INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON THE BRAIN-DRAIN

(Barcelona, 11 = and 12 = December 1978)

MATERIAL ORGANISATION

Accommodations: The Liaison Committee assumes the responsibility for the accomodation -room and meals- of the delegations, from Sunday the 10th -12.00a.m.- to Wednesday the 13th -12.00 a.m.- that is to say: the nights from the 10th to the 11th, from the 11th to the 12th and from the 12th to the 13th of December.

The accommodation is forecast at the "EXPO" Hotel***

Calle Majorca n°1 B A R C E L O N A

Proceedings: - The sessions of work will hold in one room of the hotel, on the 11th and 12th of December.

Forecast schedule: 9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

and 4.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

- The simultaneous interpretation will be forecast in three languages : Arab, English, French.
- Travelling expenses: they are to be paid by the participating organisations.

 Nevertheless, and in order to help the organisations from

 Arab Countries, these organisations' travelling expenses

 will be chargeable -for everything or in part- within

 the limit of the subsidy granted for that by the Arab Labour

 Office and UNESCO (the exact amount of these subventions

 is not yet known from us).

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON THE BRAIN-DRAIN

(Barcelona, 11 - and 12 - December 1978)

THE BRAIN-DRAIN AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

yardim contick

Engineers, Managerial Staffs, Technicians and Scientists must make an active contribution in the quest for ideas capable of tackling a problem which has not yet begun to receive a satisfactory solution - that of the brain-drain.

It is only in the setting of a general co-operation, whether this be bilateral or multilateral, that this question can be examined and receive effective and continuous action from trade-union organisations and professional associations on the national and international levels, in liaison with the many studies and recommendations already undertaken by the UNO and its specialised agencies.

Why do the different recommendations already existing in this field not give rise to satisfactory results?

Ideas emanating from different quarters tend to consider this problem as unsolvable and, consequently, propose false and even bad solutions, centred around mere financial compensation.

is not a question of ignoring this real problem, but of apprehending the negative implications that it might have if the situation is accepted as irreversible. To organise, for example, financial compensation for the brain-drain, at the regional level, is a support to the regional structuration sought by the multinational companies as part and parcel of their redeployment plans. This would result in dangerous specialisation: States would confine themselves to the training of specialists, providing -even with compensation-the major part of training expenses, and the consequent economic, social and human difficulties; others, chosen as major supports by the big groups, would take over these categories of people and would finance the compensation. The multinationals would they have at their disposal highly-skilled people who, because they are foreign, would have -in fact, or under the law- few social rights, and the companies would not have paid a cent.

The creation of an international tax on the brain-drain, the idea of which has been advanced in studies made by experts for UNCTAD is based on the same idea.

If it is obvious that the fluxes created by the unequal development of nations are difficult to stem, it is very clear also that such propositions may worsen them.

gergek

On the other hand, the struggle for genuine co-operation must take this problem into account. Not only is it advisable to condemn all the proceedings of enticing EMTs away from their work, but also to require -both as regards the transfers of technology as well as of co-operation-special measures be included in the contracts, to promote the return to their country of origin of EMTs being in an other contracting country. This involves a clear commitment from States.

This means that, beforehand, States suffering from the brain-drain should undertake a real policy of development. Consequently, scientific, technical and industrial co-operation must aid in the re-establishment in their country of skilled emigrant personnell. This demands concrete. voluntary action, especially from engineers, managerial staffs and technicians who are first and foremost concerned by these questions.

This is why the International Liaison Committee thought it was advisable to organise on this subject a meeting of trade-union organisations and professional associations of EMTs, and more particularly those from Arab Countries and Countries bordering the Mediterranean where this phenomenon has assumed particular proportions.

The examination of this concrete case and the discussion between the various Organisations should enable proposals and actions to be defined which then could be extended to other areas in the world.

00 00