

Closing remarks

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Closing Remarks
Remarques finales
Schlussbemerkungen

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Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

After a very useful and interesting symposium on the subject of problems associated with the design and construction in developing countries lasting for the past three days and consisting of several themes on the subject, we have come to the close of the session of the symposium. The themes chosen for the various sessions are quite comprehensive and covered by a large degree all aspects of the subject. The deliberations of the various sessions have adequately highlighted the importance of the need for active cooperation essentially required between the developed and the developing countries to bridge the gap between the two and to improve the lot of the people of the developing countries to bring them also into the main scheme of development necessary in all parts of the globe. I, as one coming from the developing country would say that this symposium has achieved the objective to a very great measure for which this symposium was organised.

It has been well appreciated by all attending this symposium that the belief that the development activities involving sophisticated design and construction techniques and procedures are difficult, risky and really unnecessary for the countries of limited industrial development, is no longer true, and that the developing countries, far from being undeserving of sophisticated matters, are really in a great need of such matters in order to ensure that limited resources and materials use them more effectively. It has been realized that the basic infrastructure has to be built up in these countries as early as possible. For this, finances, technology transfer and better matters of management to achieve this object are very essential and developed countries should extend their fullest cooperation and assistance for bringing about this welcome change in these countries. The matters and techniques of design and construction being followed in advanced countries should not be adopted by developing countries in total, but they should be more defined suitably by taking into account all aspects in respect of countries resources, locally available materials, labor and technically available skills and the cooperation sought to be offered by the developed countries should not only cater for the successful implementation of the product but during the process should also aim at importing the necessary training to the local staff who should, in due course, be able to handle similar designs and to develop the required equipment from indigenous sources. It is also necessary that the developed countries while aiding the



developing countries should take into consideration the capabilities and the need for more active participation by the people of the developing countries. Then only will they be able to ensure their full involvement which is so vital for the successful implementation and performance of the schemes undertaken.

While this symposium has been very successful in achieving to a large degree the objectives of the IABSE and the participant members I must suggest that in order to have a follow up action and the participation and cooperation between the developed and the developing countries more meaningful, such symposiums should also be held at the locations and the regions of the developing countries, though they might be smaller than the one now being held in this city of Munich. These may be in the form of workshops with limited objectives, serving the region in particular and the world at large. These could be done through the world offices and assistance from other international bodies like the UBB, worldwide, etc. This symposium has facilitated many of us from the developing countries to be here and meet many participants from the developed countries and exchange ideas with them to our benefit.

Before I conclude, I wish to thank in the name of all the participants the organisation committee of this symposium who has made excellent arrangements for this symposium in this beautiful and historical city of Munich and made it a success.