

GC.7/Res.11 FIELD REPRESENTATION

The General Conference,

Recalling resolution GC.6/Res.3,

Further recalling documents IDB.16/19, IDB.17/9 and deliberations of the Industrial Development Board at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, decision IDB.16/Dec.15, as well as the Business Plan on the Future Role and Functions of UNIDO as contained in the annex to decision IDB.17/Dec.2,

Welcoming the report of the United Nations Secretary-General on United Nations reform, in particular its emphasis on unified representation within and across its diverse areas of activities,

Appreciating the work of the ad hoc open-ended working group on issues related to field representation (PBC.13/CRP.5),

Stressing the need for revitalization and reorientation of the UNIDO field representation programme as one of the key elements of the UNIDO reform process, through the creation of subregional offices and decentralization of resources and activities,

Bearing in mind the critical financial situation of the least developed countries when identifying the locations for subregional and country offices,

Concerned that the UNIDO field representation programme is severely hampered by financial uncertainties due, *inter alia*, to the discontinuation of United Nations Development Programme sectoral support funding at the end of 1997 as well as the reduction in UNIDO regular budget resources:

1. *Urges* donor countries to contribute generously to the financing of field representation, and *urges* beneficiary countries to finance the subregional offices in a manner proportionate to their means and resources;

2. *Requests* the Director-General:

(a) To develop and implement, in consultation with Member States, a final proposal for country coverage and location of country and subregional field offices, based on objective criteria, in accordance with the Business Plan, and on the work of the ad hoc open-ended working group;

(b) To ensure better coordination of activities between Headquarters and field offices, while maintaining the minimal necessary critical mass at Headquarters;

(c) To strengthen the financial and operational authority of the field offices;

(d) To present a progress report to the Industrial Development Board at its next session.

*7th plenary meeting
4 December 1997*