

Chapter XVI

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) continued to promote the sustainable industrial development of developing countries and countries with economies in transition. As a global forum on industrialization, UNIDO facilitated the spread of industrial information, knowledge, technology and investment.

The Industrial Development Board, at its twenty-fourth session (Vienna, 19-22 June), considered, among other things, UNIDO's programme and budget for the 2002-2003 biennium, new initiatives for funds mobilization, field representation and its contribution to technical cooperation delivery, and environment-related activities.

The ninth session of the General Conference (Vienna, 3-7 December) adopted the programme and budget for 2002-2003 and reappointed the incumbent Director-General, Carlos Magariños, for a second term. The adoption of a resolution on the medium-term programme framework (MTPF) 2002-2005 placed emphasis on technical cooperation and confirmed UNIDO's global forum function. MTPF represented the response of UNIDO's 1997 Business Plan [YUN 1997, p. 1564] to the lessons learned from the process of transformation within UNIDO, in the UN system and in the development community at large. The Conference also agreed to deposit with the United Nations Secretary-General UNIDO's instrument of accession to the 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations [YUN 1986, p. 1007]. The Convention offered a specific legal framework governing formal treaties between international organizations and States and would thus provide stability and predictability in the best interest of UNIDO treaty relations.

UNIDO membership remained at 169 in 2001.

Global forum activities

In 2001, UNIDO, through its global forum activities, continued to promote industrial development and cooperation between countries, partnerships, knowledge-sharing, technology and investment. It also assisted developing countries and countries in transition in the implementa-

tion of multilateral environmental agreements. Within the framework of its General Conference, UNIDO organized a forum on the theme "Fighting marginalization through sustainable industrial development: challenges and opportunities in a globalized world" (Geneva, 5 December). Two groups of issues were addressed: one on technology, investment and trade, and the other on the environment.

In other activities, UNIDO launched a portfolio of special initiatives focusing on energy and market access, formulated renewable energy projects promoting solar, wind and biomass energy in rural areas and, in cooperation with Hungary, extended its technology foresight initiative and convened a regional conference on that issue for Eastern European countries and newly independent States (Vienna, 4-5 April). It also continued to cooperate with the Bretton Woods institutions and UN organizations in a concerted response to the development goals of the Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly in 2000 [YUN 2000, p. 49].

Integrated programmes

UNIDO continued to provide technical cooperation through its integrated programmes, the major components of which were training, investment promotion, quality and standardization, and activities promoting cleaner industrial production and waste management. As at 31 December, 44 integrated programmes had been approved. Africa accounted for 39.5 per cent of the countries covered by integrated programmes, of which 75 per cent were in sub-Saharan Africa.

Investment promotion and institutional capacity-building

In 2001, the Investment Promotion and Institutional Capacity-building Division focused its activities on poverty reduction by strengthening the capacity of industries in developing countries and countries in transition to benefit from globalization. Technical cooperation and research activities aimed to strengthen the capabilities of and cooperation among public and private stakeholders in industrial development for formulating and implementing industrial strate-

gies. Operational support continued to strengthen the role of the private sector in economic and industrial development, while investment promotion activities were enhanced with the development and launching of sustainable sub-regional investment and technology promotion networks.

Activities in Africa concentrated on strengthening public-private consultative mechanisms and, in the Arab region, on the formulation of a long-term industrial vision and policy response to new challenges and opportunities. In Asia, activities included the preparation of a long-term industrial development perspective plan for Nepal, and the tracking of manufacturing performance in Thailand. In Latin America, industrial policy advisory services were, in some cases, channelled directly to the private sector. That marked a new departure for UNIDO, which had traditionally worked mainly with Governments.

Environmental sustainability

In 2001, UNIDO's Sectoral Support and Environmental Sustainability Division focused on the formulation and implementation of integrated programmes and country service frameworks, and on increased cooperation with other UN organizations, as well as with international protocols, conventions and funds, particularly within the framework of environmental protection.

As at 31 December, UNIDO had implemented 778 projects in 66 countries, at a net value of \$251

million, under the 1987 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer [YUN 1987, p. 686]. Those activities corresponded to a phase-out of over 32,000 tons of ozone-depleting pollutants, of which 20,000 had already been eliminated. The National Cleaner Production Centres continued to promote cleaner production capacities and the transfer and development of ecologically sound technologies.

Secretariat

As at 31 December 2001, UNIDO employed a total of 643 staff members: 239 were in the Professional or higher categories, 393 were in the General Service category and 11 were national officers.

Budget

The eighth (1999) session of the UNIDO General Conference approved the organization's 2000-2001 regular budget in the amount of \$167.7 million. In 2001, new project approvals totalled \$85.6 million, compared to \$76.9 million in 2000. In December 2001, the ninth session of the General Conference approved UNIDO's 2002-2003 regular budget in the amount of 133,689,800 euros. The estimated volume of UNIDO operations for the biennium was 349,239,400 euros.

NOTE: For further information on UNIDO, see *Annual Report of UNIDO 2001*.

HEADQUARTERS AND OTHER OFFICES

HEADQUARTERS
United Nations Industrial Development Organization
Vienna International Centre
P.O. Box 300
A-1400 Vienna, Austria
Telephone: (43) (1) 26026-0
Fax: (43) (1) 269-26-69
Internet: <http://www.unido.org>
E-mail: unido@unido.org

LIAISON OFFICES

UNIDO Office at Geneva
Le Bocage
Pavillion 1/Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Telephone: (41) (22) 917-3364
Fax: (41) (22) 917-0059

UNIDO Office in New York
1 United Nations Plaza, Room DC1-1110
New York, NY 10017, United States
Telephone: (1) (212) 963-6891
Fax: (1) (212) 963-7904