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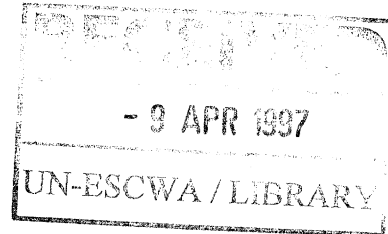
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Summary

Country Paper of the State of Bahrain

for

The United Nations

Conference on Science and Technology for Development

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Bahrain, like other developing countries, is striving to develop its society and to raise the standard of living of its people through the adoption of development plans and projects. The key to the achievement of this objective lies, no doubt, in the employment of modern science and technology and in their application in favour of ever more effective and speedier results.

The development plans of Bahrain have utilized modern technology in all sectors, including the area of research and experimentation. This has accelerated the development of the society's infrastructure, as witnessed by the rapid progress achieved in the short space of less than one decade.

In this brief summary, it is not possible to do more than list a number of the areas in the successful results of whose projects modern science and technology played a significant part.

#### 1. Education and training

The history of public education in Bahrain goes back to 1919 when the first formal school was opened. Thereafter, schools were constructed one after the other to meet the needs of all the population of Bahrain, who became aware of the importance of education to the construction of a better society. The State constructed a large number of modern schools in which the considerations of learning motivation and facility were incorporated. In addition, the State introduced modern curricula and opened colleges and institutes of higher education to prepare the country's youth for scientific occupations. These institutions include Gulf Vocational College and, as of this year, the College of Arts and Sciences.

#### 2. Natural resources and energy

Even though the gradual depletion of petroleum has an adverse effect on the country's economy, it is one of the factors that have prompted the authorities to search for alternate sources of energy. The National Oil Company of Bahrain has undertaken extensive research in the areas of solar energy, the conservation of energy and the reclamation of wasted energy. In fact, at present the first associated gas plant is being completed.

3. Health and the environment

The importance of this sector is reflected in the amount of attention and interest it has received from the Government. This is clear from the rapid progress that has been achieved. At the beginning of the Century, health care was limited to one small unit. Today, the Salmaniya Medical Centre, which serves the entire population, is equipped with the latest in medical equipment and machinery. Statistics, too, reveal the extent of progress in this field. The number of nationals working in the field of health, for example, has increased. The Health Sciences College has played a major role in training a large number of Bahraini nationals in the technical aspects of the health field, thus permitting the country to meet its needs in technical personnel locally in the near future.

4. Agriculture

Agriculture has taken a number of great strides forward through the utilization of modern technology in the mechanization of agriculture and the introduction of other modern developments and equipment in the areas of plant production, pest control, soil and water study, livestock production and fish resources.

5. Industry

One of the major results of the policy of diversifying the sources of national income is the orientation towards industrialization and the policy of encouraging industry in the private sector. The Government has offered a variety of incentives to attract capital to this area and began to use its natural wealth for the construction of an industrial base.

