

THIRD WORLD TRADE AND TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

County Hall, London

18-22 February 1985

DRAFT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR DEVELOPING TRADE  
AND TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGE

THIRD WORLD TRADE AND TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

DRAFT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

FOR DEVELOPING TRADE AND TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGE

- 1 This statement of Principles applies equally to South-South and North-North relations as well as to those between North and South, although it must apply most particularly to the latter, since these principles have been most frequently disregarded in their case.
- 2 The basic principle of all exchanges between countries, whether of goods or services or technological equipment, patents and know-how, should be the mutual benefits of the peoples of those countries.
- 3 All projects and exchanges should be directed towards correcting inequalities of income and wealth and towards counteracting the results of unequal exchange and under-development in the past.
- 4 Every effort should be made to prevent the establishment of monopolistic or mono-personistic positions in the market, whereby prices of exports to the Third World are raised and prices of Third World products held down or rendered unstable.
- 5 All development projects, products, machines, tools, seeds etc., and technology made available to the Third World should always be subject to the free and independent choice of the Third World parties.
- 6 Financial arrangements - credits, loans, grants etc. - should be free of conditions, whether political or other, and should be designed to ameliorate rather than exacerbate Third World indebtedness.
- 7 All restrictions on trade, whether tariffs or non tariff barriers, especially on finished products should be lifted so that Third World countries can enter a fair world division of labour.
- 8 Joint projects of First and Third World producers should be established to work out alternative technologies in appropriate fields to meet the real needs of their peoples and to conserve scarce energy and natural resources.
- 9 Third World producers should receive positive assistance to diversify their range of products and to increase their participation in the processing, refining and marketing of their natural resources, possibly through joint agreements with First World producers.
- 10 Planned agreements for trade and technology exchange should be encouraged, including forms of barter and countertrade, not only between nation state governments, but between regions, cities and other localities.
- 11 Training in the necessary skills for developing new technology and the opening up of professional posts to Third World candidates should be a major element wherever appropriate in development projects and technology agreements.

12 Corrupt practices, bribery and backhanders of any sort must be eschewed and prevented in all trade relations and technology agreements.

13 Trade Unions in First and Third World countries should seek opportunities for meeting together to draw up a code of labour for manufacturing industries to universalise best practices.

14 Workers, whether in co-operatives or in other forms of economic organisation, should be encouraged to develop their own decision-making arrangements and methods of work.

15 Equal opportunities for women, for all races and faiths and for disabled persons should be guaranteed in all trade agreements and development projects.