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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Thirty-ninth session, second part

Geneva, 15 March 1993

Item 11 (b) of the provisional agenda

DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL  
ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF RULE 77 OF THE  
RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE BOARD

Application by the International Primary  
Aluminium Institute

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from the Secretary General of the International Primary Aluminium Institute (IPAI), requesting the inclusion of that organization by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the Board's rules of procedure.
2. Having reviewed the information provided, the secretariat is of the opinion that, subject to the concurrence of the Bureau of the Trade and Development Board, the International Primary Aluminium Institute may be classified in the Special Category under the provision of paragraph 12 (b) of Board decision 43 (VII).
3. The Board may wish to take action on the above-mentioned application at its current session in the light of the recommendation of the Bureau.
4. Some information regarding IPAI is annexed.

This document is at this stage intended for the information of States members of UNCTAD and its distribution is, therefore, restricted for their exclusive use. It is proposed to de-restrict the document in due course.

## Annex

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY ALUMINIUM INSTITUTE

#### History

1. The International Primary Aluminium Institute (IPAI) was founded in April 1972 as an international association of companies engaged in the production of primary aluminium.

#### Aims and objectives

2. The aims of the Institute are to : promote understanding of the world's aluminium industry and broader use of its products, collect and publish statistical information relating to the industry; study energy, environmental, health and safety and other problems of concern to the industry; and, provide a forum for discussion of developments affecting the industry. The essential method of operation of the Institute is to concentrate on a limited number of activities that are of international importance and to publish the outcome so that all members and the interested public may be fully informed of such studies. Specific activities of the Institute comprise the collection and aggregation of statistical information by appropriate geographical areas. The purpose of aggregation by broad geographical areas is to ensure that the identity and performance of individual plants, companies and countries is lost within total figures. The IPAI statistical system, developed at the request of the Board of Directors by the Statistics Committee in association with the secretariat, is based on the concept of full participation in the various statistical series so that the need for any estimates is eliminated.

#### Membership

3. Membership of IPAI is open to bodies corporate which are engaged in the production of primary aluminium. There are currently 37 member companies in the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Venezuela.

#### Structure

4. The Board of Directors is the decision taking and policy making organ of the Institute. It meets twice a year. It consists of not more than 24 and not less than 14 Directors, each Director being a delegate appointed by a member. Every two years, at each even numbered Annual General Meeting of the Institute, the then Chairman, each Vice-Chairman and all other Directors shall retire from office and the delegates of the 12 members with the largest tonnages of relevant primary aluminium production shall automatically become Directors. Eight further delegates are elected as Directors according to a specified geographical distribution. All Board meetings are attended by the Institute's legal counsel and their advice is sought as necessary to ensure that the Institute complies with all applicable legal requirements, especially in the sphere of competition law. The Board has set up Committees to assist it in studying particular topics specifically assigned by the Board. Once completed, the relevant Committee reports to the

Board, making recommendations for the Board's consideration. There are currently Committees on environment, health, statistics, energy and safety. The Committees have no executive authority. All officers of the Board are unsalaried. The Secretary General, appointed by the Board of Directors, is the chief executive of the Institute and is present at all meetings of Committees in order to ensure that the policies and mandates of the Board of Directors are understood by the representatives on the Committees and are being carried out in the manner in which the Board intends. For this purpose, the Secretary General seeks such legal assistance as is deemed necessary. There is a paramount requirement that, having regard to the importance and the international character of the industry it represents, the Institute must at all times obey and be seen to obey all applicable legal requirements.

#### Financial resources

5. The resources of the Institute are derived from annual membership subscriptions and the sale of publications. Among IPAI's members, the 12 largest producers of primary aluminium pay 50% of the budget and the balance of 50% is divided equally among the remaining members.

#### Relations with other international organizations

6. The Institute maintains working relations with the United Nations Environment Programme, International Chamber of Commerce (Commission on Environment), and the World Health Organization.

#### Publications

7. The Institute produces a number of publications on energy, environment, health, and statistics as well as speeches from IPAI annual general meetings.

#### Liaison

8. Liaison with UNCTAD will be maintained by the Secretary General of the Institute, Mr. Alan Payne.

#### Address

The International Primary Aluminium Institute  
Trafalgar Place  
2-4 Cockspur Street  
LONDON SW1Y 5BQ  
U.K.

Telephone: 071 930 0528  
Telex: 917837 IPAI LONDON  
FAX: 071 321 0183

9. The working language of the Institute is English.