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ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Note by the Secretary-General

ADDENDUM

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Members of the General Assembly the enclosed communication, dated 3 December 1966, from the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations.

PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the "Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the United Nations Organization for Industrial Development" (UNIDO) (item 41 (b) on the agenda of the General Assembly at its present session).

With regard to the decision of the General Assembly to set 5 December 1966 as the deadline for submitting additional information concerning the facilities which the host countries would place at the disposal of UNIDO, the Permanent Representative of Greece attaches herewith a list of the facilities and additional information concerning the offer of the Greek Government which was circulated as an official document of the General Assembly (A/6473).

The Permanent Representative of Greece avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General the assurances of his highest consideration.

3 December 1966

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE OFFER OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT
TO ESTABLISH THE PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS OF UNIDO AT ATHENS

The Government of Greece has invited the United Nations to establish the permanent headquarters of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) at Athens. As explained in the letter of the Permanent Representative of Greece to the Secretary-General dated 6 October 1966 (A/6473), Greece, as a developing country which is at the crossroads of Europe, Asia and Africa, considers that Athens would constitute a most suitable site for the establishment of this important new agency.

Conference and meeting facilities

(a) Temporary

The Greek Government will place immediately at the disposal of UNIDO suitable buildings for the temporary housing of the organization, i.e., both for the secretariat and for conferences. The cost of occupying these temporary headquarters will be borne entirely by the Greek authorities. The buildings in question could be equipped with all modern facilities necessary for the efficient functioning of UNIDO, i.e., simultaneous interpretation in the working languages of the United Nations, an adequate system of telecommunications, etc., etc.

(b) Permanent

For the permanent housing of the organization, the Greek Government has chosen, instead of adapting available buildings, to place at the disposal of the United Nations a suitable lot of land in Athens in which the permanent headquarters are to be erected. All construction costs are to be borne by the Greek Government. Construction is to be carried out in accordance with plans and specifications of the United Nations. This will ensure maximum satisfaction of the requirements of the new organization. For the occupation of the premises UNIDO will have to bear no other cost apart from a token annual rent, to be agreed upon between the Greek Government and the United Nations.

Telecommunications

The UNIDO building will be provided with international telephone, telegraph and other appropriate telecommunication facilities.

Immunities and privileges

The Greek Government is willing to grant UNIDO and its international staff immunities and privileges similar to those granted in other States where United Nations agencies and services are already established.

Staff

Staff able to satisfy the requirements of the organization can be recruited locally with no difficulty.

Housing and hotel facilities

Athens, as a well-known international tourist centre is well provided with modern hotels of all categories.

The price of a single room with breakfast in a luxury hotel varies between \$9.00 and \$12.00, while the price of first-class hotels is between \$6.00 and \$8.00 per day.

Many other good hotels and boarding houses offer single rooms at prices ranging from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per day.

Because of a construction boom in the Athens area during the last few years, there are many newly built apartments and single houses available for rent at moderate prices (\$75.00 and up for a two-bedroom flat).

Living conditions

(a) Education

Athens has a number of schools where primary and secondary education is provided in English, French, Italian and German. (Athens College, American College for Girls, Lycée Français, Institut Français, German School of Athens, etc.) Kindergartens and nurseries are also available. In addition, there are many institutions providing instruction at the university level and numerous libraries and research centres.

(b) Medical facilities

Athens enjoys a high standard of medical facilities, including modern hospitals and numerous clinics served by competent and well-trained medical staff.

(c) Recreational facilities

Athens is an ideal vacation spot offering the advantage of being close to both the sea and the mountains. Almost every sport ranging from skiing, golfing and riding to sailing, swimming and fishing can be indulged in within a radius of twenty miles from the centre of the city.

Beaches at a distance of a few miles from Athens are open from May to October. Yachting facilities are provided at little harbours in the vicinity of Athens. Hydrofoil communications link Athens with many nearby islands.

(d) Cultural facilities

Athens has become a centre of major international theatrical, artistic, musical and sporting events, in addition to being the richest country in the world in classical archaeological sites and monuments, most of them near Athens, some of which are used for open-air theatrical performances even today (Theatre of Herod Atticus at the foot of the Acropolis, Epidaurus Theatre with the most perfect acoustics in the world, Theatre of Delphi and others).

Cost of living

According to the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics of the United Nations, the cost-of-living index for Athens is 87 taking as a basis 100 for New York.

Climate

The climate of Athens is temperate, dry and pleasant, with well over 300 sunny days in a year. The mean temperature for the month of January is about 10°C (50 Fahrenheit) and for the month of July about 27°C (80 Fahrenheit).

International transport facilities

Because of its geographical location, Athens is at the crossroads of communications between Europe, Asia, and Africa. The Athens airport, with regular scheduled flights to all parts of the world, is served by all major international airlines (with the exception of Pan American). Among other airlines directly serving Athens are the United Arab Airlines, the Middle East Airlines, the Ethiopian Airlines, the Sudan Airways, Sabena, the Yugoslavian Airlines, the Polish Airlines and El-Al.
