TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AS AN ISSUE IN

NORTH-SOUTH NEGOTIATIONS

HOMER O. BLAIR
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
OCTOBER 25, 1980

I. DEFINITIONS

- A. NORTH-SOUTH
- B. GROUP OF 77
 - 1. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
- C. GROUP B
 - 1. DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
- D. GROUP D
- E. UNCTAD
- F. WIPO

II. NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IS MAJOR SUBJECT

- A. UNCTAD CODE OF CONDUCT FOR INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY
 - 1. BACKGROUND
 - A. PUGWASH CODE (1974)
 - B. SERIES OF MEETINGS
 - 2. WHY?
 - A. DESIRED TECHNOLOGY POSSESSED BY LARGE MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES LOCATED IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

- B. THESE BUSINESSES MUST BE FORCED TO MAKE TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE TO LDC ON ADVANTAGEOUS TERMS.
- c. ASSUMED THAT MNE ARE EAGER TO TRANSFER THEIR TECHNOLOGY TO LDC.
- D. GOVERNMENTS MUST PLAY A MAJOR PART IN NEGOTIATIONS AND THE TRANSFER PROCESS.
- 3. GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATING DELEGATIONS
 - A. "GOVERNMENTAL" EXPERTS
 - I. GOVERNMENT PEOPLE
 - II. USUALLY NO PRIVATE INDUSTRY PEOPLE
 - III. GIVE MORE WEIGHT TO UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS
 - B. THUS, THOSE NEGOTIATING HAVE NO PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER.
 - c. REAL EXPERTS COULD COME UP WITH A REASONABLE CODE FAIRLY QUICKLY.
- 4. WHAT DOES CODE COVER?
 - A. NOT LIMITED TO TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER FROM LARGE MNE TO SMALLER LDC ORGANIZATION.
 - B. CANADIAN PATENT OWNER LICENSES U.S. COMPANY.
 NO KNOWHOW INCLUDED.
 - c. EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN ONE EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE LOCATED IN ANOTHER COUNTRY.
 - D. TRANSACTION BETWEEN TWO DEVELOPED COUNTRY ORGANIZATIONS.
- 5. IS IT NEEDED BY LICENSEES?
 - A. ITEK HAS MORE LICENSES WHERE IT IS LICENSEE THAN IT HAS WHERE IT IS LICENSOR.
 - B. ITEK DOESN'T NEED IT.
- 6. IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL LICENSE AGREEMENTS ARE LONG, COMPLEX AGREEMENTS WITH PROVISIONS FOR:
 - A. GUARANTEES OF:

- I. PRODUCT QUALITY
- II. SUITABILITY OF THE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE PURPOSE CONTEMPLATED.
- B. TRAINING OF PERSONNEL.
- c. TRANSFERRED INFORMATION IS COMPLETE.
- D. SPARE PARTS WILL BE AVAILABLE.
- E. EXCLUSIVE GRANT-BACKS TO LICENSOR, ETC.
- F. ITEK HAS NO AGREEMENTS WITH SUCH CLAUSES.
- 7. MANY COMPANIES WILL NOT BOTHER TO TRY TO TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY TO OTHERS IF CODE IS ENACTED.
- 8. RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES (PP. 10-11).
- 9. CURRENT STATUS.
 - A. LAST MEETING TOOK PLACE IN GENEVA IN APRIL 1980.
 - B. NEXT MEETING IS IN GENEVA FROM JANUARY 26 TO FEBRUARY 13, 1981.
- B. UNCTAD MEETINGS ON "ROLE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (PATENTS)
 IN INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY
 - 1. BACKGROUND
 - A. 2 MAJOR MEETINGS IN GENEVA
 - I. SEPTEMBER 1975 MOSTLY ON PATENTS
 - II. OCTOBER 1977 MOSTLY ON TRADEMARKS
 - 2. SEPTEMBER 1975 MEETING
 - A. 2 NON-GOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEES
 - I. HOB & CANADIAN
 - B. SAME SUBJECTS AS EARLIER WIPO MEETINGS ON REVISIONS OF PARIS CONVENTION.
 - c. WHAT LDC'S WANT: (PP. 13-19)
 - I. NATIONAL TREATMENT DISCRIMINATING TO LDC'S.

- II. ACTUAL WORKING OF PATENTS IN COUNTRY WHERE PATENT IS ISSUED.
- DURATION OF PATENTS SHOULD BE SHORTER.

 CUBA "UNLIKELY THAT A NEW TECHNOLOGY COULD LAST

 MORE THAN 7 YEARS."
 - IV. PATENTS SHOULD NOT INCLUDE THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF IMPORTATION.
 - V. PATENTS SHOULD NOT BE USED TO LIMIT EXPORTATION OF PRODUCTS FROM ONE COUNTRY TO ANOTHER.
- VI. DISCLOSURE IN PATENTS ARE INADEQUATE.
- VII. PRINCIPLE OF INDEPENDENCE OF PATENTS (IN EACH COUNTRY) MUST BE CHANGED.
- VIII. IMPORTATION OF PATENTED ITEM SHOULD NOT CONSTITUTE WORKING OF PATENTS.
- 3. OCTOBER 1977 MEETING.
 - A. 3 NON-GOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEES
 - I. HOB, JERRY MCAULIFFE & CANADIAN
 - B. SOVIET SPEECH
- 4. NO SPECIFIC RESULTS FROM EITHER MEETING.
 - A. TM REPORT MAY BE ONE ITEM USED IN PREPARATION OF A REPORT BY KURT WALDHEIN, SECRETARY GENERAL OF U.N. ON CONSUMERS.
- C. PARIS CONVENTION
 - 1. ORIGINALLY SIGNED IN 1883.
 - 2. LAST REVISION WAS IN STOCKHOLM IN 1967.
 - 3. NUMBER OF MEETINGS DISCUSSING SAME POINTS RAISED IN OTHER MEETINGS.
 - 4. 14 POINTS
 - 5. UNANIMITY (PP. 29-30)
 - A. DIPLOMATIC CONVENTION FEB.-MARCH 1980 IN GENEVA.

- B. IN PAST PARIS CONVENTION AMENDED ONLY BE UNANIMITY VOTE.
- c. CUSTOM, NOT SPECIFIED IN CONVENTION ITSELF.
- D. MOST U.N. AGENCIES OPERATE ON 2/3 VOTE.
- PRESIDENT OF CONFERENCE RULED, WITHOUT VOTE, THAT PARIS CONVENTION SHOULD BE REVISED
 - I. BY COMPANIES, IF POSSIBLE. IF NOT,
 - II. BY TWO-THIRDS OF THOSE VOTING
 - I. IF NO MORE THAN 12 OPPOSE.
- F. U.S. IS ONLY COUNTRY OPPOSING.
- 6. PREPARATORY CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN GENEVA MARCH 9-30, 1981.
- 7. RESUME DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI SEPT. 28-OCT. 24, 1981.
- 8. EEC SITUATION.
 - A. EXCLUSIVE COMPULSORY LICENSING.
 - B. APPELLATIONS OF ORIGIN.

II. NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IS AN ISSUE

- A. UNCTAD RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES CODE.
- B. UNCTAD MODEL LAW ON RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES.
- C. LAW OF THE SEA.
 - 1. U.N. REPORT ON THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE LAW OF THE SEA INCLUDES DRAFT TREATY.
 - A. ANY ORGANIZATION WANTING TO WORK IN THE SEA MUST SUBMIT PLAN.
 - B. COVERS ACTIVITIES SUCH AS DRILLING FOR OIL & GAS, MINING, ETC.
 - c. MUST AGREE TO MAKE TECHNOLOGY TO BE USED AVAILABLE
 TO THE U.N. "ENTERPRISE" OR LDC IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES,

"ON FAIR AND REASONABLE COMMERCIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS".

- I. THIS IS A COMPULSORY LICENSE.
- D. IF TECHNOLOGY IS NOT MADE AVAILABLE, IT CANNOT BE USED ON PROJECT.
- D. U.N. CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT.
 - 1. "THIS YEAR'S EXPENSIVE JAMBOREE OF UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT YIELDED HOLLOW PHRASES AND LITTLE ELSE."
- III. RELATED NATIONAL OR REGIONAL LEGISLATION AND REGULATION
 - A. EEC
 - B. ANDEAN PACT
 - C. LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES
 - D. JAPAN
 - E. NIGERIA
- IV. WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?
 - A. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES DO NOT HAVE ABILITY
 - 1. TO
 - A. DESIGN,
 - B. BUILD, OR
 - c. OPERATE

MANUFACTURING FACILITIES FOR MANY MODERN PRODUCTS, OR

- 2. TO
 - A. MARKET,
 - B. DISTRIBUTE OR
 - c. SERVICE

THESE PRODUCTS.

B. WHY?

- 1. LACK OF EDUCATED OR TRAINED POPULACE.
- 2. LACK OF COMPONENT VENDORS.
- 3. LACK OF DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS.
- 4. LACK OF CAPITAL.
- 5. LACK OF ABILITY OF LOCAL SOCIETY TO USE THE PRODUCTS.
 - A. NEED ROADS FOR CARS.
 - B. NEED ELECTRICITY GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION FOR ELCTRICALLY DRIVEN MACHINES, APPLIANCES.
 - c. NEED COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK FOR NATIONAL UTILIZATION OF INFORMATION.

V. WHAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SEE AS A SOLUTION.

- A. FORCE TECHNOLOGY OWNING NATIONS TO TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ON REGULATED CONDITIONS, FAVORABLE TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
- B. DO (A) BY MEANS OF INTERNATIONAL MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATION OF TREATIES AND CODES OF CONDUCT, USUALLY IN A U.N. FORUM.
- C. (A) & (B) INITIATED AND ENCOURAGED BY U.N. EMPLOYEES,
 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND VARIOUS CONSULTANTS,
 MANY WITH ACADEMIC ECONOMICS BACKGROUND, BUT RARELY
 WITH ANY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTAL OR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER
 EXPERIENCE.
- VI. IF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES GOT ALL TREATIES, CODES AND REGULATIONS THEY WANT, WOULD HAVE LITTLE, IF ANY, POSITIVE IMPACT ON THEIR ECONOMY, SOCIETY OR PEOPLE
 - A. INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY IN MARKET-ORIENTED DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IS NOT OWNED BY GOVERNMENTS, BUT BY NON-GOVERNMENT ENTITITES.
 - 1. EVEN WHERE GOVERNMENTS "OWN" RIGHTS, DO NOT HAVE

KNOWHOW TO MAKE TECHNOLOGY COVERED BY PATENT RIGHTS WORK AND MAKE REAL PRODUCTS.

EXAMPLE: ITEK AERIAL CAMERAS MILITARY VEHICLES

HOW MANY PRODUCTS CAN DEVELOPED COUNTRY GOVERNMENTS MANUFACTURE AND DISTRIBUTE?

- B. WHILE SOME TECHNOLOGY WILL BE TRANSFERRED IN ANY EVENT, MUCH MORE WOULD BE TRANSFERRED IF WERE MORE INCENTIVE TO DO SO.
 - 1. PARTICULARLY FOR THE MEDIUM AND SMALLER COMPANIES WHO DO NOT HAVE LARGE INTERNAL STAFFS OF LICENSING PEOPLE, LAWYERS OR ECONOMISTS.
 - A. ITEK EXAMPLE (P. 41)
 - B. \$15 MILLION SALES EXAMPLE (P. 42)
- C. COMPANIES HAVE CERTAIN PRIORITIES.
 - 1. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IS NOT USUALLY AMONG THEM.
 - 2. EVEN THE BIGGEST COMPANIES CANNOT DO EVERYTHING THAT THEY SERIOUSLY CONSIDER.
 - 3. ITEMS MEETING MOST OF COMPANY'S GOALS ARE SELECTED.
 - 4. TOO MUCH MANPOWER REQUIRED TO TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOPING NATIONS TO WARRANT ATTEMPTING TO DO SO IN FACE OF DRAWN OUT NEGOTIATIONS, RESTRICTIONS, REGULATIONS, ETC.
 - 5. WHY SHOULD ITEK ATTEMPT TO TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES?
 - A. NO PATENTS IN ANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
 - B. FEW TRADEMARKS MERELY TO PROTECT EXPORT MARKETS IN MOST CASES.
 - c. DON'T HAVE THE MANPOWER TO WASTE ON LONG, EXPENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS.

- D. WOULD NEED LARGE INCENTIVES TO TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH ARE NOT THERE AT PRESENT.
- E. NOT UNSYMPATHETIC TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
- D. PATENTS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (PP. 44-47)
 - 1. BANGLADESH (8TH MOST POPULOUS COUNTRY IN WORLD)
 - A. 154 PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED PER YEAR.
 - B. 3 PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED PER WEEK.
 - 2. INDIA
 - A. 3,093 PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED PER YEAR.
 - B. 59 PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED PER WEEK.
 - 3. JAPAN
 - A. 161,016 PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED PER YEAR.
 - B. 3,100 PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED PER WEEK.
 - 4. LUXEMBOURG
 - A. 2,384 PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED PER YEAR.
 - B. 46 PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED PER WEEK.
 - 5. IF ALL 1,000 LARGEST U.S. COMPANIES DID ALL THE PATENT APPLICATION FILING IN INDIA, WOULD BE THREE PER YEAR.
 - 6. WHY?
 - A. OFFICE COPIER EXAMPLE.
 - I. 10 PATENTABLE INVENTIONS (P. 46)
 - II. \$1,000 PER INVENTION PER COUNTRY.
 - III. 10 COUNTRIES = \$100,000.
- VII. WHAT CAN BE DONE?
 - A. LES PROPOSALS.