

Tentatively scheduled:
September 1-4, 1970
Stanford University
Stanford, California

STANFORD PUGWASH SYMPOSIUM ON SCIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Purpose

The twin threats of our time are:

- (1) Power contest between two parts of the "developed" world, the East and the West, led by the US and the USSR, respectively.
- (2) Widening split between the technologically developed world (essentially, the Northern hemisphere), and the technological underdeveloped world (the Southern hemisphere).

Both threats are products of the scientific revolution. This revolution has provided nations with weapons so destructive that their use in war would bring utter destruction on both sides; and it has made the situation of technologically underdeveloped ("developing" countries untenable by combining a "population explosion" (caused by elementary preventive medicine and sanitation applied to child birth and rearing), with revolution of rising expectation" (caused by instantaneous and universal communication between all parts of the world.

The Pugwash program has been primarily directed to reducing the first threat--that of nuclear war within the developed world. However, many of us feel keenly the second danger to peace and viability of mankind to be no less critical than the first one.

Scientists could contribute importantly to resolution of both critical challenges. Participants from developing countries have urged, on many occasions, that Pugwash should pay increased attention to development problems. The conferences at Udiapur in 1964 and Addis Ababa in 1966 have been devoted mainly to development problems. Working groups dealing with science and development have been active at most conferences. Some positive results have been achieved. A proposal for the creation of regional "centers of excellence in research" made by Carl Djerassi at the Ronneby Conference (1967), is finding its first implementation in the East African Center for Insect Physiology and Ecology at Nairobi, Kenya; the proposal of an International Science Foundation (first made by Roger Revelle at the Venice Conference in 1965), revived and discussed in greater detail at the Sochi Conference in 1969, is now under consideration by agencies such as the ECOSOC Committee on Science and Technology in Development.

The Report of Group V at the Sochi Conference suggested that the problems of developing countries should be discussed by Pugwash scientists in a more systematic way. The US Pugwash group was asked by this group to organize, prior to the 20th Pugwash Conference (to be held at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, on September 9-14, 1970) a Symposium involving scientists from developed and developing countries, to explore the ways in which Pugwash could contribute to the solution of development problems.

In the face of numerous official and unofficial groups dealing with development, including the role of technology, a unique contribution of the international scientific community could derive from its capacity for, and experience in, bringing about international cooperation between scientists from the East and from the West in the developed world, and also between those from the developed and the developing nations. This cooperation could be useful both in analyzing the situation and defining the possibilities of positive programs in various parts of the world, and in mobilizing the scientific communities for active participation in such programs. It could help in increasing the rationality of approach to the development problems, both on the side of the developing and that of the developed countries. The objective difficulties of development would be enormous, even if given universal good will and cooperation; they are greatly enhanced by irrational or politically dominated approach to development problems in both the advanced and the developing countries, leading to competition between the former and distrust among the second ones. To some limited extent, the scientific communities, acting through the Pugwash channels, could contribute to greater regional and international cooperation, and a more rational approach.

The Stanford Symposium on "Science and Technology in Development--the Pugwash program in the seventies", tentatively is planned to be held at the Stanford University in California, on September 1-4, 1970. It is intended to bring together about 20 scientists from the developed and an equal number from the developing countries. The proposed agenda starts from the type of programs which have emerged as promising in the past, and explores the possibility for systematizing and generalizing them.

AGENDA

STANFORD SYMPOSIUM: WHAT CAN SCIENTISTS DO FOR DEVELOPMENT?

1-4 September 1970

Sponsored by the
American Academy of Arts and Sciences
Pugwash Sub-Committee on the Role of
Science and Technology in Development

- I. What scientists from developing countries see as main problems of development in their own countries, particularly from the point of view of possible assistance from, and cooperation with, scientists from developed countries. (Reports from participants.)
- II. What scientists have attempted to do in assisting development (Reports on Centres of Excellence in Research; International Foundation for Science and Development Plans; Workshops on Development of Science and Technical Education; International Centre on Insect Physiology and Ecology.)
- III. Discussion and criticism of these reports; possibilities of developing and improvement of existing programs.
- IV. Suggestions of new programs in relation to development in which scientists, and the Pugwash program in particular, could assist development.

May 1970