

5 August 1995

Terminal Report on PGTF Project  
INT/93/K03 - Information Support to the Group of 77 Chapters  
South-North Development Monitor (SUNS)

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This Information Support Project had been a previous recipient of PGTF support -- from 1 February 1991 to 31 January 1992. At the request of the G77, and with some voluntary contributions from a few delegations, the SUNS bulletin continued to be made available in New York, by the publishers, in a more limited way.

Subsequently, pursuant to the views of the Group of 77 in New York for the continued availability to them of the information in the SUNS, and the debate and recommendations of the Sixteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 on 1 October 1992, a further proposal for support was submitted and was approved by the Eighth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the PGTF at their meeting in New York on 28-30 June 1993, and subsequently by the Eighth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Followup and Coordination Committee on Economic Cooperation Among Developing Countries (IFCC-VIII). This was endorsed by the 17th Annual Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 in New York on 5 October 1993. Under the project document, the Group of 77 in New York is the implementing agency, with the Third World Network through its Geneva Representative as the sub-contractor. A Subcontract Agreement, No L-0609/94 dated 12 January 1994, was signed between the Chairman of the Group of 77, New York and the Third World Network.

The project became operational as of 1 March 1994 and terminated on 28 February 1995.

Following the signature of the project documents and the sub-contract, the necessary technical facilities for the supply of the SUNS to the members of the Group of 77 in New York were established, and after an initial test run, the copy of the SUNS bulletin is being distributed, in terms of subparagraph (b) of the Terms of Reference of Attachment 1 of the project document, daily to all the missions of member countries of the Group of 77 in New York in fax.

As per the project document, the daily SUNS was faxed from Geneva to New York office of the Chairman of the Group of 77 (with backup provided via email) and redistributed from the G77 Office in New York to the G77 Missions.

A copy of the SUNS was also faxed daily to the coordinators of the Group of 77 Chapters at Geneva, Nairobi, Paris, Rome, Washington (G-24) and Vienna. Because of problems at the G77 chapters, where there are no separate infrastructural facilities for the Chapter, but only facilities of the Permanent Missions of the Chairman of the chapter, a hardcopy of the SUNS was also despatched to them daily by Airmail from Geneva.

In Geneva, copies of the SUNS were also made available by mail to the Chairman, the vice-Chairman and the Chair of the regional chapters (of Asia, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean).

Informal feedbacks we have received during our contacts with the G77 delegations at various centres, when TWN representatives were present for UN conferences and negotiations, and contacts with coordinators of the chapters, and the meeting of the G77 coordinators show that the information has been of use to the G77 chapters. We have also often received queries, and requests for other information including source material used by us, from some of the capitals of the G77 countries who themselves received the SUNS information from their missions in New

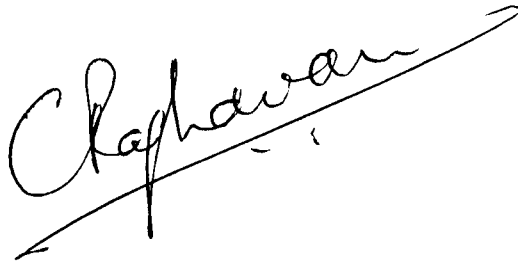
York. Within the resource constraints of the SUNS and the Third World Network these were responded to and appreciated.

The SUNS and its information was found by the chapters to be particularly useful in providing updated information on the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations and its conclusion, and the post-Marrakesh developments, on the activities in New York of the CSD, ECOSOC and the various special meetings and conferences including those on the followup to the Climate Change and Biodiversity Conventions, the Desertification Convention and other follow-ups to the 'Earth Summit', as well as on the preparations for the 1995 Social Summit and the discussions on the Agenda for Development.

After the conclusion of the Project, in view of the request from several Group of 77 missions in New York for continued availability to them of the information in the South-North Monitor, as a measure of support to the Group, and in cooperation with the Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77 in New York, the SUNS continues to be made available to G77 missions in New York daily by fax. Printed Copies are also being airmailed to the G-77 chapters elsewhere. The costs of these are being met by the Third World Network which is looking for some independent support for the operation.

A statement of the accounts is attached. In doing so, we would like to add the following:

The budget for the subcontract was for a total sum of \$59,881. Of this, except for the small New York component (\$ 5685), most of the expenditure was for expenses to be incurred in Geneva, Switzerland. The project document, submitted in 1992-1993, assumed (as the UN system organizations in Geneva did in their budget estimates) a convertibility of \$1 = Sf. 1.4. While the release of the first instalment of the funds (\$28159) for the subcontract (in April 1994) by the UNDP could be converted at this rate, the subsequent release of the funds (in October 1994 and February 1995) when the dollar had plunged, was at the rates of respectively \$1=1.26 and \$1=1.24 (which worked out to an average rate for the subcontract of \$1=SF 1.35). This meant that in swiss franc terms the amount received fell short by Sf 4000 and odd as against a budgeted figure of 74582.00

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chaphawan", is written over a diagonal line that extends from the bottom left towards the top right.