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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION:
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY AT ITS SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION

Conference on International Economic Co-operation

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The General Assembly, in paragraph 4 of resolution 3515 (XXX) of 15 December 1974, requested the Secretary-General and all other executive heads of competent organs and organizations of the United Nations system actively to assist the participants in the Conference on International Economic Co-operation. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to submit to it, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on his participation in the Conference. The present report, prepared in compliance with this request, should be read in conjunction with the report presented last year to the Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, covering the period up to the end of April 1976 (A/31/107 and Corr.1 and 2) and with the report of the Conference on International Economic Co-operation (A/31/478 and Add.1).
2. The opening session of the Conference on International Economic Co-operation was held in Paris, at the ministerial level, from 16 to 19 December 1975. The four commissions on energy, raw materials, development and financial affairs, established by the Conference were active in monthly sessions from February to November 1976 and during April and May 1977. From February to June 1976, the commissions devoted their activities, according to their respective mandates, to an analysis of the various problems facing the international community. From July 1976 on, they entered into a so-called "operational phase", trying to find negotiated solutions to the various issues analysed.
3. The communiqué adopted by the Conference on International Economic Co-operation on 19 December 1975 (A/31/107, annex I, para. 9) invited specific intergovernmental functional organizations directly concerned with the problems to be considered by the Conference to be represented as permanent observers in the relevant commissions. The Conference also decided that each commission might invite appropriate intergovernmental functional organizations to participate as ad hoc observers in

the examination of specific questions. The United Nations Secretariat was given the status of permanent observer in all of the commissions.

4. The participation of the various organs and organizations of the United Nations system was as follows:

Commission on Energy

Permanent Observers: United Nations Secretariat

Ad Hoc Observers: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

Commission on Raw Materials

Permanent Observers: United Nations Secretariat
UNCTAD
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
International Monetary Fund (IMF)
IBRD

Ad Hoc Observer: United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Commission on Development

Permanent Observers: United Nations Secretariat
UNCTAD
UNIDO
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
FAO
IBRD
GATT

Ad Hoc Observers: UNEP
International Labour Organisation (ILO)
IMF/IBRD Development Committee
World Food Council (WFC)

Commission on Financial Affairs

Permanent Observers: United Nations Secretariat
UNCTAD
IMF
IBRD

Ad Hoc Observer: UNDP

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5. All organs and organizations of the United Nations which were granted observer status sent delegations to each session of the commissions. The United Nations Secretariat established a small secretariat in Paris to maintain permanent contact with the Conference as well as to serve as liaison between the various organizations of the United Nations system participating in the four commissions.

6. According to their terms of reference, the observers of organizations from the United Nations system had "the right to speak but not the right to vote". During the analytical phase of the commissions' activities, the observers were invited to provide a number of documents in order to enable the participants in the Conference to understand the status of the problems within their competence. During the second phase of the commissions' activities, the contributions of the observers were more informal, consisting mainly of giving to the delegates and to the Co-Chairmen of the commissions, at their request, technical advice or views on the solutions they were contemplating for the problems before them. Annexes I and II provide a list of statements and documents circulated by the representatives of the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in the various commissions.

7. The concluding session of the Conference was held in Paris, also at the ministerial level, from 30 May to 2 June 1977. The Secretary-General addressed the Conference at the opening of the session. In addition to the United Nations Secretariat, the following organizations of the United Nations system also participated as observers: UNCTAD, FAO, GATT, UNDP, UNIDO, IMF and IBRD. The report of the Conference states that the participants welcomed the presence of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and the Co-Chairmen, in their concluding statements, reiterated their appreciation to the United Nations and to the other observer organizations for their co-operation in facilitating the work of the Conference.

8. Paragraph 11 of the final report of the Conference (A/31/478) reads as follows:

"The members of the Conference agreed to transmit the results of the Conference to the General Assembly at its resumed thirty-first session and to all other relevant international bodies for their consideration and appropriate action. They further agreed to recommend that intensive consideration of outstanding problems should be continued within the United Nations system and other existing, appropriate bodies."

ANNEX I

Documents circulated by the organs and organizations of the
United Nations system to the various commissions a/

UNCTAD

Transnational corporations

Commission on Development

UNDP

The role of UNDP and the United Nations Revolving
Fund for Natural Resources in the exploration
for hydrocarbons

Commission on Energy

UNIDO

Statement on industrialization

Commission on Development

IBRD

Statement by the observer of the World Bank

Commission on Development

Energy development and the World Bank

Commission on Energy

IMF

Multilateral debt negotiations: Experience of
Fund members

Commissions on Development and
Financial Affairs

Development Committee (IMF/IBRD)

Summary of remarks made by the representative
of the Development Committee

Commission on Financial Affairs

GATT

The GATT multilateral trade negotiations

Commissions on Development and
Raw Materials

a/ The present list is not exhaustive and only refers to the main documents provided by the United Nations system since the publication of document A/31/107.

ANNEX II

Statements made by the representatives of the organs
and organizations of the United Nations system to the
various commissions

United Nations Secretariat

The current status of the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly on the possibility of establishing an International Energy Institute within the framework of the United Nations system

Commission on Energy

UNCTAD

Exposé on the resolutions approved by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its fourth session in Nairobi

Commission on Development

Review of the resolutions adopted by the Conference at its fourth session concerning the expansion and diversification of exports of manufactures and semi-manufactures of the developing countries

Commission on Development

Summary of UNCTAD resolutions related to the least developed land-locked and most seriously affected and island countries

Commission on Development

Information on the follow-up time-table agreed upon for the Code of Conduct on Transfer of Technology

Commission on Development

Comments on terms of trade of primary commodities and compensatory financing

Commission on Raw Materials

UNDP

Summary of UNDP activities in support of the least developed countries

Commission on Development

UNIDO

Summary of the activities of UNIDO on industrialization and investment

Commission on Development

Summary of the activities of UNIDO in the field of transfer of technology since the establishment of the organization in 1966

Commission on Development

IBRD

Statement by the observer of the World Bank

Commission on Development

IMF

Progress report on the use of the Compensatory
Financing Facility

Commission on Raw Materials

GATT

Exposé on the relevance of multinational trade to
the trade problems of the least developed
countries

Commission on Development

Statement on the current status of multinational
trade

Commission on Development
