



Technical co-operation among developing countries

High-level meeting on the
review of technical co-operation
among developing countries
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Corrigendum

Page 17, paragraph 8, line 7

Following Gabon, insert German Democratic Republic

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Delete paragraphs 37 through 39 and insert revised summary statement of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation contained in the following paragraphs 37 through 41. Renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

37. The Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation said that the High-level meeting on TCDC came at a crucial juncture in the evolution of international economic relations but also at a particularly opportune time on the calendar of events relating to international economic co-operation for development. The world economy was passing through a period of acute uncertainty and disjunction. There was deep concern about the ability of the international system to overcome the multiple crises confronting it and to introduce a more equitable and just economic order in which all countries could effectively pursue their development goals. Unless the international community took decisive and concerted action, the disintegrative forces already at work would gather momentum, with severe and lasting repercussions on development and international economic co-operation. It was to set the stage for such action that the United Nations General Assembly would hold a special session in August/September this year to adopt a new international development strategy for the 1980s within the framework of the New International Economic Order and to launch a new round of global negotiations which would deal in an integrated manner with major issues in key areas of raw materials, energy, trade, development, money and finance.

38. The Director-General went on to recall the historical experience of the present developing countries during the colonial and post-colonial periods: accession to political independence did not result in economic independence and the benefits of expansion and growth in the developed countries reached developing countries chiefly as a by-product. The distortions and asymmetries in the international

economy reinforced past patterns of dependent and uneven development. In the light of this experience, the Declaration and Plan of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, adopted by the General Assembly in 1974, set forth the fundamental modifications that were required in the present system to render it more equitable, balanced and supportive of the development process. Central to the attainment of the objective of restructuring international economy, and as an instrument of the process of restructuring, was the pursuit of collective self-reliance. The outcome of the present Meeting could have an important bearing on the continued efforts of developing countries to this end.

39. The Director-General continued by saying that the construction of 'bridges across the south', an idea first advanced in connexion with TCDC at the Buenos Aires Conference, was a concept that cried out for practical application. Mutual co-operation among developing countries could serve the interrelated purposes of exploiting the latent complementarities of their economies and achieving a fuller mobilization of their resources, so as to enhance output and employment possibilities through joint production, trade and investment. It could also serve to provide developing countries with a greater measure of the countervailing power necessary to secure the desired restructuring of international economic relations.

40. Over-all, TCDC should be conceived as an instrument for implementing the objectives and strategies laid down by the developing countries for promoting their collective self-reliance and mutual economic co-operation. TCDC can contribute to the reduction of existing imbalances in international economic relations by facilitating the flow of capital, labour, technology and know-how among developing countries and become an important instrument for unpackaging finance and technology components in such a way as to meet the needs and circumstances of individual developing countries. Furthermore, TCDC could increase opportunities for creating skilled manpower pools, planning education and manpower needs, establishing joint training institutions and consultancy agencies, and forging links between skill flows and capital transfers.

41. Finally, the Director-General said that while TCDC was primarily the responsibility of the developing countries themselves, the Plan of Action adopted at the Buenos Aires Conference set forth the principle that developed countries and international organizations had important roles to play in the financing and support of TCDC. A greater measure of TCDC was now being applied in the programmes and activities supported by UNDP but it was widely acknowledged that the entire United Nations system must be permeated by the spirit of TCDC and that all organizations in the system should intensify their actions for its promotion and support.

Page 34, paragraph 75 (now renumbered paragraph 77), line 2

For item 10 read item 9