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> Mr. President Mr. General Secretary

Object: International Seminar on the Brain-Drain -11th and 12th December 1978-

PARIS, the 12 = 0 October 1978

Mr. President and Dear Colleague, Mr. General Secretary and Dear Colleague,

As we informed you by our letter 15. November 1977, the International Liaison Committee of Engineers, Managerial Staffs and Technicians had planned to hold an International Seminar on 'The Brain-Drain and the Development of EMTs' awareness of their Social Responsibility in relation to this Phenomenon', with particular reference to the experiences of the arab countries.

We remind you that this Committee was created in April 1975 in Turin (Italy) as a vehicle for meetings and exchanges of views for all problems linked with the social situat*cn of these categories of workers.

This Seminar should have taken place in Tunis, in February 1978, in co-operation with General Union of Tunisian Workers (UGTT). Serious events occured at the end of January 1978, in that country, and the imprisonment of the UGTT's national leadership forced us to postpone this Seminar then.

Following various contacts, we propose -by common consent with the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions- to extend this Seminar, to include in the work of the Seminar all the trade union organisations and associations of EMTs from mediterranean and arab countries;

Besides the possibilities of comparing the respective experiences and opinions of each participant, the aim of this Seminar should essentially be the definition of proposals and initiatives conducive to concretely committing EMTs to action to limit the brain-drain. These proposals could be the subject of a programme of action which could be a contribution to the UNO Conference, to be held in Vienna in 1979, on the theme 'Science and Technology in the Service of Development'. Our Seminar would therefore be situated within the framework of preparations for this World Conference.

With the agreement of the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions and at the invitation of the Trade Union Confederation of Workers' Commissions of Spain, we propose that this Seminar be held:

on MONDAY 11th and TUESDAY 12th DECEMBER, 1978
in Barcelona (Spain)

In addition to the members of the Liaison Committee and the following International Organisations and Agencies: the International Labour Office (ILO), the Arab Labour Office (ALO), UNESCO, the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions (ICATU), the Organisation for African Trade Union Unity (OATUU), the World Federation of Trade Unions (WGTU) and its Trade Union Internationals (TUI), the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), the World Confederation of Labour (WCL), the World Federation of Scientific Workers (WFSW), the World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO), are invited all the organisations from the arab states and mediterranean countries.

We therefore have great pleasure in inviting your organisation to this Seminar.

The Seminar might open with three introductory reports:

- a first one on the problem of the brain-drain in the arab countries, its consequences and the solutions needed;
- a second report would deal with the principles of the training of Engineers, Managerial Staffs and Technicians in developing countries (prepared by the socialist countries);
- the third one would be aimed at the training of Engineers, Managerial Staffs and Technicians coming from developing countries in countries with a market economy.

The last two reports should stress the different conditions in which the training is carried out according to the social and economic system of the countries involved to enable us to draw the lessons therefrom and make proposals thereon.

In spite of the difficulties encountered in preparing this Seminar, and in view of the importance of the subject to be discussed, we urge every organisation to be represented by one or more delegates.

In addition, you will find, enclosed, the following documents:

- a note on the material organisation of the Seminar (accommodation, proceedings, financial aspects) with a participation form;
- two short notes on the theme of the proceedings -one defining the problem concisely; the other one placing it in the more general context of international co-operation.

Last of all, in order to allow to reserve rooms at the hotel, it would be necessary to know -and before the 20th November 1978- for your organisation to reply to our invitation. Please return the participation form included in this letter.

Looking forward to a favourable reply,

Your Fraternally,

The President

Barry SEAGER