with training etc. as mentioned above. It also enables the Organisation to identify key commonalities and congruences with the mainstream economy in order to key the former invisibly into the latter. The expertise commanded by UNIDO also means that it can facilitate and provide expertise and instruction for carrying out this link-up, to conceive a unified system bearing further economic and industrial development.

d. CHILDREN AND MINORS

With regard to the consequences of war on children and minors, UNIDO has a role to play in the following areas:

- reconstruction, repair and refurbishing of schools and community buildings, through involvement of local industry and products e.g. carpenters, plasterers or local labour in construction, thereby maximising use of local resources and stimulating industrial and economic development in the area and boosting job creation; and

- providing training and assistance to single mothers and displaced mothers with children, to enable them to develop income producing activities e.g. through small scale enterprises and marketing assistance, etc. and possibly to support those through the arrangement of small scale loans .

e. PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

UNIDO can assist in the reintegration of disabled war victims by offering help in establishing the production of technical aids and prostheses, and by providing training in these areas. Potential activities in this respect might include the local industrial production of wheel chairs, crutches, and prostheses. It also falls within UNIDO's mandate to encourage and assist in the transfer of technology for the purposes of developing such industrially produced technical aids. The production of technological aids and prostheses is one catalyst to the strengthening of industry and a basis for economic development by the provision of employment, the generation of income, and by improving the situation of disabled individuals giving them a chance to rebuild their lives and take part in economic activities.

UNIDO can also:

- provide advice and assistance in adapting industrial processes for the production of transport vehicles for use by the disabled; and
- provide advice, assistance and training in house construction work for buildings suitable for access to and use by the disabled.

Adaption of vehicles and buildings in this way would facilitate daily activities of the disabled and, even more importantly, assist them to become productive members of the industrial workforce.

Through human resource development UNIDO also has a role to play in helping to adapt learning systems to integrate special and marginalized population groups, including people with disabilities. This activity might be carried out in conjunction with the establishment of skill training institutions for general and specialised industrial training.

III

ENHANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND BUILDING OF PARTICIPATORY SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT AT ALL LEVELS

a. BUILDING OR STRENGTHENING A PARTICIPATORY SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT AT ALL LEVELS

UNIDO's potential contribution and activity in this area of 'promoting the participation and integration into the community' concerns the need to develop measures to permit the full participation of minority and disadvantaged groups and their members in the development of their country

UNIDO's main activities and contributions in this respect lie in promoting the participation of disadvantaged groups in the mainstream industrial, technological and economic development of their country. This is done by providing training and technological support to small enterprises among such groups in less developed areas. In this way the disadvantaged groups not only develop the skills, to be employed and integrated into the workforce, but also acquire management skills to establish and effectively run small and medium-scale enterprises. These must interact, upstream and/or downstream, with other market participants in the country. In this manner the groups whilst contributing to the economic and industrial development of their country, are at the same time integrating into the larger economic community.

IV

REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION

i. ENERGY

Energy is another sector which is not only important during the provision of emergency services, but also critical from the earliest stage in the development of industry as a prerequisite for industrial development. As such the energy sector acts as an important link between the provision of emergency services and the establishment of basic industry.

UNIDO should be involved at the initial stage since it commands the expertise to make the energy plant operational once again by offering assistance in:

- assessing damage;
- carrying out repair, rehabilitation and maintenance of a plant; and
- establishing training programmes to train both trainers and management in maintenance, repair and general day-to-day operation, thereby developing a working group that is able to ensure continued operation of the plant without the need for the continued presence of aid bodies.

Concerning renewable energy resources, UNIDO offers:

- advice and assistance to governments and ministries at the policy and institutional level, and in the preparation of programmes for the introduction of alternative energy power based on its knowledge of and technical expertise in this area; and
- assistance in the establishment, construction and running of such enterprises.

ii. ENVIRONMENT

Environmental damage of land and water, due to chemical pollution and other industrial leakages, makes the land unfit for farming and the water unpotable, thereby destroying a vital element which supports the local population. Air pollution, e.g. from industrial hydrocarbons etc. exaggerates health and breathing problems with long term effects.

The carnage of abandoned and gutted vehicles, destroyed buildings and rubble clutter the countryside, makes the use of agro-machinery dangerous and difficult and is hazardous to human and animal life.

In order to restore normality, avoid the development of chronic problems and alleviate related illnesses, it is important to act as soon as possible in repairing this damage. To this end UNIDO's expertise and experience is invaluable in providing advice and assistance in the areas of:

- damage and needs assessment;
- ground and water treatment to remove chemical and industrial pollutants, such that water is potable and the land can be used for agriculture/farming thus restoring use of these basic resources to the local population (re water, see also part Ib);
- hazardous waste removal and its transport for treatment, disposal, and instruction in controlled dumping;
- the establishment of a programme of public awareness of environmental issues and related health problems;
- clean-up operations to remove waste from land, including recycling waste (e.g. use of rubble to produce aggregate for building; salvaging reusable components from abandoned destroyed vehicles and buildings for re-use as essential spare parts; and establishing local facilities for general removal, processing and recycling of urban waste). This step would involve the local population and in some cases the establishment of start-ups of small enterprises which would be equally necessary in the later stages of industrial development e.g. waste recycling and disposal units, and
- arresting of industrial atmospheric pollution especially caused by burning vehicles and chemical processing/storage facilities and the safe disposal of remaining waste;

In the second phase of environmental assistance, as soon as start-ups appear and focus turns from emergency relief to fostering development of basic industry, UNIDO offers assistance and advice in the following areas:

- the introduction of cleaner technology, where new machinery is needed;
- the use of energy and resource saving technology and techniques, waste recycling techniques and the optimal use of by-products; and
- training in monitoring, control management, repair and maintenance techniques, and safe and clean waste recycling and disposal.

iii. INFRASTRUCTURE

It is clearly essential to a country that it be brought back to some semblance of normality as soon as possible in the post-conflict period. This will involve (re-)establishing a vital infrastructure as fast as possible and re-establishing the main revenue-earning capabilities of the region or country involved. Since UNIDO's task of developing industry in the region is heavily dependent upon the strength of infrastructure support, it can offer

expertise and guidance in re-establishing essential infrastructure which is not only suitable for the immediate post conflict period, but also forms a good basis from which further industrial development can evolve at a later date.

iv. INDUSTRIAL SUBSECTORS

While UNIDO's mandate concerns all of the manufacturing section, 32 of the 77 industrial subsectors are considered as priority sectors in UNIDO's work, and it is here that UNIDO would concentrate. A large number of these priority subsectors are of direct relevance to the process of industrial reconstruction following an emergency situation. These would include: food processing, textiles; wood and wood processing; metal working and machine tools; and biotechnology, water management and building materials.

B INTER-STATE JOINT VENTURES FOR PEACE-BUILDING

UNIDO's original purpose is to assist in the formulation of development, scientific and technological programmes and plans for industrialization in the public, private and cooperative sectors. To this end, activities include encouraging and promoting joint ventures, technology transfer and information exchange etc. In the immediate post conflict period, such tools are also useful in establishing inter-state undertakings which contribute not only to economic development but also provide a platform which brings and binds the parties of the conflict closer together and requires a degree of interaction (at the worst acquiescence) in a non-hostile manner.

Thus, in this aspect, UNIDO has an important part to play, based on its skills and experience, in encouraging inter-state undertakings (from the industrial and technological point of view) by :

- establishing procedures for harmonization and coordination of policies in environmental and technological fields;
- setting up an information exchange system on technical capabilities and training programmes (industrial and technological); and
- setting up common marketing services to support marketing of products in the regions encouraging technology transfer and joint ventures for mutual industrial and economic development, and build-operate-transfer schemes.

Conclusion: UNIDO's role

UNIDO's main role in the process of assisting societies to move from a post-crisis situation to sustained socio-economic development lies traditionally in the reconstruction and restructuring phase. However, a cardinal principle of UNIDO's approach to post-emergency assistance is that its activities do not begin here, but, rather that they grow out of upstream emergency aid activities and provide an essential link between emergency assistance and reconstruction and development during the post-conflict period. UNIDO achieves this by offering a path by which the burden on humanitarian assistance, as provider to the basic human needs of food, water, heat, shelter and health, can be gradually alleviated, through the revival and restoration of specific industries and industrial sectors to feed these needs i.e. *energy* for warmth; *construction* for shelter and housing; *water treatment* and detoxification for safe, healthy water; *farming, agro and agro-processing* to provide basics for clothing and nourishment in a form also suitable for distribution; and *pharmaceuticals* for emergency drugs and essential basic health care items and provision of relevant training and technical advice.

These specific industries are unique in that they have a dual role to play. On the one hand they are able to meet basic human needs, thus relieving reliance on emergency aid whilst presenting some industrial rehabilitation. On the other hand these industries are important for industrial development and restoration, and the movement towards sustainable development, in providing some of the basic elements necessary for industry to function and grow i.e. *energy* - a basic necessity without which much of industry ceases to function; *construction* - repair war damage, and rehabilitate and reconstruct industry; *water* - essential for certain industries e.g. textiles, ore processing, chemical etc. and the establishment of water treatment, detoxification etc. programmes ensure reduced environmental impact; *farming, agro and agro-processing* - basic industry around which many subsectors evolve and on which some are dependent e.g. packaging, transport and distribution, sales, leather and leather products, textiles and clothing; and *pharmaceuticals* to provide necessary materials to other chemical, pharmaceutical and agro-chemical industries as well as attracting and generating dependent industries.

As a consequence of all this UNIDO's involvement in post-conflict peace building activities is necessary right from the beginning, not only to ensure that proper foundations are laid for later work in reconstruction and restructuring thereby, through inter-agency action, to increase efficiency and effectiveness of aid administered. UNIDO's involvement also facilitates the transition from reliance upon post-emergency assistance to economic and industrial recovery by increasing the capacity and capability for self-help and so to release funds tied up in humanitarian assistance for use in financial assistance and eventually in investment in the long-term industrial base of the country. In such a process essential jobs are created, thereby strengthening local self esteem and providing some indication of movement towards normality.

Through advice, assistance and instruction in the areas of reconstruction and restructuring to recipient countries, regions and industrial enterprises, UNIDO covers the whole industrial sector, while focusing on the concept of adding value. Through such

actions UNIDO catalyses and nurtures further development and improvement in the state of a country's industrial sector with respect to an environmentally sustainable economic development. Thus the country is brought closer to achieving a healthy, and self-perpetuating economic and industrial level.