

BUREAUX INTERNATIONAUX
RÉUNIS POUR LA PROTECTION
DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENÈVE, SUISSE

BIRPI

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BUREAUX FOR THE PROTECTION
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GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

COMITÉ DE COORDINATION INTERUNIONS, SIXIÈME SESSION INTERUNION COORDINATION COMMITTEE, SIXTH SESSION

(Genève, 24-27 septembre 1968)
(Geneva, September 24 to 27, 1968)

ACTIVITIES OF BIRPI SINCE THE LAST ORDINARY SESSION (DECEMBER 1967) OF THE INTERUNION COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Supplement to the Report of the Director of BIRPI

1. This Addendum is intended to bring up to date the information regarding BIRPI's cooperation with the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies, as set out in paragraphs 42 to 59 of document CCIU/VI/3.

2. Forty-Fifth Session of the Economic and Social Council. BIRPI was represented at this session of ECOSOC which took place in Geneva from July 8 to August 2, 1968, where its main concern was the consideration of the draft resolution from UNCTAD II (TD/L. 24) referred to in paragraph 49 of the said document. BIRPI was specifically invited to sit with the United Nations Advisory Committee on Coordination which was preparing a back-ground paper for this item. The Council gave considerable attention to this item and the BIRPI representative intervened to explain BIRPI's program in the field of the transfer of technology. The proposed draft resolution met with considerable opposition, mainly on the ground of duplication of the work of existing bodies, and in the result the Council adopted a compromise resolution calling on the Secretary-General of the United Nations in consultation with the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, the appropriate organizations in the United Nations system,

and other appropriate international organizations, to submit a further report to the Council at its Forty-Sixth Session outlining the means by which the scope of present and contemplated activities in the field of transfer of science and technology could be more clearly defined, strengthened and coordinated. It further decided that the summary records of the relevant debates of the Council should be transmitted to the Trade and Development Board and requested that the Board should defer any final action until it had considered this further report.

3. Seventh Session of the Trade and Development Board.

BIRPI was represented at this session of the Board which took place in Geneva from September 2 to 23, 1968. Again, its main interest lay in the draft resolution of UNCTAD II referred to above. A lively and lengthy debate took place on two draft resolutions, one sponsored by the Group B (Western) countries and the second by the Group of 31 developing countries, members of the Board). There were many points of agreement between the two drafts but differences arose on paragraph (1) as to whether any machinery, if established, should necessarily be within UNCTAD. Finally, on a roll-call vote, the draft of the Group 31 was adopted on September 21, 1968, by 24 votes to 17 with 7 abstentions. This resolution (TD/B/SC.8/L.3) is as follows :

"the Trade and Development Board

Noting the decision of the second session of UNCTAD to refer the draft resolution contained in document TD/L.24 to the Trade and Development Board for consideration at its seventh session,

Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 1361(XLV), which states that the Trade and Development Board should take into account the desirability of deferring any final action on document TD/L.24 until after the forty-sixth session of the Economic and Social Council,

1. Stresses the need to establish within the framework of UNCTAD an appropriate inter-governmental machinery to study the general question of the transfer of patented and non-patented technology likely to promote the economic development of the developing countries /underlining added/;

2. Reaffirms that the developing countries have an urgent and fundamental interest in obtaining adequate and easy access to modern technology and that, consequently, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development should keep this subject under permanent study and review;
3. Requests the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, when cooperating with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the preparation of the report referred to in paragraph 1 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1361 (XLV), to take into consideration the fact that the existing institutional arrangements are not adopted in this respect to the requirements of the developing countries and to emphasize the role that UNCTAD might play in the field of the transfer of technology, in accordance with the objectives of the organization;
4. Decides to take the final action at its session following the forty-sixth session of the Economic and Social Council, but not later than September 30, 1969, taking into account, inter alia, the proposals and recommendations contained in TD/L.24."

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