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### INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS

Note verbale dated 20 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Yugoslavia presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to recommendation 3 (III) of the Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons (A/36/471/Add.1, annex, para. 84) and the relevant recommendations of the International Symposium of Experts on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries and Technical Assistance in Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation, has the honour to convey the following offer made by the Yugoslav Government for the establishment of a technical co-operation support service for rehabilitation of disabled persons as a Yugoslav contribution to the implementation of the programme for the Year in developing regions of the world:

1. Programme consultative organ. The service will have, during the initial stage, as its programme consultative organ, an interorganizational body, or task force, chaired by the United Nations representative and with the participation of non-governmental organizations;
2. Programme. The basic aim of the service will be to support regional and interregional technical co-operation activities concerning prevention, rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities for disabled persons, in particular:
  - (a) Exchange of technical information in this field;
  - (b) Transfer of technology and know-how;
  - (c) "Training of trainers" for different services, both in the field of prevention and in that of rehabilitation;
  - (d) Development of models for services;

3. Financing. For the realization of these programmes, the service will use, initially, the financial means available locally. Such means as the Yugoslav contribution to the trust fund for the Year, the contribution of the United Nations Development Programme and the resources that the trust fund or other international sources can contribute will be invited, if available, based on the concrete programme activities;

4. Host country. The service will be situated at the Institute for Rehabilitation in Ljubljana, which will provide a documentation centre and facilities. International assistance will be invited to improve the documentation and technical basis of the service.

The Permanent Representative has the honour to request that this note and its annex be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session under agenda item 30.

Annex

Phases of implementation

1981 and 1982

1. Meeting of the interorganizational body which is to adapt the programme of the service
2. Start of the documentation services
3. Publication of the bulletins related to the activities of the service
4. Expert group meeting to explore the possibilities for the development of certain standards for production of prosthetic appliances, aids and equipment, using locally available resources in the developing regions of the world
5. Group discussion on community concept of rehabilitation, and related manpower development

Spring 1983

Review of the activities during 1981 and 1982 and adoption of the second phase of the activities of the service

The above review will be made also in the light of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons when adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, in 1982.

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