

Third World takes unilateral action on the debt question, what will the United States do? Will it follow the policies of the Rockefeller family and its employee Kissinger for confrontation with the Third World? The Secretary of State is scheduled to address the Assembly this week in what observers have

remarked will be the equivalent of a bull rampaging through a China shop. Or will the President break out of the box Rockefeller has put him in and take the steps necessary to bring the United States into the new world economic order? The time for evasion has just about run out.

Special Report on G-77 Conference

Group of 77 Adopts "Colombo Action Program"

By Our Special Correspondent in Mexico City

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 26 (NSIPS) — The Group of 77 — the 116 countries representing the Third World caucus within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), conference on "Economic Cooperation Among Developing Countries" held here Sept. 21 produced no surprises nor new breakthroughs in terms of the Third World's fight for a New World Economic Order. Nor was the conference programmed to do so.

Coming in the aftermath of last month's historic summit of heads of states of the Non-Aligned countries held in Colombo, the conference had two limited goals: first, to bring about limited technical agreements on economic cooperation among the Third World countries; and second, to make yet another show of Third World unity in their demands for a new world economic order as a show of strength to be used on other more vital dates and at the UN General Assembly. The conference was successful if one measures it against these goals. These results were however achieved with difficulty as the long arm of Henry Kissinger reached its way into the proceedings.

Despite Kissinger's interference by proxy the conference's success, in the words of its final communique, was assured when the Group of 77, "received with approval the action program for economic cooperation adopted at the Non-Aligned summit in Colombo, and noted that it be understood that other developing countries (outside the Non-Aligned movement) wanting to associate themselves with the program shall in the appropriate manner do so and contribute towards its implementation." The Group of 77 also "solemnly affirmed its political dedication to unify its efforts to jointly implement, in a spirit of solidarity, the program of cooperation among developing countries adopted in Manila, and the Action Program for Economic Cooperation adopted at the Non-Aligned summit in Colombo." The Colombo summit called for the creation of a new egalitarian and universal international monetary system and general debt moratoria for the developing sector.

Equally important was the defeat of the Pakistani effort to bring about an open division within the Third World. The Pakistani delegation, which unlike the others was headed by its foreign minister in order to add more weight to its disruptive efforts, called for the convening of a summit conference to Third World leaders. This summit in the words of Foreign Minister Aziz Ahmed would be convened to "mobilize the entire strength of the peoples of the Third World in their common fight to liberate themselves from international economic exploitation."

Although the exact wording of the letter of Pakistani Prime Minister Bhutto (which contained the actual proposal for the summit) to the G-77 conference was still not available to NSIPS at this time, the nice sounding, but totally ambiguous nature of the call for the summit by Foreign Minister Ahmed gave away that its only purpose was to try to create a "counter-bloc" to the Non-Aligned movement and the far-reaching resolutions and programs that it had approved at Colombo less than a month before. The Pakistani move in effect to annul the results of the

Non-Aligned summit is even more outrageous when it is taken into account that the Non-Aligned group comprises the overwhelming majority of the G-77.

To a majority of conference delegates, the Pakistani motives for the calling of a new summit were made clear when at the governmental experts meeting here that prepared the agenda and other matters prior to this conference, the Pakistani delegation tried through procedural motions, to block the Non-Aligned action program from being adopted as part of the G-77's program.

Throughout the conference the Pakistanis continued intense lobbying efforts to try and swing the significant support in favor of their proposals. However, the Non-Aligned, as a movement, held their ground; they tried to dissuade the Pakistanis from continuing their divisive tactics. The Pakistanis went so far, according to informed delegates, as to say in the halls of the conference that their proposal was actually to hold a summit to have the Third World declare unilateral debt moratoria.

As these same delegates pointed out — and in times of self-awareness the Pakistanis themselves ruefully admitted — the procedure for bringing about such a summit would take the Third World way beyond the December deadline set by the Non-Aligned summit within which the developed countries would have to negotiate with the advanced sector.

In short, the Pakistani proposal would merely allow Secretary of State Kissinger and his other allies in the advanced sector more critical time to stall and put off the demands of the Third World in the current North-South negotiations.

Toward the end of the conference, the Pakistanis, despite overwhelming opposition, continued to insist on some form of acceptance for their proposal, and de facto threatened to end the conference in disarray. In the end, the Pakistanis were soundly rebuffed in their plan to have the G-77 used as a stepping stone to "their summit," if that indeed was their purpose. Strong feelings ran among the delegates that the Pakistanis were merely interested in dividing the Third World.

Another proposal that initially brought about a similar amount of controversy and divisiveness, was the Mexican proposal to "institutionalize" the G-77. The proposal could not but be interpreted as another attempt to counterbalance the Non-Aligned movement's power. However, unlike the Pakistanis, the Mexicans did not carry out the fight for their proposal to the extreme of sowing disunity within the G-77.

This concern of the Mexican group was clearly laid out at the opening session of the conference when Dr. Garcia Robles, President of the conference and Foreign Affairs Ministers of Mexico stated emphatically that: "Any division between the Non-Aligned movement and the G-77 must be prevented. Such a division could have fatal consequences for the existing solidarity among the developing countries and, fortunately, it appears to us that such a hypothesis is not only inconceivable but also absurd since the members of the former comprise two-thirds of the latter."

The Mexican proposal presumably will now be taken up at the

ministerial level conference of the G-77, which is tentatively scheduled for 1977.

The Technical Achievements

In keeping with the limited goals of the conference, the delegates were all governmental experts rather than high level ministerial and political delegations as had been the case at Colombo.

The list of technical cooperation "projects" discussed was long and extensive and dealt with a wideranging spectrum of areas from trade, industrialization and financial questions to questions of cooperation in the areas of science, health and tourism. However, among the most prominent and important issues discussed were "the possibility of establishing and operating a bank of developing countries" and the "possibility of establishing a countervailing currency backed by the economic potential of developing countries." Both of these measures had been discussed and proposed in the Non-Aligned conference as well.

The conference also agreed to a "global system of trade preferences" among the developing sector. The above as well as more limited proposals for the most part have significance for the development of the Third World only insofar as these are taken within the context of the establishment of the New World Economic Order. Most delegations clearly understood this limitation. Among the many that pointed clearly to these limitations was the Yugoslavian delegate to the conference, S.E. Milos Lalovic, who stated "It has to be stressed, nevertheless, that strenghtening of cooperation among our countries, does not imply an orientation to autarchic economies." And, "... We place this cooperation within the context of the whole array of international economic relations and the struggle for the establishment of the New World Economic Order."

However, small groups of Kissinger-controlled delegates, as well as the notorious Kissinger whores of the UNCTAD staff headquartered in Geneva and even the secretary general of the United Nations, Kurt Waldheim, carried out a well prepared "brainwashing" campaign. They tried unsuccessfully to convince a majority of delegates that they should forget the North-South confrontation and instead have a try at Third World autarchical "development" — otherwise known in diplomatic language as "horizontal cooperation." Not accidentally, this formulation has been originated and pushed by the U.S. State Department and circles close to them, so as to try to steer the Third World away from the question of debt moratoria as the precondition to establishing a new world economic order.

Finally, throughout the conference and especially among the most progressive countries there was a widespread understanding that was best captured by the Sri Lankan Ambassador to Washington and the head of the Sri Lankan delegation to the G-77: "We have the capacity to do what we want, we have already passed the stage of declarations to the stage of actions... The Secretary of State of the United States, who could be the leader of the industrialized and developed countries has already accepted the word interdependency as a key word and has even included it in his vocabulary. We should show him by means of action...that we also have reached the moment in which we hope to take action in respect to this interdependency."

Thus it was clear that as the G-77 ended, the key Third World nations were more and more convinced than ever that the moment for unilateral action on the part of the Third World to bring about a new world economic order was necessary. Equally clear, among the delegates, was the fact that the debt question was the field within which this unilateral action was most necessary.