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UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Report of the Executive Director

1. The Industrial Development Board, by resolution 33 (VI) of 2 June 1972, requested the Executive Director of UNIDO to take all the necessary measures for the preparation of the Second General Conference of UNIDO and to report thereon to the Industrial Development Board at its seventh session. Subsequently, the General Assembly, in resolution 2952 (XXVII) of 11 December 1972, requested the Industrial Development Board and the Executive Director of UNIDO to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress of the preparatory work for the Conference.
2. In accordance with the above-mentioned resolutions, the Executive Director of UNIDO submitted a note (ID/B/C.3/L.2) to the Permanent Committee at its first session in December 1972 on the actions initiated by him for the preparation of the Second General Conference. The Permanent Committee took note of the information contained in that document and requested the Executive Director to prepare the necessary documentation for consideration of the item at the second session of the Permanent Committee in April 1973 as a basis for appropriate recommendations to the Industrial Development Board at its seventh session, in May 1973 (see ID/B/121, para. 56).
3. In a document on the Second General Conference of UNIDO (ID/B/128), the Executive Director outlined certain proposals with regard to the preparation of the provisional agenda, the date, place and preparatory arrangements, and, in amplification of item 6 of the provisional agenda, gave a brief survey of selected topics of industrialization of the developing countries. It was emphasized that the proposals contained in the document were tentative and subject to further elaboration by the Permanent Committee and the Industrial Development Board, when fulfilling the functions of a preparatory committee for the Conference in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 2952 (XXVII) of 11 December 1972.

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4. At its second session, however, the Permanent Committee decided that the subject of the Second General Conference of UNIDO should, appropriately, be discussed by the Industrial Development Board at its seventh session.

5. After reviewing the modalities of the preparations for the Second General Conference of UNIDO, the Industrial Development Board, at its seventh session, decided to recommend that the General Assembly accept the invitation from the Government of Peru to hold the Conference at Lima from 12 to 26 March 1975, and that it approve the provisional agenda of the Conference (see ID/B/L.115/Add.2, para. 15). The Permanent Committee and the Board did not act formally as a preparatory committee and the Board decided to include an item on that subject in the agenda of the third and fourth sessions of the Permanent Committee, scheduled to be held in December 1973 and April 1974 respectively, and also in the agenda of the eighth session of the Board, scheduled to be held in 1974.

6. In accordance with Industrial Development Board resolution 33 (VI), and with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2952 (XXVII), the Executive Director of UNIDO has initiated preliminary consultations with a number of experts and organizations within and outside the United Nations system, and with advisory bodies of the United Nations, with regard to preparations for the Conference. Specifically, UNIDO has initiated preliminary action for studies on a number of topics which are to form the basis of the documentation for the Conference. The Committee for Development Planning has agreed to hold its next session at Vienna in March 1974 to deal specifically with the basic policies and issues of industrialization of the developing countries. UNIDO has also consulted the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development and has invited it to devote special attention to the problems of adaptation and transfer of industrial technology to suit the requirements of the developing countries. Similarly, action has been initiated by UNIDO to place on the agenda of the Second General Conference of African Ministers of Industry, to be held at Cairo in November 1973, and on the agenda of the Meeting of the Ministers of Industry of the Arab States, to be held at Tripoli in early 1974, an item relating to the Second General Conference of UNIDO.

7. UNIDO has further discussed in a preliminary way contributions to be made by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Development Centre of the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development and other agencies to the preparation of the Conference.
