



PERSPECTIVES
ON
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro



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PERSPECTIVES
ON
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

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PREFACE

Preparatory to the World Summit for Social Development UNESCO organised a series of meetings in different parts of the world to involve the intellectual community in the critical examination of the past development experience and a search for alternative models to correct the wrongs of the past and pave the path for a new paradigm of development with an accent on the "social".

The exercise began with an international colloquium on *What happened to Development?* which was held in Paris in June 1994 with the participation of some forty intellectuals -- researchers, social scientists, development practitioners-- drawn from different parts of the world. It was opened by President Francois Mitterand of France. In November and December 1994, regional symposia were held in Asia, Latin America, and Africa where social scientists presented national perspectives on social development and attempted to draw contours of regional perspectives. For the African region specially, UNESCO convened, in February 1995, an *AUDIENCE AFRICA* where Africans were given the floor to self-analyse the dynamics of development and to come up with an agenda to be pursued in the areas of UNESCO's competence. Two other international meeting of experts -- held, in December 1994, in Bologna, Italy, and in New Delhi, India, respectively -- discussed specific themes, namely *Public Policy and Role of Science and Technology* in relation to Social Development.

Through these seminars and symposia we involved the scientific community -- both social scientists and natural scientists, and the policy makers, planners, and social activists in a process of rethinking social development. It was not our intention to impose any preconceived model and propagate its adoption. These meetings were designed to catalyse ideas and generate debate and discussion so that different perspectives and approaches can emerge.

This publication attempts to provide capsule summaries of the rich and wide ranging discussions that took place at these gatherings. At a later date, proceedings of these meetings are planned to be published for their wider dissemination so that the debate continues.

Francine Fournier
Assistant Director-General
for Social and Human Sciences



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The Challenge of Survival

Federico Mayor

Director-General of UNESCO

*UNESCO convened an international symposium on June 18 and 19, 1994 in Paris on the theme **What happened to Development?** Forty intellectuals, social scientists and economists and other experts in development from all around the world participated in the two-day symposium which was also addressed by France's President, Francois Mitterand. Below is given an excerpt from the initiatory remarks made by the Director-General, **Federico Mayor**.*

No, it is not freedom that has created the acute problems confronting so many of the countries of eastern Europe these days; it is the oppression under which they suffered for so long. No, it is not the economic climate, nor fate, that is keeping at subsistence level the countries we, for so long, described as "developing"; it is our behaviour, the behaviour not just of one side but of those on both sides of the dividing line of wealth; it is our understanding of the way in which development aid should be provided and received.

For it can be received like some miraculous gift that will transform every pumpkin into a carriage and make every desert bloom, and the miracle can be awaited indefinitely, like Godot. The solution to the multiple problems of developing countries is not to be found beyond their borders. Nor beyond their reach. It is buried within them, in the political will to reorganise national priorities from top to bottom, in the political will to base democracy on knowledge and citizenship, in the political will to act so that development becomes everybody's business, the fruit of everybody's creativity and work, in the sweat of toil as well as in the coolness of rest.

The main object of development aid -- the donors have understood, or wanted to understand, no better than the recipients -- is not to help keep "the machinery ticking over". Yet, the "exclusively economic" approach to growth was mistaken, and while it is true that economic growth is the engine of progress it is no less true that it in no way embodies development. Yet, we must make a radical change in direction unless we want the intolerable and omnipresent asymmetry of our world, the fracture between wealth and destitution, at the international level and within each country, this collective schizophrenia, to prove fatal for the human race.

And I mean fatal -- poverty and famine kill. And so does war. They kill the hope and dignity of thousands of people every day. They take the lives of thousands of human beings, mostly children, every day. Poverty, like war, kills. To fight against it is therefore an economic, social, political and ethical imperative. It means political commitment on the part of all, on whichever side they may be, that can lead to a state of human development where full, comprehensive citizenship is not the privilege of the few but the right and the achievement of all.

Development is indeed, today more than ever, the **common goal** of human kind. We know that we have our destiny in common, linked to economic interdependence, the growing

density of the human fabric accentuated by the communications boom, but linked also to the global nature of our misfortunes, which are called drugs, AIDS, pollution, terrorism and poverty and which know no bounds. No country can feel safe from their ravages. Hence the need for a new perception of what human security can and must be; for a new approach to development.

We have, it is true, taken several decades to understand the complex nature of the process of development, whose social, cultural and even spiritual components cannot be ignored with impunity. We have gone through several stages, believing at each breakthrough to have discovered the magic password. Ideal development has been described as endogenous and self-directed, integral, and then sustainable. Today we understand the essential thing; it must first and foremost make room for an awakening of the full potential of the beings who are both its initial protagonists and its ultimate targets: human beings -- not only those alive today but also those who will live on earth tomorrow. **Sustainable human development** -- that is the only acceptable definition of our common goal.

I am delighted to observe a growing convergence on analysis and attitudes within the United Nations system. As you know, UNESCO -- just as it was a pioneer in broadening the conception of culture -- has, for a long time, advocated a less narrow conception of development. It has, therefore, welcomed with immense satisfaction what ...the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr Boutros Boutros-Ghali has said, in **An Agenda for Development**, published last month, that peace is "the foundation of development"; the other dimensions of the process being the economy, the environment, social justice and democracy. I have noted myself with great pleasure that the executive heads and other senior officials of our organizations, when they meet in the Economic and Social Council, for instance, are not talking the same language and making inter-institution co-operation a more than theoretical concern; the effectiveness of our actions has everything to gain by it.

It is, moreover, from a colleague at the World Bank -- Mr Ismail Serageldin, Vice-President in charge of sustainable development -- that I have borrowed this definition of development as we would wish it: "a tree we help to grow by nurturing its roots, not by pulling on its branches". The metaphor has the merit of making three ideas immediately comprehensible: in the first place, it is a complex process, with peaks and troughs and links of causality and connections to be discovered. The second idea goes with the first: development is a global process, a whole from which no element can be discarded -- hence the need for an interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach. The third idea is fundamental: it is a dynamic process by definition, like a living organism, in respect of which both rigour and respect are essential, and all the more so since in the realm of living beings, it is the **human** beings we are talking about.

In the proposals I made with an eye to the Copenhagen Summit I did, in fact, try to stress that means of "social adjustment" were needed. For instance, I highlighted the need (i) to strengthen endogenous capacities in each country, particularly through education and sharing of knowledge; (ii) to encourage commitments to collective life, the practice of democracy and support for the values of peace and tolerance without which we cannot hope to move forward into the future; (iii) to improve the development and the quality of life of rural areas, which are the key to stability of many kinds; and (iv) to intensify every kind of action to safeguard and protect the environment. The preservation, protection and restoration of our natural surroundings are in fact, as I see it, an integral link in the development chain. And while we seek to establish equity between continents, between regions and between categories within a generation we must not turn away from the duty of equity between generations, which renders us accountable to those who will follow us on this earth. It is

because we are mindful of the current duties implied by the preservation of future rights that Commander Cousteau and I have prepared, as you will know, a "Declaration of the Rights of Future Generations", which we hope will have the same intangible but undeniable impact on the conscience as the great declarations of rights of our history.

For environmental matters and for matters concerning social justice and demographic evolution, the change of course calls for work to restructure in-depth attitudes, systems of redistributing wealth and modes of production and consumption -- throughout the world. Admittedly, it is a long-term task, which is an added reason for beginning it now without further ado. Admittedly, changes as radical as these imply participation by all, old and young, women and men, rich and poor, by people in the Northern hemisphere and people in the Southern hemisphere. Which is an added reason for this universal change to begin here and now -- in the place where we live, in our own block of flats, our own neighbourhood, our own village, our own town. It is at the municipal level, the local level, that the solutions that will save our world are being formulated and tested, day after day....

I believe for my part that if we are really aware of the gravity of the threats implied by the extrapolation of current tendencies we will not hesitate; we will set about bringing Utopia into being, for anything that does not look like Utopia will look like death. When it comes to meeting the challenge of survival, there is no North, no South, no superior, or subordinate, no rich, no poor. Let us recall Leonardo da Vinci's image: when a ship is in danger of sinking, all differences between those on board disappear. They are no longer anything more than passengers, eager to work together to ensure their collective survival. It is up to us, together, to gather the knowledge, to find the wisdom that will save the vessel Earth from sinking.

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Science and Technology for Social Development

An international seminar was organised by UNESCO, in collaboration with the National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies -- NISTADS -- from December 12 through 14, 1994 to discuss the role of Science and Technology for Social Development with participation of scientists and social scientists from Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America. Below is given a resumé of the discussions at that seminar prepared by Yogesh Atal.

"Our high expertise remains barren as it remains entrenched in deep channels that are not linked with our societies" was a confession made by one of the internationally known Indian scientists who chaired the first session of the Seminar devoted to the discussion of the problem of endogenous capacity-building in the context of scientific and technological revolution. He said that nothing seems to be wrong in the training of the scientists and technologists from the point of view of substance as these experts from the so-called *Third World* do very well in their career in the developed, industrialised world. However, they fail to adjust in their own countries and contribute to their development. The crisis, therefore, is that of social commitment, of putting the Nehruvian scientific temper at the service of Gandhian ideals of social equity, dignity of labour, and cultural autonomy combined with a sense of global brotherhood. Already in developing countries, such as India, there is some sort of revolt against the experts and there is a call for the scientists and technologists to redo their agenda, to insert social considerations in their scientific quest..

There was latent consensus that the present-day world is increasingly becoming non-liveable and also non-sustainable. Whatever is done by science and technology is peripheral to the developmental concerns of the people. It was pointed out that science and technology have mainly contributed to the growth of military-industrial complex; they had never consciously intended to enrich culture or eliminate poverty. Whatever changes have been brought about in the society as a consequence of scientific innovation are largely unintended though all of them have not been negative or dysfunctional. No doubt, science and technology have their share in contributing to the progress of societies. But the fact remains that scientists and technologists have been arrogant towards traditional wisdom and indigenous knowledge and always worked for their replacement.

While it is true that science and technology impact and affect society, it is equally important to structure the priorities of scientific research and development in accordance with the needs and demands of society.

There was evidence in the presentations of this realisation. Referring to Richard Nelson's book, *The Moon and the Ghetto*, one speaker said that we acknowledge the capability of science and technology to reach the moon but we need them more in the ghettos, to improve the lot of the people who live in abject poverty. Scientists must develop empathy for the people and relate their work to solve their problems. The question is not of what is technologically feasible, but of what is socially desirable; of setting priorities in terms of societal needs and not theoretical exigencies.



That it can be done, and is being attempted by some scientists and technologists, was the message that the Seminar gave loudly and clearly. The discussion on the Second Green Revolution, for example, focused on this change in orientation. It was confessed that the First Green Revolution was indeed a *grain* revolution. It responded to the demand for "grow more food". Quite naturally, the experts selected the most favourable sites --good fertile lands, suitable infra-structure, rich farmers. That revolution was based on adaptive and applied research. There were no major scientific breakthroughs. But it succeeded in terms of additional tonnage of food grains to maintain a buffer stock and attain food security to a large extent.

The fact that there is now need for launching a Second Green Revolution is an implicit admission of the deficiencies of the First. It was reported that while the population growth rate has remained more -or -less steady, or even declined somewhat, there has been significant fall in the rate of agricultural output. For 34 years -- from 1950 to 1984 -- there has been additional production of 30 million tons per annum on average; it has , over the years, come down to an average of 12 million tons. With the rising population figures, this decline in the food grain production is certainly a cause for worry, and hence the case for a Second Green Revolution.

Agricultural scientists admit that today they can no longer ignore the question of sustainability. Similarly, equity considerations that were bypassed at the time of the First Green Revolution can not be side-tracked today. Drylands, wastelands, marginal lands, and small farms owned by the poor and marginalized people will have to be covered by the Second Green Revolution, and it will have to make use of the advances made in the field of biotechnology and molecular biology. Green Revolution in the new context is not only for *greenery*; it is indeed seen as social forestry. Unlike the first one, it is not conceived as a measure for additional technical inputs, but as a new development strategy of Agro-ecological planning. How biotechnology can be put to use in the vast countryside to bring people above the poverty line? How to make use of local resources in the most efficient manner so as to achieve self-sufficiency?

The discussion on decentralized industrialization dwelt on these questions. The concept of flexible specialization was discussed at length as it reflected changes in the prevailing industrial paradigm. The new production model, known as *Third Italy*, is developed on that premise. In this kind of production, several small-scale units form some sort of consortium to manufacture and market fairly sophisticated products at reasonable costs. This system treats labour as an asset, economises on the working capital, and facilitates quick responses to market by taking on customised production, and encouraging continuous innovations both in the processes and the products. It is science based, employment oriented, and environment friendly system which provides an alternative to centralised mass production by encouraging production by the masses. These production units use locally available material including biomass, recycled goods, new polymers and ceramics. The management is horizontal, and there is no danger of trade unionism.

A concrete example of the use of local resources with the use of modern technology was offered by the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. It has initiated a programme acronymed ASTRA (meaning in Sanskrit, Weapon) -- Application of Science and Technology to Rural Areas. ASTRA has developed a system of water harvesting and biomass generation. The group has designed a technology through which all the monsoon water is stored underground and retrieved as and when desired for purposes of irrigation. ASTRA believes that in India agriculture is by far the biggest potential source of employment. As such, it is in

this area that innovations are needed so that people do not get uprooted and migrate to the urban centres. The flexible systems, it must be said, should not be seen as an alternative to centralised industrialization, it is indeed complementary to it and contributes to the complexity of the process of industrial growth.

The problems of urban conglomerates are mainly that of management. It has been a common experience that with the advancement of science and technology, and with the rising rates of literacy, there has been acceleration of the process of rural exodus. Improvements made in the cities to solve the problems of congestion and overcrowding have attracted more and more migrants from the rural areas. It is necessary, therefore, to consider ways through which the face of the rural areas is uplifted and enough incentives are created there for the people to remain. Such technology is needed that is relevant, socially acceptable, and that which does not promote "social apartheid".

Fifty years of development experience has not been able to eradicate social ills of poverty, inequity, and social exclusion. In fact, many new dimensions have been added to these problems which exist in almost all countries. This fact has sobered "economic arrogance", and has even challenged the claims of technology to be the panacea. Even the economists have bidden "good bye" to the trickle-down theory. There is realisation of the negative aspects of the globalization process. While no body doubts the importance of economic growth, or the role of modern technology, in promoting social development, there is now a concern shown for the social and the cultural context in which changes are sought. Questions such as the following are being raised: how to avoid transition from rural poverty to urban poverty? how to ensure that uneducated unemployed people will not fill the ranks of the educated unemployed? how to prevent wasteful use of natural resources? and how to make good the deficit in the delivery of social services? In other words, how to relate economic growth and technological advancement to societal goals?

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There was the feeling that science and technology are capable of addressing to these questions. For this, they will, however, have to reorient themselves to find uncommon (i.e. culture-specific) solutions to the common problems experienced by different societies. Solutions that seem to work in a given cultural context may fail in another. The challenge is to harmonise cultural singularities with pluralities of development. This demands a close association between natural and social sciences.

The concerns of social development have brought to the fore the social science disciplines. Already, there is a new group of expertise emerging which defies the traditional boundaries. As was said by one of the speakers : " in the company of scientists, I am dubbed as a social scientist; and in social science gatherings, I am identified as a scientist". This blurring of identities is not to be regretted; this is indeed a most welcome sign and needs to be encouraged

Relating the discussions at this Seminar to the concerns of the World Summit for Social Development it was pointed out that the road to Copenhagen begins from Rio. The Earth Summit, held in 1991 in Rio, approached the problem of development from the environmental angle and provided science and technology the centre-stage; the Copenhagen Summit approaches the same issue from societal point of view and, therefore, invites social sciences to come forward. Rio talked of *sustainable development*, *climatic change*, and *biodiversity*, Copenhagen is considering the issue of *sustainable livelihoods* (*poverty, unemployment*), *societal change*, and *cultural diversity*. Thus, there are parallel concerns which are mutually dependent.

The first need, therefore, is to bridge the gap between natural and social sciences. Not only the scientists and technologists must have social commitment, social scientists must also develop specialisms to monitor and analyse the impact of science on society. They must equip themselves to manage science and solve the problems created by them. Effective dialogues ought to be established between scientists and social scientists, including setting-up of joint research teams. Time has come to inject interdisciplinarity across the boundaries of the two sets of disciplines. As part of human resource development strategies, curricula in higher education must be revised to introduce this kind of interdisciplinary orientation.

The meeting also suggested that networks of scientific institutions and researchers working to promote indigenous technology and to develop area specific technological solutions must be set up and strengthened so that there is exchange of knowledge and ideas, and even diffusion of stimulus. The purpose of such networks will not be to seek ready-made solutions for their blind replication in strange cultural settings but for mutual learning. In this regard, there is considerable scope for South-South co-operation which may take the form of exchange of teachers and students, launching of parallel research projects, and even comparative studies in similar socio-economic settings.

The most important challenge in the countries of the South is that of Human Resource Development. These countries have to obtain the target of literacy and universal primary education; they have also to demystify science and popularise it among the masses in order to create a scientific temper, and take effective measures to curb brain drain.

Innovative strategies for human resource development which combine education with work place and local environment need to be seriously pursued as they provide decentralized modes of purposeful education. It is also important to investigate the cause of decline in the enrolment for post graduate and doctoral work in basic sciences in several advanced countries and even countries such as India. This decline seems to be related to the changing public image of science and its relationship to development. Scientific social research on this phenomenon is urgently called for.

All this is needed to develop endogenous capability. The development paradigm pursued in the past was based on the premise of exogenous change. The change in orientation now being proposed does not suggest insulation from outside influence but acknowledges the changing profile of developing societies which have now improving levels of literacy and potential for endogenous capacity building. There is also mounting evidence of cultural response to exogenous innovations. The urge for retaining cultural diversity while accepting modernity goes against the previously held principle of homogenization. What to accept from the outside and how to adapt it to suit the genius of the host culture is a decision that is now increasingly taken by the indigenous elite -- the leadership and the scholarship-- in most countries.

Recent studies have shown that there is high correlation between HRD indices and R&D. It implies that the base of human resources has to be expanded so that R&D requirements can be met effectively by the indigenous scholarship. At the same time, it is important to create favourable conditions to reverse the process of brain drain. In the context of African continent, the situation of brain drain is really serious. One estimate suggests that there are about 100,000 experts from the developed countries working in Africa; the same number of African experts are working in USA and UK. This means that Africa has the capacity of absorbing all those Africans who are working as expatriates in other lands. One

possible reason for this situation is the prevailing mismatch between the demands for jobs and supply of manpower. But most important reason is the big difference in scales of payment of salaries and the working conditions. Moreover, training abroad makes people unsuitable, in many respects, to deal with the local problems. They develop wrong reference groups and remain alienated.

Attention needs also to be paid to the off-campus surrogate institutions that train people on job. Several centres have been opened, for example, in India to train people in the use of computers. Since formal institutions are rendered incapable of meeting the rising demand for training and retraining caused by rapid advances in science and technology, these surrogate institutions play a very useful role. It is advisable to utilise this resource for purposes of vocational education. Children trained by their families in crafts are, it was argued, not an example of child labour and should be seen as receiving vocational training while also contributing to the family income. Taking them away from these sites in the name of child labour will therefore be dysfunctional.

Education is fundamental to social development; in fact, it is one of the important indicators of social development. Moreover, a literate society has the potential of developing a scientific temper. In the absence of education, even introduction of small elements of modernity may result in disastrous consequences. For the management of technology, four different kinds of capability are needed: namely, *operative capability* -- to be able to operate a given technology, *transaction capability* -- required for facilitating the transfer of technology, for technological upgrading, or for making technology adaptable to a specific situation, *innovative capability* -- to make technological innovations, and *supportive capability* -- to provide maintenance and repair. Human Resource Development Programme should be designed to build all the four kinds of capabilities.

One question that figured in all the discussions at the Seminar was about the kind of technology choice we have today particularly in the context of sustainability of the consumption patterns and life-styles that are in vogue in the North and are being emulated by the elite of the South in their quest for modernity. It remains an open question whether there should be some mechanism to debate on the social development implications of a new technology when it enters a market. Education may help develop a person's social awareness

There was an emerging consensus that technologies that are appropriate to specific cultural context must be developed rather than accepting second rate and discarded technologies from abroad in the name of appropriate technology. Developing countries need not go through a phased programme of adoption of technologies. Some of the newer technologies are being simultaneously introduced in both developed and developing countries. The process of leapfrogging is already taking place

The Seminar succeeded in its aim to raise issues related to the role of science and technology in social development. It also took note of the various country experiences where technology is put to use for purposes of employment creation, and for saving water and land resources to accelerate agricultural growth. Advances in science and technology have made it possible to descale and decentralise production utilising local resources including bio-mass. There is ample scope for blending new knowledge with traditional modes of production which will provide a complementary rural industrialization strategy that would be both employment-generating and environment-friendly.

Science and technology constitute a necessary input into socially equitable development strategies. For this, consistent policy-packages are needed which should include, *inter alia*, grass-roots education to disseminate scientific culture, and encouragement to new forms of partnerships between households, communities, citizen's movements, public authorities, and private enterprises.

It is not a question of *whether* technology, but of *what* technology. The Seminar attempted to illustrate the kind of technology that may contribute to social development. The potential is tremendous; the task is stupendous; and the time is propitious to proceed further on this journey.

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Social Development and Public Policy

In collaboration with the Università di Bologna, Italy, UNESCO organised a two day meeting of experts drawn from Europe, Africa, and Latin America on December 2 and 3, 1994 to review and compare specific country initiatives against poverty, unemployment, and social exclusion with a view to drawing lessons for future development studies. The discussions were based on case studies. Below is given a Report on the meeting by S. Balde.

The meeting opened with a general discussion on: *Stakes in Social Development at Global Level*. With the end of the cold war, the global scenario has changed as if the "cold war" has been replaced by "*cold peace*" and societies are experiencing new forms of social instability and rupture. Most of the societies are affected by moral and social crisis. Hunger, extreme poverty, unemployment and exclusion are matters of world- wide concern. there are no satisfactory solutions and all societies are engaged in a search for effective public policies to combat rising social problems and promote social development.

Globalization of economy and culture is reinforcing market interdependence, encouraging international population movements, and necessitating a co-ordinated system of decision-making for facing the newly emerging challenges. Changing the course of thought is certainly not easy. But it is unavoidable.

The model of industrialised societies of the North hardly provides a satisfactory solution. These societies themselves are feeling compelled to reconsider their model of consumerism, life style, and the way their institutions function. The East European societies are going through the phase of transition to market economy and democracy, which calls for innovation in order to stabilise economy and change institutional framework.

This transition shall certainly be longer than expected. For, whereas the administered economy is dead, the pure liberalism like the perfect market, has not yet come into the realm of reality. It is clear for everybody that the dichotomy of public versus private has become a matter of past. All acknowledge the need that the solidarity with the future generations must be safeguarded, by having a better articulation of economic, social, and environmental factors.

The economy and the economists must be put in their place. Societies must take advantage of the spectacular scientific and technological progress to attend to the problems of unemployment and poverty, and to prevent deterioration of the environment.

In the South, as in the North, the search of new development models should be buttressed by the principles mentioned above, and should be based on social justice, democracy, respect of human beings, personal freedom and equality of rights and duties of the citizens.



It is this new framework that will provide answers to the vexing question such as these:

How to manage globalization of economy of finance and of markets of international migrations of information and of epidemics?

How to reconcile the global policy of solidarity and co-operation with the ethnic wars (conflicts) and social fragmentation?

How to articulate the public sector (national or local) with market (private) and civil society?

I Social Development in Europe

The model of "Welfare State", as practised in Scandinavian countries was reviewed. This model, which was developed after the Second World War in the industrialised Western Europe in the context of unprecedented economic growth, extended the principles of human rights to social policy. The outcome was enhancement of level of education, widening of access to information, not to mention the rise in consumer level and the welfare, thus generating social protection of the largest number of people.

For the majority of people, provision by the state of health services, education, family aid and other social services became characteristic of daily life. The social movements of the 60's and 70's reinforced the rights related to work, as well as social and family rights. Thus, progressively, integration and social justice were assured, by virtue of a respectable income, health system, education system, housing policy and leisure. Such progress influenced the outlook on social policy. Slowly, centralised planning came to coexist with the action organised and taken care of by the citizens.

With the crisis of 1973-74 and the resulting changes -- privatization, budget cuts, neo-conservatism -- the concept of Welfare State came under heavy criticism. And the need to reform welfare was strongly expressed.

Today, in most of the European countries, a mixed approach is followed.

The Scandinavian experiment has proved that the modern societies give birth to complex processes through which social actors can acquire a competence of citizens, that is, a feeling for self-respect, and respect of the political system and institutions which in turn must take into account the needs of the people in the changing social and economic milieu. Constructing such an interactive society deserves reflection and action.

II. The countries-in-Transition

Within the framework of the analysis of social policy in Europe, it seemed interesting to look at the situation of the countries of Eastern Europe in transition. In these countries, the State had full responsibility of social welfare and security. With the transition, there has been the advent of market economy and a move towards setting up a democratic polity. This has meant denial to the masses the benefits they were used to receive in the previous polity, and consequently a rise of frustration particularly among the minority groups who now feel the pinch of social exclusion.



Social pathology and social exclusion are, of course, not new. But they were subdued during the totalitarian regime. The question that arises is: In what ways the changes have accentuated these phenomena and how they can be fought on a long term basis?

The change in the model of social policy calls for new initiatives. When the Western Europe itself is reconsidering the welfare function of the State, what model can the countries-in-transition emulate? The erstwhile communist societies faltered on the economic front but took care of their populace; the Western societies succeeded on the economic front with a free market economy, but generally neglected the social concerns, and are now contemplating to even cut down the welfare function. What should then be the model for social security? This is the key question.

III Social Development in Latin America

Case studies from Brazil and Mexico became the basis for discussion on the Latin American situation relative to social development.

Brazilian case study related to the Campaign Against Hunger run by CONSEA -- Conseil national de securite alimentaire. It is an example of government - society partnership in search of new awareness for defining and executing public policy. CONSEA's campaign is an experiment of struggle against mass poverty by launching a national movement for putting into effect the measures and the procedures for eradicating hunger and misery on the basis of solidarity, co-operation between government and civil society, and decentralization in the implementations of interventions.

The study showed that one can reasonably place hope in this new form of partnership between government and civil society for struggle against poverty. However, the lasting solution requires creation of jobs, establishment of positive synergy between definition and putting into effect of social policy, and vigorous and supportive action by the citizens. Today, such partnership is more a matter of challenge rather than a reality on the ground.

The Programme for National Solidarity (PROMASOL) was the subject of Mexican case study. This programme is intended to serve as a model of struggle against poverty in the context of structural adjustment. PROMASOL can be seen as a new strategy of struggle against poverty and as a means of promoting social citizenship, capable of remedying inconveniences of the system of protection. It is based on three priorities: to improve the living conditions of the farmers, Indians, and poor urban neighbourhoods; to foster the regional development and establishment of the productive infrastructures to improve the living conditions; and to foster and strengthen the participation of social organizations and local authorities. This new strategy is seen as a means to reduce the intervention of the State.

Judging by its scope and sweep, it is a significant experiment, which covers the whole of the territory and the participation of the entire population. It is in this that PROMASOL enables one to maintain and extend linkage between the State and the society and to promote citizenship.

This programme reinforces the idea that the state welfare can not eradicate poverty through integration by the state of the totality of active salaried population.

A struggle against poverty which responds to deep needs is necessary. But this can not be an alternate model of social policy.

III. The Case of South Africa

The discussion focused on the challenges which South Africa has to meet after the dismantling of Apartheid.

The big question was to know whether the protagonists of the National Government -- Mandela, De Klerk, Buthelezi -- would continue to overcome contradictions which the enemies of yesterday brought into being.

Serious problems are facing a violent society, in which thousands of persons died in the fight for an apartheid free society. The attainment of that goal has, however, not meant an end to factional strifes.

Structural constraints persist in the civil services sector which is heavily dominated by the Afrikaners, who are often corrupt and mostly overpaid. The difficulties persist in the sector of police.

Apartheid signified not only the political exclusion, but it was also a system of economic exploitation of institutionalised inequalities -- deeply entrenched, a most unequal distribution of income between the white and the black without forgetting the question of land ownership.

The challenges before the Mandela government are enormous. The time is too short to make a judgement. However, the hard reality is that the big struggle of the people of South Africa has obtained only a part of what is possible, that the classes which caused suffering and misery continue to control South African society of today.

But the black workers remain a force, around which a programme of social emancipation of democracy and a just and equitable society can be deployed.

Conclusions

The Conference through the case studies and the global analysis of the crisis of social development raised the question concerning the model, or the models, to be invented for struggle against poverty and social exclusion in the different historical social and cultural contexts.

The academicians present at Bologna were not content with descriptive treatment of the diverse manifestations of poverty, and urban and rural exclusion. They emphasised the necessity of rethinking the model of Welfare State.

The Welfare State is certainly being subjected to an all round attack, but it is not dead. It is high time to invent new methods of intervention by dismantling social services which are too much centralised. The time has come to give the individuals and the groups their autonomy and their dignity, for enabling them to exercise their citizenship.

In this respect, citizen participation plays an important role, not only as a movement for safeguarding the rights of individuals against poverty and exclusion but also as a form of self-organization for social development: The creation of network of solidarity and mutual help, local initiatives, and voluntary action for self-development appear as source of values, which could respond to complex social situations that demand effective and timely intervention.

Asian Perspective

In collaboration with the Association of Asian Social Science Research Councils -- AASSREC, a three- day regional symposium was organised by UNESCO in Manila, the Philippines where country papers reviewing past development experiences and emerging perspectives on social development were discussed. Following is a synthesis of those presentations and the ensuing discussion at the symposium prepared by Virginia A. Miralao of the Philippine Social Science Council.

Countries in the Asian region exhibit wide variations in their populations, geographies, and natural resources. They differ markedly in terms of their cultures, religions, and histories. And yet they show distinctive features as Asian societies.

The region hosts eight of the world's ten most populous countries and has a large share of the world's poorest, although the region is also hailed for giving witness to the most remarkable economic, social and demographic "miracles" in modern times. Not only Japan (which industrialised in less than half the time it took Western countries to do the same), even the small and resource-poor economies such as Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, and the Republic of Korea have attained economic breakthroughs and sustained their economic gains. Likewise, China along with Sri Lanka have attained palpable improvements in the health and welfare conditions of their populations at relatively low levels of economic development, besides posting substantial reductions in their population growth rates. Similarly, some countries display literacy and education levels that are high by developing country standards. More recently, both Thailand and Indonesia have undergone dramatic demographic transitions and are similarly experiencing economic breakthroughs.

The positive changes in some countries notwithstanding, countries in the Asian region, with the exception of Japan and the NICs, continue to confront massive and persistent poverty and unemployment problems, as well as political/ethnic conflicts and social tensions. Using current economic indicators, however, most analysts agree that following the long-term recession in the West, Asia is today's most important "economic growth area" and will continue to be so in the near future.

Lessons from earlier country development experiences

Given their widely varying circumstances and histories, countries in the region pursued different paths in the post-World War II period to advance their economies and to develop their nationhood and the well-being of their populations.

A review of the development performance of countries in the region indicates that with the exception of those subjected to long wars and internal conflicts, countries which had pursued a socialist path had, in fact, gained headway in providing for the basic needs and improving the quality of life of their populations. The huge public investments required by

their social welfare programmes, however, threatened the growth of their economies and the viability of their welfare-oriented policies.

On the other hand, the free market policies of countries such as Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines have allowed these countries to register sustained economic growth since the 1950s, except for that period in the Philippines when combined political and economic factors during the Marcos regime caused a severe national economic crisis. However, economic gains tended to marginalise various groups and sectors and to exacerbate income and regional disparities and other forms of social inequalities. The generally less than commensurate performance of these countries along social development indices has prompted them likewise to institute and experiment with various reform packages to meet their social and economic development objectives.

Country development experiences in the region thus lend support to the now widely accepted conclusion that neither the market-oriented development policies with their emphasis on economic growth, necessarily result in overall social development or in the betterment of the general population, nor do socialist policies operate to sustain economic growth and further improvements in the well-being of the population. Both market and socialist development models and approaches have their own limitations.

Countries in the region have come to realize the complexity of economic and social development issues and problems. There is a general agreement that there are no easy guidelines to the kinds of policy mixes and reform packages that can be adopted to confront development issues simultaneously and effectively. Measures which have been taken to alleviate poverty, reduce income disparities and expand social services for instance, have not always worked to further social cohesion/integration within countries. This is especially true in countries where existing class, ethnic and other social divisions are rooted in culture, religion, or tradition. Similarly, the often conflicting demands and requirements of economic growth on the one hand, and of redistributive and social justice policies on the other, point to difficulties in managing complex economic, political and development processes.

Countries in the region too, have learned that development policies often have multiple consequences that cannot be anticipated fully. Hence, while policies may impact positively on certain aspects of development, these may also impact negatively on other concerns.

Countries in the region are beginning to recognise that the State and the market have distinct though complementary roles to play in national development. Although by necessity, the State must take charge of overall planning and the provision of basic services, market forces must govern basic economic processes to foster entrepreneurship and the competitiveness and dynamism of national economies. With regards to the role of the State, country experiences further indicate that governments must move to broaden participation in the formulation and implementation of development policies to include various groups and the affected masses.

In sum, therefore, the lessons learned from earlier development experiences reveal that development issues and concerns cannot be segmentalized, even as attempts have been made to disaggregate these into components (e.g., into poverty, unemployment, poor health, food scarcity, environmental degradation, etc.) and to address these with especially designed policies and programmes. It is also evident that neither an economic growth-orientation nor a welfare-oriented one is sufficient to enable countries to attain their goals of improving the quality of life for everyone and enhancing national unity, peace and harmony. All too often, the

performance of countries has also been gauged mainly in terms of the attainment of quantitative (economic, service-delivery, and human resource development) targets, and less so in terms of the means/processes used for attaining such outputs and the other qualitative social transformations desired by countries.

Current Social Development Problems and Concerns

Asia continues to grapple with interrelated development problems which, among others, include maintaining the momentum of economic growth; reducing poverty and income disparities among the population; providing basic services and ensuring full employment, resolving civil/communal strifes and other social imbalances and tensions; and preserving their natural resources and environment.

Economically, these countries face the task of managing economic processes to sustain their economic growth, raise national incomes and improve the distribution of these and other economic benefits among households and families.

The large absolute increases in their populations also threaten the ability of governments to dispense their functions and sustain their efforts at social transformation.

Ecological concerns have also emerged as a development and public policy issue in the region. Industrial projects and economic progress have imposed a toll on the environment and natural resources of even some of the region's resource-rich countries. These trends will render the economic growth of member countries unsustainable in the long term.

The huge number of people living in absolute poverty provides yet another indicator of the problems of underdevelopment. In part, the high incidence of poverty owes to the tendency of earlier development strategies and processes to marginalize the poor and to exacerbate income disparities within countries.

Raising the income and improving the living conditions of the poor in turn, will require governments to undertake programmes to expand productive employment opportunities, improve the poor's access to education and health services, and provide "safety nets" to meet the poor's basic requirements for food, shelter, health and education. The task of generating productive employment opportunities in the countries is further compounded by the large number of annual additional entrants to the labour force, which in a country like China consists of still as many as 200 million job seekers per year. In creating new employment opportunities, governments will also have to consider employment possibilities that will increase the productivity and returns to labour in view of the tendency of population/labour force growth to depress the wages of workers.

Improving the material conditions of the poor further necessitates that national development policies and strategies incorporate programmes to improve the delivery of basic social services, including increasing the access of poor households to health and education services.

In terms of education, the proportion of illiterates generally constitutes over 20 per cent of adult populations, although this is still particularly high (over 50 per cent) in a few countries. The goal of providing primary education to all is yet to become a reality in many countries, while enrolment in secondary schools seldom reach 50 per cent of the eligible population. Expectedly, enrolment at tertiary levels is even lower and is as low as 2 per cent to



4 per cent in countries as diverse as China, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. The substantial rates of adult illiteracy and the low enrolments at higher levels of education underscore the importance of expanding non-formal and distance education programmes to enable families to move out of the poverty trap.

Attaining social integration and national unity has also remained an elusive goal. This owes in part to traditional social divisions or cleavages as well as to the increasing social differentiation that has occurred within countries during the course of development.

Cross-cutting most of the foregoing development problems and concerns is the gender issue which is now widely acknowledged to influence the success of development efforts. Given the historical patriarchal structures of most Asian societies, the marginalization and discrimination of women in the region are evident in most areas of public/national and private life. In several instances, evolutionary change has furthered female exclusionary processes so that there are generally more women among the poor and the down-trodden. Female exclusion and seclusion are further reflected in the lower female participation rates in formal employment, education and public offices, and decision-making. The burden of child care and household maintenance also falls almost exclusively on women, even as they additionally contribute to the economic upkeep of families. Aside from this double burden, most societies in the region also impose a double standard of morality and behaviour on women.

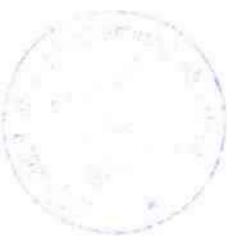
Finally, emerging social problems associated with the increasing urbanization and modernization need priority attention. These problems impinge on the ability of countries to evoke common values as a basis for national unity, and to infuse a moral dimension to their visions of national development.

Current Development Approaches and Strategies

Recognising the limitations of earlier development models and learning from their own experiences, national governments have since modified their development approaches and strategies to address economic and social development issues specific to their countries. Across countries, there is a move away from the simplistic view that economic development results in the restructuring of society or of its opposite, i.e., that restructuring society results to economic development. There is now a broad consensus that development should redound to the restructuring of both society and the economy, and to the improvement in the living standards and the quality of life of the general population.

Consequently, national governments have turned their attention towards balancing economic growth and social equity/justice concerns in their development approaches. In most instances, this has entailed the liberalization of key economic policies to promote efficiency in the production and distribution of goods and in the allocation of labour resources. But because the market has its own imperfections and cannot solve all problems, governments continue to provide the directional and legal-regulatory framework for the economy, and to assume responsibility for basic infrastructure development and the delivery of basic services especially to the poor and the disadvantaged.

The current development approaches also emphasise the need for comprehensive and integrated development plans and programmes considering the interrelatedness of most development problems and issues.



Another feature of the current development approaches of countries in the region is the inclusion in their national Plans of measures and policies to counteract the tendency of development to favour established elites and richer households. Among such measures is the adoption of a basic needs strategy to ensure that the poor majority attain acceptable and improving living standards. Most countries have likewise adopted participatory and broad-based approaches to development to ensure that plans and programmes are responsive to the needs and conditions of ordinary people. Participatory and broad-based development approaches also help prevent the adoption of exclusionary policy and programme measures that are detrimental to the interests of poorer sectors.

National development Plan documents contain several other strategies for addressing specific national problems. They contain targets and strategies for reducing the national incidence of absolute and relative poverty. The widespread provision of social services is further seen as an integral component of poverty alleviation strategies. These crucial services include community health, water and sanitation; food and nutrition; shelter and housing; and basic literacy and formal education and other forms of skills - and non-formal training to improve human resource capabilities.

Plan documents are likewise concerned with expanding opportunities for productive employment to meet people's needs for jobs and income sources. Some of the strategies identified for doing this include stepping up the process of rural industrialization; establishing free trade zones and industrial estates; modernising key industries; and encouraging the creation of new businesses and economic enterprise.

With regards to social integration, it is recognised that reducing income/economic inequalities, and curbing other forms of social injustices is crucial. Several countries have passed measures to speed up the process of developing political power and economic resources to the rural areas and to regions outside their national capital. Because of the multi-ethnic compositions of several Asian countries, development approaches in the region also include the protection of the rights and interests of ethnic minorities and the promotion of respect and communication between and among their ethno-linguistic and cultural groups. The elimination of discriminatory policies and practices and the management and resolution of ethnic tensions and conflicts are some of the measures incorporated in development plans and programmes for preserving national unity and the multicultural diversity of countries.

Country development approaches also incorporate various measures for promoting the rights and improving the status of women, and for reducing existing gender gap in employment, income, and education.

Steps are also being taken for the conservation of natural resources and the preservation of the environment which underlies the long term sustainability of development efforts.

* * * *

Social scientists have now the challenging task of providing the necessary research and analytical work for monitoring and assessing the effectiveness of current development approaches and strategies, and for further refining development plans and programmes. There is a need to lend research support to governmental efforts to balance economic growth and social equity strategies and to manage multi-cultural diversity. Continuing research is also needed in areas bearing on poverty alleviation, employment expansion, and social integration.

Latin American and Caribbean Perspective

The Latin American and Caribbean Experts Meeting on Social Development and the WSSD took place in Caracas, Venezuela, on 17 and 18 November 1994. The meeting was organised jointly by SELA and UNESCO, with the collaboration of CLACSO and CENDES.

*The meeting addressed some of the major themes concerning the social development in Latin America and the Caribbean with particular attention to the core issues of the WSSD, namely poverty, productive employment and social integration. The participants had also the opportunity to hear on the progress made by three research projects sponsored by SELA in co-operation with other institutions in 1994, one on **The articulation of economic and social policies** (CLAD/SELA/CEPAL), another on **Methodology for measuring the efficiency in public expenditure in Latin America and the Caribbean**; and the third one on **Solidarity for competitiveness** (SELA/UNESCO/UNDP). Finally the meeting took notice of the preliminary results of the joint UNDP/UNESCO/CLACSO/RLA/90/011 project on **Governance strategies during the crisis**, as well as resumes of the results of several national workshops organised jointly by CLACSO and UNESCO preparatory to WSSD.*

*In the following pages is given a resume of the discussion at the Caracas meeting, prepared by **Oscar Vargas-Foronda**.*

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro

Among the various and contrasting features of Latin America and the Caribbean, poverty is clearly the most salient one.

Even among the richest capital cities of the sub-continent, social reality offers a striking human and urban landscape of poverty and misery, particularly in the *barriadas* (shanty towns) of the suburbs. To refer to poverty in the rural areas is, on the other hand, almost a redundancy, since the process of development and modernization has been mainly an urban phenomenon. Certainly, the roots of this situation extend far into the history of the region, but it has drastically aggravated over the last fifteen years, especially during the “lost decade” (as is known the period of the 1980s), when the economic crisis was compounded by the impact of structural adjustments undertaken for recovery at the instance of the Bretton-Woods institutions.

In macroeconomic terms, the region has certainly begun to recover from the worst consequences of the crisis and has shown progress in stabilising economies. However, concentrated and sustained efforts will have to be made to overcome poverty and to correct the major social imbalances featuring most of its countries.

Two outlooks contend in the predicament concerning poverty, human development, and competitiveness: one optimistic; another pessimistic.

The optimistic outlook holds that the overcoming of poverty is not merely a moral obligation but also a true economic imperative. International competitiveness rests largely upon human resources development; therefore economic development is perfectly compatible with social development.

The pessimistic outlook, on the other hand, while acknowledging the need for human resource development, restrains it to a small fraction of the population. The struggle to eliminate poverty is not seen as a global strategic goal -- one which concerns the majority of the population -- but rather a programme of relief and actions with no deep structural change capacity and intention.

Bearing in mind these two opposing outlooks, the participants stressed that the WSSD should be able to identify and put forward a strategy to combat poverty which clearly stands on the side of the optimistic predicament, calling the international community to fashion fresh strategies to eradicate poverty.

One of the major problems facing Latin America and the Caribbean relates to the generation of productive employment for as many as 60 % of the population which suffers either from unemployment, or low-productivity, or low-income informal employment. No meaningful improvement of the present-day regional situation can be expected without solving this puzzle. One significant aspect of the problem is the absence of a clear conceptual understanding, and a consensus about both strategies and policies needed to improve the employment situation in the region.

As numerous *Fundação Cuidar o Futuro* are the different approaches to explain unemployment and the remarkable development of the so-called "informal sector", so are the various remedies being proposed. They range from programmes which favour incentives or subsidies coupled simultaneously with the relaxation of labour regulations, through schemes seeking to encourage employment-oriented training, to special programmes in support of temporary employment and self-employment through the creation of micro-enterprises. If in the short term these various programmes have indeed had some positive impact, it is yet too early to evaluate their long-term incidence, particularly in terms of their net effect on the overall employment situation. Also, notice should be taken of the fact that most of the jobs generated through such programmes and schemes are of very low productivity (merely subsistence employment), bearing little or no consequence at all either for the global development of the countries, or for their competitiveness in the international market. International competitiveness, is more dependent on labour productivity than on low labour cost. The challenge for the Latin American and Caribbean countries is: how to achieve rates of economic growth high enough as to curb unemployment in a meaningful way, while at the same time generating highly productive and, therefore, competitive employment and activities?

The social and the economic have gone through separate and unequal ways for many decades in Latin America and the Caribbean. But most particularly since the eighties the fragile mechanisms and schemes of social integration have noticeably deteriorated. As the World Bank has pointed out in its 1990 report, the region shows the most extreme income polarisation in the world, with all the known consequences of a growing social disintegration; of the weakening of the civil society as well as of the representativity of the main (traditional) social actors; of the questioning of the political legitimacy of democracy (which appears as

incapable to solve the problem), and, finally, of the deepening of the overall crisis affecting the basic social tissues of the nation-states.

In spite of these undeniable facts and processes, the economic growth pattern and policies still predominate in the region and social development is given secondary importance. The justification put forward is that such policies are the only ones capable of maintaining the macro-economic balances, while complying with the requirements of the global economy. Under this approach, the State, through its social policies, is supposed to assume the responsibility of dealing with the pernicious social effects of the on-going economic growth pattern. As a consequence, the task of strengthening the civil society and the democratic State are subordinated to the economic and financial imperatives, thus deepening more and more the separation between the economic and the social policies.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, an effective strategy against poverty, inequality and exclusion requires a multifold programme of converging actions, aiming at laying down the basis for social development. It also requires a new pattern of relationships with the international order. In this endeavour, both the State and the civil society have a central role to play.

A serious effort is needed to clarify the very concept of development. It is expected that the WSSD will play a meaningful role in this effort, and the call sent to the Summit by the various national conclaves is that the human person be considered as the main subject of development, whose aim should be to enhance human dignity, both that of the communities and groups and that of the individuals. This, in turn, requires to stress the ethical dimension of development. The new integral approach should identify development not only with economic expansion but also with social equity and environmental sustainability. Under this approach, the relationships between the State, the market, and the civil society should be redefined according to the needs of human development. Such redefinition is needed in order to ensure the full commitment and responsibility of these three main forces in the achievement of human development. The new vision of development should, thus, take into account aspects and dimensions such as the quality of life, human dignity, and social and cultural pluralism. All forms of discrimination should be banned from the new process of global human sustainable development. Social integration should not be understood as integration to the economic and social logic of modernity, but rather as the process through which all the various social identities (ethnic, cultural, regional, etc.) are harmoniously incorporated into the one and same social body.

Efficiency of social expenditure should be evaluated in terms of results and products and not in terms of its inputs. Since the improvement of the quality of life of the population should be the main criterion for the assessment of social expenditure, it is redundant to distinguish between social and economic policies. What is needed is a common nucleus of policies, oriented to the enhancement of the levels of economic efficiency and simultaneously to the improvement of the quality of life of the population. But the key-stone to overcome poverty is productive employment. Economic and social policies should, therefore, go hand in hand in the pursuit of this central goal.

The traditional approach of tax increases and inflationary monetary policies to finance public social policies is no longer viable in Latin America and the Caribbean, due both to the reluctance of the middle class to accept fiscal reforms and to the constraints imposed by the necessary structural adjustment of the national economy. This became clear throughout the

1980s, when the notable deterioration of public finances led governments in the region to a situation of insolvency for the execution of their poverty-alleviation policies.

The present day challenge in Latin America and the Caribbean is, therefore, to identify and design new schemes of *integrated* economic and social policies, oriented to the generation of productive employment. The overall goal should be to gain international competitiveness while at the same time enhancing the quality of life of the population. The achievement of this goal is also a *sine qua non* condition for the consolidation of democratic governance in the countries of the region. Integrated economic and social policies are expected to help overcome poverty and to promote social integration. In order to be politically and socially viable, the competitive modernisation of the economies has to prove to be an adequate means to overcome poverty and social exclusion.

The identification and design of such schemes of integrated economic and social policies is nowadays one of the major challenges for the Latin American and Caribbean nation states. A new political economy has to be found, integrating employment, wages, prices, education, health, and culture. The three key institutions of modern society, namely the State, the civil society, and the market, should be strengthened in order to enhance their complementary roles within this integrated approach.

The transition to a more efficient and just social order in Latin America and the Caribbean requires the design and implementation of systems of social consensus and concertation, through which the actors of the civil society -- particularly those most affected by poverty and exclusion -- will have the opportunity to take part, side by side with governmental institutions, in the design, execution, and evaluation of the various public policies. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the State should evolve from its present traditional despotic position and role to a modern and efficient function of co-ordination and concertation of policies and social actors. This, in turn, calls for a new and democratic articulation of the State with the civil society. The economic and social reforms in the region require also a political reform. Only by proving capable to implement this integrated economic, social and political reform will the Latin American and Caribbean nation-states and societies be able to solve their major economic and social problems, particularly the lack of international competitiveness, poverty, and social disintegration. To enter the twenty-first century as true and renovated modern societies, the Latin American and Caribbean nations will have to comply with this much needed social reform.

The ongoing process of globalization is forcing the Latin American and Caribbean countries to resolutely adopt the new social and economic paradigm, in order to achieve the required competitiveness. Public and private enterprises should develop a new "common sense" for their managerial strategies and practices, oriented to the enhancement of their human resources. The key in this approach is to develop a sense of team, of group-work within the enterprises, allowing workers and employees to take part in decision-making and encouraging them to multiply their working capacities, their labour flexibility and autonomy. These changes shall also create a new and better "life quality" in the work centres.

Instead of relying on low wages and on over-exploitation of the labour force as means to gain short-term international competitiveness, public and private enterprises should adopt a medium and long-term strategy based on internal solidarity and social and economic enhancement of their human assets. This is the "solidarity- to- increase- competitiveness" approach, the only one capable to enhance the chances of the countries of the region in the process of world interdependence.



The countries of the region should now make the necessary efforts to conceptualise this paradigm and, at the same time, make it operational at the educational, economic, and social levels. The question for Latin America and the Caribbean is no longer whether to adopt or refuse modernisation, but rather how to achieve modernisation and social development at the same time.

Until recently, regional and international co-operation for social development was considered and treated as a matter of lesser importance than co-operation for security programmes and for macro-economic structural adjustments. Now, thanks to the WSSD, it is expected that this approach will be substituted by one which acknowledges the centrality of the social dimensions (education and human resources development, health, housing, social safety-nets, social participation, culture, etc.) in the process of development considered as a whole. In this connection, it is hoped that the co-ordination of social development policies and programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean will strengthen co-operation with the various development agencies operating in the region, and lead to the designing and implementation of new and innovative schemes to solve the problem of the external debt by linking it to programmes of social development. Inter-regional co-operation in this domain should seek to promote concertation and co-operation between NGOs, governments, academic institutions and research centres. In this respect, a regional mechanism of exchange of information concerning successful experiences of social development policies and programmes could be very helpful.

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro



AUDIENCE AFRICA

Africans speak to Africans

*Organised by UNESCO, in Paris from 6 through 10 February 1995, the principal objective of **AUDIENCE AFRICA** was to provide Africans, on the eve of the Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development with the opportunity to undertake an incisive examination of the whole question of development and development priorities in their continent in the light of the new challenges facing the world. This examination took account of the lessons of the past, the requirements of the present, the demands of the future and the realities of the current international situation in order to set down the terms of a self-reliant development policy that would secure the economic, social, political and cultural progress of the present populations and the survival, in dignity, peace, democracy and justice, of generations to come.*

***AUDIENCE AFRICA** brought together Heads of State or their representatives, senior officials from bilateral aid agencies, intergovernmental organizations of the United Nations system, the Organization of African Unity, the African Development Bank, the Economic Commission for Africa and various non-governmental organizations, independent figures from civil society and sympathetic specialists concerned with Africa from the world of education, science, culture and communication.*

*Below is given a capsule summary of the outcome of this **Audience***

Africa will have to rely more and more on its own strength. Its true future lies in its sons' ability to design, forge and enhance a process of renewal of liberation and progress, without which it will never participate as a credible, responsible and respected partner in international relations.

Africa is still seriously handicapped by four centuries of slave trading and the weight of colonial and neo-colonial domination. It is true that from 1960 to the present day it has made undeniable progress in education, science, culture and communication, which can be fully appreciated when set against the performance of the colonial era, over a much longer sequence of time. But these achievements should not obscure the continent's innumerable failures.

Africa has the highest general mortality and infant mortality rates, the lowest life expectancy, the lowest rates of economic growth, the lowest income per capita, and the highest population growth. The continent also has extremely low school enrolment rates and particularly high illiteracy rates. Africa is glaringly under-equipped, and development of the communication media is still in its infancy. Education, training, culture, information and health budgets are constantly being whittled down, while defence, security and arms budgets are constantly being expanded.

In general, administrations are blighted by ethnic preference, a partisan approach, cronyism, nepotism, corruption, absenteeism, laxness and low rates of return and efficiency. Misappropriation of public funds, wastage and chaos are not systematically discouraged.

There is a need to make a firm and resolute commitment to reverse this trend by breaking with the past and formulating a completely new endogenous development policy. The new approach should be based on the following convictions:

- Contrary to the general view, African continent is not poor. Africa is the most richly endowed of all the continents, which means that with competent and serious men, capital and know-how, it could catch up with other parts of the world very quickly, as Latin America and Asia, which became independent well before 1960, are now doing.
- Independence is not an end in itself but a means to the end of national liberation.
- Africa will never be built by foreigners, whatever emotional, cultural and personal bonds they have formed with the continent, and whatever the terms of the moral contract that might lay the basis for a new type of partnership between Africa and the international community. Incidentally, the end purpose of assistance is to make it possible for assistance to be phased out.
- Only Africa can decide its destiny. Africans must take the initiative in solving their own problems. Africa is neither a "lost continent nor a 'continent in distress', inhabited by people incapable of raising themselves to the level of other peoples.
- As long as Africans have no confidence in themselves, in their brothers and sisters, in their culture, in their abilities or in their values, they will never make full use of the resources of creativity and inventiveness that lie dormant within them.
- Three decades of difficulties, mistakes, hesitant experimentation, setbacks and partial successes that have brought discredit on Africa will not have been in vain if there is courage to carry out a critical assessment of the situation, recognition of inadequacies and weaknesses, and an effort to draw, with humility, all the appropriate lessons from it with a view to a new start.
- Structural adjustment plans are not a panacea. Whatever their virtues, they need to be quickly superseded by a genuine development plan based on growth, full employment and justice, devised and carried out by the citizens of the countries themselves for the benefit, in particular, of the most disadvantaged sections of society.
- Any centralisation of power or seizure of power by a minority operating through a single party is dangerous. It is contrary to the process of development and represents a form of dictatorship. It must be opposed. Africa needs democracy because it is the missing link between development and peace. Democracy should be understood not as a model to be copied but as an objective to be attained.
- As long as the idea of peace is mistreated in Africa, efforts to promote development will never live up to expectations. Armed conflicts, civil wars, border disputes, tribalism and ethnic rivalries, political disputes and the exploitation of religion for partisan ends make it only realistic to regard political instability and war not as epiphenomena but as serious and ongoing trends.

- Compared with Europe, the Americas, and the countries of the Indian Ocean and the Pacific -- which form economic blocs that are engaged in cut-throat competition, micro-States have no chance of becoming significant and credible forces unless they unite. With its present population of 640 million people -- who will number more than 1.2 billion consumers in 23 years' time -- and with the wealth of its soil, its subsoil, its seas, its forests and its tourist and cultural potential, Africa will never be marginalised if its people have the necessary negotiating skills to turn such undoubted benefits to commercial advantage.

In order to prepare for the birth of this new era, AUDIENCE AFRICA has devised in the fields listed below the following concrete and urgent recommendations:

I. Training and Sharing of Knowledge : What School and what Universities for Tomorrow's Africa?

Since education is the pre-condition for the development of labour productivity, the regulation of fertility, a decline in infant mortality and improved quality of life and life expectancy, decision-makers should grasp this fact and draw all due conclusions from it. The systems inherited from the colonial era must therefore be rebuilt, which will mean redefining goals, content, structures, methods, approaches and values as part of a mould-breaking strategy which must not, however, be mistaken for systematic rejection or blind nihilism.

Such educational reform must always be conducted on the basis of a global and non-sectoral approach in order to endow the system with internal cohesion, structural relevance and organic unity.

Since an education system is also built on a set of values, it would be judicious, bearing in mind the differences between countries, to include in educational content such concepts as due respect for the family, networks of alliances and the safeguarding of kinship; and also democracy, human rights, tolerance, respect for minorities, the need for sound management of State funds, a sense of statehood and public welfare; respect for the environment, commitment to and respect for the law and institutions; a sense of justice and equality, respect for life and appreciation of the truth; to these might be added the culture of peace and a spirit of dialogue as expressions of pluralism and the right to be different, respect for women, the weak and the disadvantaged; openness to the modern world and participation in universal progress; self-confidence and confidence in Africa and African culture; and the will to take part in a country's development as an active, aware and responsible person.

The reform of education systems will be an opportunity for the African countries, as regards the financing of education, to redefine new partnership strategies providing for burden-sharing and cost-sharing between the State, regions, provinces, municipalities, rural communities and families on bases that have been jointly negotiated and are mutually acceptable. Such costs might pertain to salaries, educational supplies, health coverage, substantial capital investment, manpower, funds for operational expenses, the building of classrooms, and educational materials, as well as accommodation, the upkeep and maintenance of premises, etc.. It is clearly understood that this sharing of roles, responsibilities and funding commitments presupposes the effective participation of all partners in determining not only the objectives but also the ultimate aims and strategies at all levels.

As the cost of teaching staff is one of the obstacles that African education systems will have to deal with in raising the enrolment ratio, teachers' brigades and supply teachers should

be called upon so as to lower training costs. Similarly, the possibility should be explored of introducing national civic service for young graduates who could in this way, for a modest allowance, teach for a year or two in the service of the State.

Use should be made of the opportunities afforded by dual-shift and mixed-grade classes. Defence and security budgets should be reduced in favour of education.

Appropriate measures should be taken to ensure that, by the end of the century, 5 per cent of the gross domestic product is devoted to education in the context of a human resource development policy enabling development requirements to be met.

Every pupil entering the formal system should be guaranteed at least four years of uninterrupted elementary study to prevent the relapse into illiteracy. This education must as far as possible be given in the child's mother tongue in such a way as to ensure bilingual education in a more widely used language.

As non-formal education offers more flexibility for the introduction of concepts such as nutrition, health education, environmental education and the use of national languages, it must be developed and adapted to the needs of young people not at school and of adults, particularly women in rural areas. It must not, however, be a second-rate education, downgraded both by society and by comparison with the formal system.

A law on compulsory schooling should be introduced wherever this has not been done.

In secondary education, stress should be placed on general education of a high standard that could guarantee greater adaptability. Secondary education should also give a prominent place to vocational and technical education, with emphasis on the variety of options and the professionalization of training on the basis of a highly detailed entry and exit profile.

Importance of higher education and of guaranteeing its high standards must be recognised. To lower its costs, students should have recourse to private funding and to study loans.

II. Science, Technology, and Sustainable Development : Africa and the World

Working from the premise that, in spite of their diversity, African countries shared problems that called for their unification with a view to devising their common strategies, Audience Africa affirmed from the outset that a command of literacy and numeracy was the precondition for successful learning in science and technology. Audience Africa also asserted that the training of primary school teachers in the teaching of the sciences was an important factor, as was the need to have a critical mass of researchers.

Turning to the brain drain (30,000 Africans holding Ph.D. degrees lived abroad), the Audience identified the causes of this before going on to suggest that public authorities should create an inspiring protective and fertile scientific and technological environment for African researchers that would meet all the conditions for their full development, this being a condition for the prompt return of emigrants to their country of origin.

Going on to address the issue of scarce resources, Audience Africa recommended the pooling of facilities, the stepping up of exchanges, scientific co-operation at regional and

subregional levels and the establishment of networks. It also placed special emphasis on the urgent need to popularise science and technology so as to bring the latter within the reach of the general public.

Audience Africa proposed to promote centres of excellence where scientists and researchers could be trained.

Science and technology need not necessarily be linked to the environment but that efforts should concentrate rather on food production, solar energy and renewable sources of energy, poverty in rural areas, health, hygiene, food and housing. Audience Africa strongly recommended that women be more closely involved in scientific and technical activities and that NGOs active in those areas receive financial backing.

Decision-makers should ensure that the link between scientific research and industrial production be established. The active role incumbent on the private sector in funding scientific research needs to be acknowledged.

Audience Africa advocated the use of modern information technologies to improve communication within the African scientific community and pointed out that distance teaching offered real possibilities in these fields.

Audience Africa recommended to African governments that they formulate a coherent science policy and a concrete plan of action at the national and regional level with a view to

- i. promoting science and technology teaching from primary school onwards, and centres of excellence, throughout the African continent;
- ii. translating into reality the political will to promote science and technology in the form of fellowships and in higher educational institutions, observing the principle of equal opportunity and gender equality;
- iii. improving, developing and diversifying infrastructures in order to achieve autonomy and self-reliance in science and technology; and
- iv. encouraging new, appropriate and sustainable forms of assistance for African researchers and research teams to increase, within the next ten years, the present ratio of one researcher per 4,000 people to one researcher per 1,000 people.

Audience Africa also recommended that African governments endeavour to facilitate access by African researchers and academics to data banks through computer networks, finding appropriate partners for them. It is incumbent upon African governments to establish the science and technology information highways that are crucial to communication among African researchers, and likewise between them and their counterparts in other regions of the world.

III. Regionalization and Development

One of the features of the international context was the trend towards the creation of large regional units and vast free-trade zones, the exclusion of the poorest countries from international trade and the concentration of world trade in the hands of the developed countries.

Regionalization implied the creation of a climate of confidence, tolerance and mutual respect within each African State and also between the States. Regionalization would be a matter for the people concerned. It would enable all Africans to learn how to live together and to know each other, to respect and talk to each other, to mix and work together, to exchange goods and services and to communicate, irrespective of their language, religion, ethnic origin, or the colour of their skin.

There is a need to carry out community projects based on geographic or other forms of proximity, to support all joint institutions which had proved their effectiveness, and to work to improve the performance of those that were essential to the future of the African continent.

African integration should be conceived in pragmatic terms, with a transfer of responsibilities and sovereignty to common institutions and with the strengthening of inter-African co-operation and of co-operation seeking to establish ties with communities of African origin in other continents, without forgetting horizontal South-South co-operation.

African governments:

- (i) should provide effective support for the action of the continent's institutions such as the OAU, the ECA and the ADB, by paying their contributions, carrying out their resolutions and making use of their services in their fields of competence in order to endow them with the necessary authority;
- (ii) should require all senior African staff to use at least two working languages by publishing and using research findings in cross-border languages or the major regional languages of Africa;
- (iii) should continue to prepare and execute subregional and regional projects in the fields of education, science, culture, communication and social development;
- (iv) should draw up an inventory of African training and research institutions with a view to the better management of regionalization.
- (v) should enact, apply and enforce a genuine policy in respect of the movement of goods, persons, brains and knowledge;
- (vi) should provide training for those responsible for applying this policy in a spirit of integration, solidarity and African brotherhood;



- (vii) should put an end to measures for the expulsion of Africans living in other African countries by helping to regularise situations and people's positions where they are not in conformity with existing legislation;
- (viii) should encourage the creation of businesses founded on African partnerships;
- (ix) should develop joint projects relating to training, infrastructure, communication, etc., in order to reduce costs and maximise efficiency;
- (x) should encourage, facilitate and promote all kinds of exchanges between African territorial communities; and
- (xi) should formulate and execute jointly, at regional and subregional level, strategies for the protection of the environment and for the joint exploitation of natural resources, specifically in the fields of energy, water, forestry, etc.

The intellectuals and the political elite

- (i) should make a determined and confident commitment to popular participation in order to make a success of integration by explaining the reasons for it, its advantages and its consequences in terms of solidarity, co-operation, mutually beneficial exchanges and complementarity;
- (ii) should take part in extending democracy nationally and regionally, in promoting tolerance through education, and in training citizens in the context of the enhancement of the culture of peace;
- (iii) should refuse to participate in any way in narrowly nationalist activities, any ill-considered glorification of national feeling or any policy of exclusion against other Africans on grounds of tribe, language, race or religion.

IV. Communication and Development in the Rural Environment

The Cultural Dimension of Development in Africa

Assessing the situation of communication in Africa, Audience Africa noted its inadequate development and its limited involvement in the development efforts of African countries. That failure might be ascribed to the low level of priority accorded to communication by African governments and to the insufficient resources allocated to its development. This sector should be made an absolute priority in all fields, since there could be

no genuine development in rural areas without an intelligent and effective communication strategy.

There is also a need to strengthen the efforts already under way to expand the role of women through access to the media and also through participation in the management and operation of newspapers and radio stations in both urban and rural areas.

Audience Africa drew attention to the importance of folk theatre, storytellers, choirs and traditional singing groups. It welcomed their efforts and the role that they played in making culture a living activity and in promoting active communication centred on cultural values. The meeting also noted that **exhibitions and museums** were effective means of conveying information. The same was true of postal services, which enabled newspapers to be circulated at lower cost, even in rural areas. The meeting deplored Africa's total lack of independence in regard to the manufacture and sale of communication equipment. It encouraged African enterprises to take action in this sector so as to break the monopoly of external forces over such strategic equipment.

Audience Africa called upon the African press to contribute by all possible means to promoting democracy through a **code of conduct** based on principles of government purged of all authoritarianism and obscurity. **Freedom of the press must be loudly proclaimed** by all African States and the **protection of journalists guaranteed** by concrete and effective means.

African governments should:

- i. encourage, promote and facilitate the participation of the private sector, as well as of banks, insurance companies and private sponsors, in cultural development, by adopting appropriate measures, including tax incentives;
- ii. take **urgent and effective steps** for the protection of archives and the promotion and safeguarding of libraries and museums;
- iii. collaborate with the private sector with the aim of establishing cultural industries as an instrument for the promotion of cultural development, job creation, and the promotion of the tourist industry;
- iv. devote particular attention, in this context, to African music, which has grown into a leading economic activity;
- v. give great priority to culture and its development by substantially increasing the share of national resources devoted to cultural development;
- vi. promote the cultural dimension in development with regard to planning policies, strategies, and project implementation, follow-up and evaluation;
- vii. develop the culture of democracy by involving all levels of society in policy formulation, programming and project design, implementation, follow-up and evaluation;

viii. encourage the formulation and implementation of concrete measures aimed at securing the participation of women as central to the processes of education and the transmission of culture; and

ix. establish a system of micro-credit for the promotion of crafts.

V. Democracy in Everyday Life and Development : The Culture of Peace

The triumph of freedom and the desire for democracy that is being expressed world-wide has greatly influenced the African Continent. Democratization is on the agenda everywhere on the continent and the process set in motion has been outstandingly successful because it had enabled peoples who until recently had been confined in silence, resignation and submission, to raise their heads and throw ruling governments into disarray by imposing a new balance of power.

Dictatorships that had previously been considered invincible faltered before they fell. Young people, women, workers and civil society had leapt into the breach and replaced the corrupt and ossified oligarchies that had bled their countries for decades without the slightest care in the world for the running down of the economy, the plundering of wealth, and social discontent.

National conferences had brought about historic changes. In some countries, democratic change had occurred without violence. In others, the democratic process was taking place in an extremely fragile context, mainly because of the absence of any democratic culture, the intensity of tribal antagonisms, the weakness of new parliaments, and the persistence of fundamentalism and outbursts of violence.

Notwithstanding all this, freedom remains something fundamental and that the necessity of democracy continues to be an essential issue in Africa.

Promotion of a democratic society implies that corruption is combated unremittingly by breaking the chains of complicity between corrupters, the corrupt and the receivers, who embezzled the money of the poor and laundered funds accruing from drug trafficking and speculation, benefiting from the protection of unknown hands.

Development so far-- And now, where?

The two-day Symposium organised by UNESCO, on June 18 and 19, 1994 in Paris to discuss what has become of development engaged prominent scholars and thinkers from different parts of the world in a free and frank exchange of ideas and critical appraisal of the past development experience. An overview of this intense debate is presented below by Yogesh Atal.

The end of Second World War began a new era of international co-operation with the twin goals of **reconstruction** and **development**. A Marshall plan was prepared to rebuild the war-torn Europe with the help of Bretton-Woods institutions; and the process of decolonization led the underdeveloped countries of the Third World to prepare their own blueprints for change with bilateral and multilateral external assistance particularly within the framework of the newly created United Nations system. Now approaching close to the celebration of fifty years of the existence of the UN system, and the Bretton-Woods institutions, there is renewed interest in Development. It is being redefined with adjectives such as *endogenous, human, sustained, people-centred, social*, etc.

We did development for full fifty years, and we are newly sloganizing this word now with such great concern. Quite naturally we must ask: What happened to Development? Are we admitting that what we did in the past was not development? That it was a misnomer? Or, are we suggesting, on the basis of careful stocktaking, that there is considerable unfinished agenda which requires a fresh prioritization? Or, are we becoming aware of the several unintended, harmful consequences of the prevailing paradigm of development, and feeling the urgency to discard it, and start afresh?

What has happened by way of development so far? and how and where do we go from here?

One thing is clear: there is growing disenchantment. Compared to hopes that people invested, the results have been very disappointing -- **the rising revolution of aspirations** of the 1950s already got transformed in the later part of 1960s in the **rising revolution of frustrations** that still continues unabated with the fear that there may be a greater force of turbulence ahead. Development efforts also failed to adequately provide even for the basic needs of all the peoples; that is why there is demand for strategies that respond to the basic needs and which urgently tackle problems of poverty, unemployment, and social marginalization. Consequences of what had happened in the past fifty years have similarly been disastrous for the global environment; the concerns for our common future are leading to the re-examination of our dealing with nature in terms of sustainability.

What happened to Development? It is both a *question* as well as a *satire*. Taken literally, it is a query to find out how much has been attained and what remains to be done. Going beyond the surface, the tone of the question may also indicate that the promise of development has been falsified; that there has been a *failure* of development.

Opinions on the gains (or failures) of development are divided. It depends on what indicators are chosen to evaluate the past performance, and from whose perspective. No one argues the betterment of situation in terms of conventional indicators of modernization: literacy and education, electricity, urbanization, political participation, mass media, international movements of people, science and technology. Even the fact that Bretton-Woods institutions have \$14 billion in reserve and are making an annual profit of \$1 billion, and that 90 countries are undergoing a process of World Bank engineered "structural adjustment" may be regarded, by some, as an index of success.

At the same time, there are other features that cast gloom over all the attainments. For example, there are still a billion people round the world who remain illiterate; poverty is rampant with many millions living below the poverty line; the divide between the rich and the poor -- both the countries, and the people in each individual country -- is not only continuing but widening; there is hunger and disease -- and new deadly diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, are inflicting not only the poor but also the very rich; unemployment figures -- both in developed and developing countries -- are staggeringly high; authoritarian regimes and military dictatorships are still to be found where there are gross violations of human rights; corruption is widespread; internecine conflicts and wars threaten peace and security; and the sustainability of the ecosystem is going down with the depletion of natural resources and the pollution of the environment. There is concern for cultural adulteration and for the loss of cultural identity.

All this is diagnosis, and is well-known. Any dialogue or debate on development delineates the same syndrome. The questions is: what is the prognosis? How do we go beyond the reactive phase? Should we go on cursing darkness while waiting for a full glow of light to arrive, or should we begin by lighting even a single candle?

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro

Staunch critics of the prevailing paradigm of development feel that it has promoted *westernization* in the name of modernization. It is their assertion that designed and defined by the West (which is now renamed North), the development exercise was meant to transform the states of the third World into *agents of foreign capital*; through them, the West (or the North) has succeeded in causing both intensive and extensive exploitation of resources of the developing countries. The globalization process is, according to some, delegitimizing the State. One estimate suggests that the combined capital of fifteen major multinationals is greater than the combined GNP of nearly one hundred poor countries!! With their help, chosen elites in developing countries have built *pseudo-Manhattans* in the ocean of poverty. Similarly, the growth of foreign direct investment (FDI) has been very lopsided. While such investment in the developing world has gone up from 13% in 1986-90 to 40% in 1996, amounting to \$70 billion, it was pointed out that 80 per cent of it had gone to only 10 countries; and among them, one country (China) claimed nearly half of it. In contrast to this, when the World Bank gives loans, its conditionalities run into 40 pages for a sum of only \$20 million.

Several participants came down heavily on the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). It is alleged that these institutions run their operations to *rescue the rich*, and to support non-democratic regimes. The harm inflicted on the social sectors by the prescription of *structural adjustment* was highlighted by many a speaker. What goes back to The World Bank and IMF as debt-repayment is 4 to 6 times the figure spent on education and health, by the indebted country, for example.



The greatest damage is done to the indigenous cultures. Governed by the ethics of economism, the expatriate expertise ignored traditional wisdom and imposed outside models; their failure was always attributed to the native cultures. Technological onslaughts were aimed at the destruction of traditional cultures in the hope of creating a homogenized world culture.

Despite such mammoth pressures, cultures did not die. They exhibited their resilience to withstand all assaults from without. The world continues to be a veritable mosaic of cultures.

There is a growing consensus on three premises:

- (i) while science extend limits on what is technologically possible, it is the cultures that should determine what is ethically desirable and humanly sustainable;
- (ii) life on earth is shared: we must think globally and act locally; and
- (iii) we can fashion our future.

There is in evidence a certain awakening in the South. It has begun to speak. It is questioning the verticality of relationships and demanding the terms of parity. As against externally induced development, there is growing consensus on *indigenization* of knowledge and on *endogenous* development. It is argued that sustainability can be operationalized only in the context of endogenous development. Collapse of communism in Eastern Europe has heralded the end of cold war and created hopes for the spread of democratic culture. Dirigism is giving way to liberalism bringing in a new relationship between the state and the market in the former socialist states. Erosion of state power in such countries is believed to have created space for the civil society. The tumbling down of the supranational structure of the Soviet Union notwithstanding, there is emergence of several regional structures like ASEAN, SAARC, and the European Union. These epigenetic formations are redefining the role of the nation-state and creating new contexts for development co-operation.

There is an emerging consensus on the view that peace and development are two sides of the same coin. If peace was war against war, development is war against want. However, the premise that development is prerequisite for peace has been challenged by the events of the past. Most threats to peace have come from the industrially advanced countries -- that is what the cold war was all about. The developed countries have fought their wars in remote locations of developing countries. They are the manufacturers and vendors of arms and armaments. Only two inferences can be drawn from such evidence: (i) development does not ensure peace, or (ii) the *developed* countries are also *not developed* -- in that case, we need to change the very definition of development, and build a new typology of underdevelopment.

The relationship between democracy and development also deserves a re-examination. Is democracy a precondition for development? Or does development create conditions favourable to democracy? References to the *Asian Miracle* were a clear reminder that the East Asian countries that have registered remarkable economic growth in the last three decades are those that have not fared well on the democracy indicator. Similarly, democratically elected leaders were described by a speaker as *dinosaurs* who have devoured resources to their advantage; rather than being *trustees of the public*, most of them have been *inheritors of privilege*. While recognizing the role of the civil society, the participants did not view it as replacement of the state. A fear was expressed that some of the actors or agencies



of the civil society may act as instruments to service corruption and support authoritarian regimes.

A caution was also expressed in judging the role of the markets in a free economy. The failure of the State to perform the market function in centralized economies should not lead one to the counter proposition that markets can replace the State. There is no either - or between the State enterprise and the private sector. Markets and States have to work together. Economies are to be seen as embedded in culture.

A two-day dialogue reviewing development experience of past fifty years in different regions of the world, and from varied perspectives, was not expected to arrive at freshly rethought paradigm of development. However, the discussion did suggest elements for it. Without trying to logicalise all the suggestions, an inventory is given below:

1. Development is not a stage, it is a policy.
2. Development should focus on people and not on economic growth *per se*. This is not to deny the importance of economic growth.
3. Development should essentially be viewed as a process of *reverse colonization* that would empower people and promote authentic sustainable change.
4. Development should not be a *received* experience; it should be a *lived* experience. In other words, development should not depend on charity; nor should it be regarded as clinical treatment. It is not enough to fight a disease; the body politic must be fully fortified to forestall its future occurrence, and to combat any other impinging ailments. We should move away from treatment to prophylactic action.
5. The *North* cannot serve as the "reference group" or "role model" for the *South*; and yet the gap between the two has to be bridged. For this, it is important that the North should also start practising what it has been preaching. Structural adjustment is needed even in the *North*; it must change its priorities; it must change its life-style rather than impose such life-style on the *South*.
6. There is a need to move from short-term selfish policies to a long-term vision in which the world is seen as a conglomerate of cultures with a variety of futures. Local area-specific strategies rooted in indigenous cultures and civilizations will have to evolve for the problems that are commonly shared by the humanity.
7. Such a strategy will have to focus on the consolidation of peace and democracy, and promote respect for human rights.

8. A new framework of global governance is called for. In such a framework, development co-operation would imply more than just aid: trade, investment, technology, labour --all kinds of flows. Economic partnership will have to be based on mutual interests and not charity, co-operation and not conflict, equitable sharing of market opportunities rather than protectionism, and far-sighted internationalism in place of stubborn nationalism. A serious search should also be made for new sources of international funding.

These elements are likely to ensure sustainable human development -- a development "that brings human numbers into balance with the coping capacity of the societies and the carrying capacity of the nature". Such strategy is likely to accelerate economic growth, bring about improvements in human lives without destroying natural capital, and to empower people so that they are enabled to design and participate in the processes and events that will shape their future.

Prevailing paradigm of development has run its course. Fifty years are enough. In a plural and multicultural world there cannot be a single recipe for change, a single model of development. Time has come to recognize the genius of individual cultures, and to let them evolve strategies that are appropriate to meet the challenges of humanity's common future.

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