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THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN TRAINING NATIONAL TECHNICAL  
PERSONNEL FOR THE ACCELERATED INDUSTRIALIZATION OF THE  
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES\*

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The General Assembly, in resolution 2259 (XXII), requested the Secretary-General to prepare the report on the training of national technical personnel called for in General Assembly resolution 2090 (XX), including in it - in the light of studies carried out by the appropriate organs of the United Nations system - the question of the drain of national technical personnel at all levels from the developing countries and to submit that report to the Assembly at its twenty-third session. The Assembly also invited the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to make a substantial contribution to the preparation of the above-mentioned report.
2. The problem of the drain of national technical personnel, in so far as General Assembly resolution 2259 (XXII) relates to it, is covered in the report requested in General Assembly resolution 2320 (XXII), which is being submitted for discussion under item 47 of the provisional agenda of the twenty-third session.
3. The report called for in General Assembly resolution 2090 (XX) was to be prepared on the basis of an analysis of the comments and suggestions received from Governments on the recommendations contained in the report on training of national technical personnel for accelerated industrialization of the developing countries. 1/ Further, resolution 2090 (XX) requested the Secretary-General that the report so

\* Item 41 of the provisional agenda.

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-seventh Session, Annexes, agenda item 12, documents E/3901/Rev.1 and Add.1 and 2.

prepared be submitted to the seventh session of the Committee for Industrial Development, which would present its recommendations on the question to the Economic and Social Council at its forty-third session for consideration and submission to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session.

4. The Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization submitted a note on the role of the United Nations in the training of national technical personnel to the first session of the Industrial Development Board in document ID/B/10, the last paragraph of which reads as follows:

"As of 1 February 1967 only four replies providing comments and suggestions on the Secretary-General's report on training of national technical personnel had been received from the Governments to which it was transmitted in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1029 (XXXVII). Although they generally support the proposals and recommendations made in the report, they do not provide sufficient material to prepare a report as foreseen in General Assembly resolution 2090 (XX). It is considered appropriate once again to draw the attention of the Member Governments of the United Nations and, in particular, the members of the Industrial Development Board, to the above-mentioned report and to the importance of submitting detailed comments and suggestions to the Secretary-General on the recommendations contained therein."

5. Subsequent reminders and guidelines were sent to Governments by UNIDO, most recently in March 1968. However, as of 1 August 1968, a total of only eleven replies had been received from Governments.

6. Under the above circumstances, it is felt that it would be impossible to prepare the report called for in resolution 2259 (XXII) for submission to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session. It is suggested, therefore, that the discussion of the General Assembly on this subject be postponed to its twenty-fourth session.

7. With a view to preparing a meaningful report for the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session, UNIDO is making further efforts to expedite the replies of Governments providing their comments and suggestions on the recommendations contained in the above-mentioned Secretary-General's report. In this connexion, UNIDO field advisers and senior staff members visiting particularly the developing countries, are being requested to contact the Ministries concerned to urge upon these the need for an early reply. It is expected that these direct discussions will produce the information needed in order to prepare the requested report.