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**UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES**

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

As noted in document DP/RP/21, additional information is being provided in this addendum, regarding:

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## II. REGULAR PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

### B. Activities in 1979

#### 1. Sectoral advisory services

1. Human settlements activities implemented by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), under the Regular Programme, involved short-term advisory missions. These mostly provided input for programme development in the shelter sub-sector or in training; in Uganda a contribution was made to reconstruction efforts generally. Some of the advice given will be reflected in follow-up projects to be funded from UNDP or other extra-budgetary sources.

#### 2. Regional and sub-regional advisory services

2. ECA regional and sub-regional advisory services assisted countries in natural resources, public administration, public finance, social development, statistics, transport and communications, and economic co-operation, and provided backstopping services to the ECA Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) of the secretariat.

3. ECLA advisers carried out missions in land transport, agriculture, regional planning, social aspects of development, planning and policy of development in industry and transnational corporations. Missions were also undertaken to Dominica after hurricane David, and to Venezuela, related to its development strategy for the 1980 decade.

4. ESCAP advisory services focussed upon least developed and island member countries, and these themes: social work and community development; development administration; trade promotion; linkages between technology, human settlements and industry; freight; raw materials and commodities; and national accounts. During 1979, 45 missions were undertaken by 11 regional advisers and experts. The United Nations Development Advisory Team (UNDAT) for the South Pacific continued short-term advisory services to individual countries and three intergovernmental regional bodies: the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation, the South Pacific Commission, and the University of the South Pacific. A mobile training project for social development personnel in least developed countries was completed, and support was given to regional preparations for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women.

## IV. OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL ENTITIES

### A. Centre on Transnational Corporations

5. The United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC) administers and implements advisory projects and training programmes aimed at strengthening the ability of developing countries to deal with matters related to transnational corporations (TNCs). These activities are mainly financed by voluntary contributions from donor countries.

. Advisory services relate to formulating or revising laws and regulations, examining policy options, and strengthening screening and monitoring. Assistance is also provided in evaluating merits of alternative contractual arrangements, advising on legal, financial, economic and operational issues related to contracts and to staff support in preparation for negotiations with TNCs.

. In 1979, of 34 advisory projects 14 were in Africa, 10 in Asia, 8 in Latin America, and 1 in Europe. These dealt with such sectors as: automotive industry, forestry, fisheries, citrus processing, copper and nickel mining, hotels and tourism, petroleum, telecommunications, aluminium smelting, and foreign investment laws and regulations generally.

. The Centre's training programmes involve conducting workshops in developing countries, at the interregional, regional, sub-regional or national levels, on various aspects of regulating and negotiating with TNCs. UNCTC also organizes interregional round-tables, bringing together senior government officials to exchange experiences on specific issues in government/TNC relations. The Centre also supports other organizations and national educational institutions which conduct meetings or training sessions. Fellowships, in addition to providing training, promote the exchange of experience among officials of developing countries.

. In 1979, UNCTC organized eight national training workshops and three regional ones. Five of the national workshops dealt with regulation of, and negotiation with, TNCs; these were held in Indonesia, Zambia (for Namibia), Peru, Philippines and Suriname. The other three dealt with regulation of, and negotiations with, TNCs in the petroleum sector (Jamaica); banking (Peru); and joint ventures (Romania). A regional workshop on joint ventures and licensing agreements in commercial fisheries was held in the Philippines for countries of the South China Sea and Pacific area. Another was held in India on strengthening the negotiating capacity of countries of the ESCAP region in technology transfer arrangements. The Pacific Island countries participated in a workshop held in Fiji on negotiating mineral agreements. The Centre awarded a fellowship to a senior Egyptian official for a study tour of four countries in Asia, South America and North America.

0. Further information related to 1979 appears in the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the UNCTC (document E/C.10/61), and the report of the UNCTC secretariat on the programme of technical co-operation on matters related to transnational corporations (document E/C.10/65), submitted to the sixth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations.

## B. Economic Commission for Africa

1. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) continued in 1979 a regional programme of technical co-operation, funded by the Regular Programme (see part II, B, 2 of this report), other sources in the United Nations system and from multilateral and bilateral programmes, in keeping with priorities of the Commission's work programme. Further information is provided in the annual report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council.

2. The bulk of the UNDP-funded activities in 1979 concerned the following: the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research, sub-regional graduate schools of business management, the African Regional Centre for Technology, the East African Mineral Resources Development Centre, the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (AIEDP), and the preparatory activities of the United Nations Transport and Communications

Decade for Africa, as well as work in the areas of marine science and technology, building materials and construction industries, intra-African trade and monetary and financial co-operation, and the activities of ECA's Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs). Assistance was also given, mainly to "least-developed" and "newly independent" countries, to improve statistics in general, and national accounting in particular. The Senior Regional Adviser in National Accounts visited Swaziland, Upper Volta, Seychelles, Gambia and Burundi to review data collection, revise previous accounts, complete new accounts aggregates and update estimates of accounts statistics.

13. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) supported population infrastructure at ECA and implementation of 12 operational projects. Advisory missions assisted the undertaking of censuses and surveys and improvements to civil registration and related schemes. In Nigeria, ECA executed a demographic survey for the new capital city.

14. Other contributors supported the following: the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) provided funds for strengthening the environmental capabilities of ECA, holding a seminar on alternative patterns of development and life styles in Africa, and developing legislation for environmental protection in the region. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) allocated funds for the implementation of projects in agriculture and continued to support 9 posts in the joint ECA/FAO agriculture division, mainly in food and forestry resources development. The Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women made available funds for projects in the fields of information, training, agriculture and law, for the improvement of the status of African women and their integration in the development process. The United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD), which includes African government contributions, bilateral arrangements and the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, provided funds for 55 projects during the year, mainly in agriculture, industry, manpower, training, natural resources and social development.

#### C. Economic Commission for Europe

15. The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) has become, as have the other regional commissions, an executing agency for a number of technical co-operation projects, in keeping with General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 on restructuring. Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission at its recent sessions have provided further guidelines. In 1979, therefore, ECE's subsidiary bodies were requested to take into account in the work programme the interests of developing member countries, and to include in it possible contributions of ECE to the United Nations programmes to assist developing countries. The Commission also requested the Executive Secretary to continue co-operating with the secretariats of ECA and ECWA on projects of common interest to all Mediterranean countries.

16. During 1979, with UNDP funds, ECE was engaged in regional and sub-regional projects in electric power and transport, and was developing a new project in statistics. Details are reported in document E/ECE/987 (chapter N), submitted to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission.

17. The secretariat is considering several preliminary feasibility studies for interregional Mediterranean projects in industry, energy, water, and agriculture. Preliminary discussions are underway between ECE, ECA, and ECWA for other joint projects in transport, forestry, solar energy, human settlements and statistics.

D. Economic Commission for Latin America

18. The Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) undertakes technical co-operation activities funded by the Regular Programme (see part II, B, 2 of this report), the UNDP and other extra-budgetary resources. Further information is provided in the biennial report of the Commission, of which the most recent is that of its eighteenth session held in April 1979 (document E/CEPAL/1083/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1). Also relevant is the document "The Buenos Aires Plan of Action and the role of the CEPAL system in co-operation among developing countries and regions: note by the secretariat" (E/CEPAL/1063), submitted to the same session.

19. With UNDP funds, ECLA in 1979 sent missions to several countries in the areas of critical poverty, education and development, implications of trends in the international monetary and financial systems, planning and related fields. It organized national training courses on planning and provided lecturers in these courses. Other missions were undertaken by the Latin America Demographic Centre (CELADE) and ECLA regional experts and advisers attached to UNFPA-supported projects, in the fields of population documentation, programming and computerization, installation and processing of tabulation data, demographic and census statistics and household surveys, population policy, and demographic training and research.

20. Extra-budgetary funds from a variety of sources supported the programme. The Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women financed two women's programme officers - one in Santiago, the other in ECLA's office in Trinidad and Tobago - as well as several projects. UNIDO financed missions by the regional adviser in industrial development attached to ECLA's Mexico office. The ILO-funded regional adviser on household surveys carried out several missions. The Federal Republic of Germany financed one German expert, attached to ECLA, for missions promoting international railway transport. A Netherlands contribution financed Dutch and Latin American experts attached to ECLA who carried out missions on facilitation of trade and transport. A particular focus was the port facilities component of the Asuncion-Rio del Plata corridor study, in order to gather information for a manual for shipping documentation. Other missions related to an integration strategy for Latin America and consultations with the Cartagena Agreement Board. Sweden financed one Swedish expert attached to ECLA who undertook missions related to integration of women into the development process.

E. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

21. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) undertakes technical co-operation activities funded by the Regular Programme (see part II, B, 2 of this report), the UNDP and other extra-budgetary resources. Details of 1979 activities appear in document E/ESCAP/181; information on work of the regional training and research institutions appear in documents E/ESCAP/174 and 175. These were submitted to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission.

22. Among UNDP-funded activities, a major responsibility was support to the Asian and Pacific Development Administration Centre, the Asian and Pacific Development Institute, the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific, and the Social Welfare and Development Centre for Asia and the Pacific. Other main projects concerned regional co-operation in shipping, ports and waterways; trade co-operation; agricultural machinery; development advisory services; integration of women in development; and seminars on such topics as irrigation, chartering, agro-industrial complexes, and local roads and rural transport. Upon decentralization of responsibility from DTCD, effective

1 July 1979, ESCAP began executing projects related to the mineral potential of the South Pacific; off-shore prospecting in East Asia and support to the Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre. ESCAP also provided support to the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin and co-operated with UNCTAD in a number of trade related projects.

23. UNFPA provided institutional support for the work of eight officers in the ESCAP Population Division, and seven officers in population information; funded various studies and monographs; provided fellowships to the International Institute for Population Studies; and supported other training and regional advisory services.

24. Other extra-budgetary resources funded a major portion of ESCAP activities. These included 16 projects supported by the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; other work supported by the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations (Headquarters), and several non-governmental organizations; contributions in the form of trust funds and non-reimbursable loans from many donor governments, most notably the Netherlands, Japan, and the United States of America; and contributions by ESCAP member States.

#### F. Economic Commission for Western Asia

25. The Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) undertakes advisory services through the United Nations Regular Programme and the UNFPA (see part II, B, 2 of this report) and executes projects financed from UNDP and trust funds.

26. With UNDP funding, ECWA has assisted the Arab Planning Institute for Development in its conduct of training courses and research. In 1979 the courses covered advanced planning techniques, development planning and project evaluation; the research dealt with problems of economic development. Another project helps the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics, in Baghdad. The Institute conducts seminars and courses at its headquarters and in other countries of the region; it also awards fellowships. Its 1979 activities included an advanced course in applied statistics, a course on fishery statistics, and two intermediate-level courses in applied statistics, in Kuwait and in Amman, and a workshop on national accounts held in co-operation with ECWA in Baghdad.

27. From trust funds made available to ECWA by donor governments, services of experts were provided to member countries, in such fields as agricultural project identification and formulation, customs administration and social development.

28. Further information related to technical co-operation activities of the ECWA secretariat is available in the progress report on the implementation of its work programme (document E/ECWA/91) and in its report on co-operation among developing countries (document E/ECWA/94), submitted to the seventh session of the Commission.

#### G. Human Rights Division

29. Technical co-operation activities of the Human Rights Division are reported in part II, B, 1 of this report.

## H. Office of Legal Affairs

30. The Office of Legal Affairs participates in administering the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. The Programme was established by General Assembly resolution 2099 (XX) of 20 December 1965, and has continued in keeping with a series of resolutions, most recently resolution 34/144 of 17 December 1979, relating to work for the 1980-1981 biennium. The Office of Legal Affairs collaborates with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Funds for programme activities come from allocations in the regular budgets of the United Nations, UNITAR and UNESCO, and from contributions of Member States and private foundations, in response to appeals made by the Office of Legal Affairs in each biennium. Work in the biennium 1978-1979 is summarized in the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session (document A/34/693).

31. In 1979, as in previous years, the Office of Legal Affairs administered a joint United Nations-UNITAR fellowship programme in international law. The objectives were to enable middle-grade government legal officers, young teachers of international law, and others: (a) to deepen their knowledge of international law topics of interest to developing countries; (b) to acquire practical experience of the legal work of the United Nations and its associated agencies; and (c) to have an opportunity for informal exchange of views on legal problems of common interest or of special concern to their respective countries. The training is received through regional and global seminars and refresher courses organized with the United Nations International Law Commission (ILC) or through studies at various institutions or academies. Special training is offered in trade law topics of interest to the developing countries, organized by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). In 1978/79, 44 fellowships were awarded. In response to resolution 31/144, a minimum of 15 fellowships is envisaged for the 1980-1981 biennium.

32. Implementation of the Programme by UNESCO, with participation by the Office of Legal Affairs, included organization of seminars and meetings on international law, and fellowships to various institutions and non-governmental organizations. UNESCO has also been preparing new teaching materials, including a series of volumes on "New Challenges to International Law". The Office of Legal Affairs also co-ordinates information on fellowships and scholarships related to the Programme, which are offered by national institutions and administered by the governments concerned. The Programme maintains a register of experts and scholars in international law, and distributes United Nations legal publications to institutions in developing countries.

33. The Office of Legal Affairs provides substantive backstopping for technical co-operation projects executed by DTCD in the legal field; in 1979, legal experts advised the Governments of Barbados, Grenada, Swaziland and Yemen.

## I. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

34. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) was established in October 1978 with headquarters at Nairobi. Its technical co-operation programme followed from that previously executed by DTCD with the substantive support of the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning (CHBP). Staff of the former Centre were transferred to Nairobi; some support posts from DTCD and some temporary new administrative posts were added. DTCD provided some support services up to October 1979.

35. Despite the dislocations of transition, significant activities were carried out in 1979. Countries served by the Centre numbered 51, up from 47 in 1978. Distribution of projects by region was: Africa 25; the Americas 6; Asia and Pacific 13; Europe 3; and West Asia 4. The number and proportion of small-scale projects increased, as more preparatory assistance and pre-investment projects were initiated. More emphasis was given to the shelter, infrastructure and services sub-sectors, in line with decisions made at the second session of the Commission on Human Settlements. Support for institution-building and management were substantially expanded also. The bulk of funds continued to come from the UNDP, but a number of projects were initiated with funds of the Habitat and Human Settlement Foundation; these included some seed-capital loans to financing institutions in developing countries.

36. The Centre expects to continue executing projects financed by the UNDP. It is also promoting development by governments of projects suitable for funding by the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, and projects which may attract funding from donor governments through the Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation. The emphasis will be on least-developed countries, TCDC, and the goals of the new International Development Strategy. Orientation of the Centre's future work is on economic benefits of settlements development, such as increased production, savings and employment in the building and allied industries, particularly among the poorest population groups, and promotion of local construction materials and techniques to minimize imports and open up export markets. Given the resource limitations in most developing countries, promotion of national self-reliance will have special significance.

J. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

37. By General Assembly resolution 2401 (XXIII) of 13 December 1968, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was designated an executing and participating agency of the United Nations Development Programme. Its activities aim at: (a) strengthening the structures governing the external sector of developing countries, including planning, monitoring and control; (b) fostering economic co-operation among developing countries; (c) introducing improved trade mechanisms, procedures and related supporting services; and (d) enhancing participation of developing countries in international trade deliberations and negotiations.

38. UNCTAD's 1979 project expenditures totalled \$12 million. Special features of the programme were: the high proportion of inter-country projects (77 per cent of the total); a close relation between the research and policy analysis tasks of the secretariat and the substance of its technical co-operation activities; and the prominence of multilateral sources, especially UNDP, in its financing (87.5 per cent of the total).

39. Projects dealt with: trade policy and planning of the external sector; money, finance and development; trade in manufactures and semi-manufactures and the Generalized System of Preferences; trade in commodities and support to the Integrated Programme for Commodities; economic co-operation among developing countries, and support to economic integration groupings; special problems of least developed countries, land-locked and island developing countries; trade among countries having



different economic and social systems; economic and commercial aspects of maritime transport, including international multimodal transport; transfer of technology; insurance and re-insurance; and trade facilitation and documentation.

40. In compliance with UNCTAD resolution 114 (V), the Secretary-General summarized UNCTAD's 1978-1979 technical co-operation activities and their financing for the Trade and Development Board, through the Working Party on the Programme Budget and Medium-Term Plan, in document TD/B/WP/L.1 and TD/B/L.556, to the Trade and Development Board, which endorsed them at its twentieth session.

41. The International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT (ITC), a subsidiary organ of the United Nations and of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), also has a programme of technical co-operation in trade promotion, as described in document ITC/AG (XIII)/65 and Add.1. The Joint UNCTAD/GATT Advisory Group reported on the programme, in document ITC/AG(XIII)/68, to the Trade and Development Board and to the Contracting Parties of GATT.

#### K. United Nations Environment Programme

42. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) technical co-operation activities follow criteria that assistance be short-term, small scale and with a definite environmental impact, while also offering an opportunity for training and transfer of skills and knowledge. Its activities are in keeping with a general mandate to utilize the United Nations and other international systems, mainly the UNDP country programming exercise. Most assistance is channelled through regional advisory services directed at the development of legislation and machineries. The recent creation of environmental co-ordination units in each United Nations regional commission has intensified this work. Further information is given in the annual report on the implementation of the Fund programme.

43. The UNEP objectives, strategies and criteria for technical co-operation have been reformulated for the eighth session of its Governing Council, in line with TCDC principles.

44. In 1979, the Executive Director of UNEP approved \$2,500,000 for the technical co-operation programme; total 1979 commitments against this are estimated at \$2,095,000. Only one new project, for investigation and control of marine pollution in Cuba, was approved in 1979, with UNDP as co-operating agency. Assistance was also provided to governments under UNEP-supported projects in various sectors, including the Global Environmental Monitoring System, the Regional Seas Programme, the International Reference System for Sources of Environmental Information (INFOTERRA), and the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals.

#### L. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

45. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) undertakes projects financed by the United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Co-operation (see part II.B.2 of this report), UNDP, the United Nations Industrial Development Fund (UNIDF) and various trust funds. Details of 1979 activities appear in the annual report of the Executive Director (document ID/B/240), submitted to the fourteenth session of the Industrial Development Board.

#### L. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

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47. While UNDP continues to provide financing for the major part of UNIDO's technical co-operation activities, the establishment of the United Nations Industrial Development Fund (UNIDF), in December 1976, has permitted other new programmes. In 1979, UNIDF financed activities as approved by the Industrial Development Board to the extent permitted by annual pledges, which have fallen short of the desirable annual funding level of US\$ 50 million endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 32/166 of 19 December 1977. Pledges were only \$ 10.1 million for 1978, \$ 12 million for 1979 and about \$ 11.4 million for 1980.

48. The UNIDF provides funding for innovative projects and those which do not meet the criteria of other financial sources, and focusses on priority areas established by the Industrial Development Board. For example, assistance is being provided to the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community in the collection and evaluation of coconut processing techniques used in its eight member States; the information will be disseminated to other countries as well. A project to up-grade the quality of natural rubber similarly promotes the use of locally available materials. UNIDF also finances projects for the efficient use of energy in industry, the production, repair and maintenance of energy-related equipment and appliances, and the industrial transformation of conventional and non-conventional primary sources of energy. In an effort to improve energy conservation, a pilot training programme was carried out in co-operation with the Industrial Centre for Advanced Technical and Vocational Training in Turin, Italy, for senior engineers directly concerned with energy management and control. A seminar for top-level policy makers followed this. In view of the promise mini-hydro-generator units appear to hold for rural electrification and projects using these have also been undertaken industrialization. Future projects are expected to deal with agricultural machinery, leather and leather products, pharmaceuticals and vegetable oils and fats.

49. Among the large-scale projects being carried out using trust fund contributions are assistance in export industry development in Kenya, in the establishment of a cement company in Libya, in industrial management training in Saudi Arabia, and in strengthening the standards organization and in establishing industrial estates in Iraq.

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