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United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Statement to the Second Committee of the  
General Assembly by the Canadian Representative,  
Ambassador Bruce Rankin

Mr. Chairman,

It is difficult to imagine a new international organization born amid more difficulties than the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. There was a widespread desire for much more work in the field of industrial development but there also was a genuine difference of opinion about whether a new organization was necessary and, if so, what form it should take. And even when it had been created, the problems of the new organization were far from over. It was entering a field where a number of existing organizations already had legitimate claims to expertise in certain specific sectors. In these circumstances, it has not proven easy to define precisely the role of this youngest member of the United Nations family. The smooth assumption of its task has, moreover, been hindered by the move of its headquarters from New York to Vienna. The concurrent demands of preparing for the forthcoming Industrial Symposium in Athens have only rendered a difficult transitional period yet more difficult. Finally, certain underlying elements cannot be overlooked. There is sometimes in the world today, occupied as it is with a multitude of difficult international problems,

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