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Socialist INTEGRATION at Work

30th
ANNIVERSARY
of the COUNCIL
FOR MUTUAL
ECONOMIC
ASSISTANCE

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**SOCIALIST
INTEGRATION
AT WORK**

*Thirtieth Anniversary
of the
Council for Mutual Economic Assistance*

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СОЦИАЛИСТИЧЕСКАЯ ИНТЕГРАЦИЯ В ДЕЙСТВИИ

на английском языке

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Shortly before the Great October Socialist Revolution Lenin wrote: "To the old world, the world of national oppression, national bickering, and national isolation the workers counterpose a new world, a world of the unity of the working people of all nations. . ." The new world has become a reality. The great community of the socialist countries is now characterised by the growth of ever closer relationships between them and by the appearance of more and more common elements in their policy, economy and social life.

Socialist economic integration is a major manifestation of this historical process of all-round rapprochement. Founded in 1949, the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance laid the groundwork for unfolding integration and is now expanding and deepening it.

For thirty years CMEA has been applying in practice the principles of proletarian socialist internationalism. The progress made by the Council's members is a convincing proof that a major condition of their successes, along with their national efforts, is fraternal collaboration, a readiness to take each other's interests into account. Comradely concern to see that not only one's own country but also the other countries of the community develop successfully—that is the supreme expression of internationalism.

Ten socialist states in Europe, Asia and America with a population of more than 430 million now form CMEA. Following Lenin's behests and showing the world an example of international brotherhood, the peoples of Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Vietnam, under the leadership of their Communist and Workers' Parties, have accumulated vast experience of cooperation on an equal footing in the sphere of material

production. Relations between the Council's member countries have been tested in practice and have shown their efficiency. They are based on respect for national sovereignty, independence and national interests, non-interference in internal affairs, full equality, mutual benefit and comradely mutual assistance.

In the past thirty years CMEA members have increased their economic potential many times over. For example, the national income of the Council's member states rose tenfold in 1978, compared with 1948, while their industrial production showed an increase of 17 times. Embracing 19 per cent of the world's territory and ten per cent of the world's population, the CMEA member countries have moved into leading positions in the world economy. They account for approximately one-third of world industrial output and for over half the growth of industrial production; industrially they are more powerful than the USA, than the West European countries taken together.

Rates of growth in the national income of the fraternal countries in the period under review were three times and in industrial production four times greater than in the capitalist world. The socialist community is the most dynamic economic force on our planet.

The successes of the CMEA countries in economic construction and their advance to a prominent position among major industrial states are all the more striking since the majority of the Council members have been in the past agrarian and raw material appendages of capitalist powers. Socialism, having put an end to the exploitation of man by man and to national inequality, has created conditions for the gradual drawing closer together and evening up of the levels of the social and economic

development of countries and nations. Here, too, the new social formation has demonstrated its fundamental difference from capitalism, which is characterised by uneven economic and political development.

Collaboration within the CMEA framework has helped formerly backward countries to make rapid progress. Helping Vietnam, Cuba and Mongolia and promoting the accelerated growth and greater efficiency of their economies, occupy a special place in the joint plans and measures of the fraternal countries.

"Everything for the sake of man, for the benefit of man" is inscribed on the banner of the Communist and Workers' Parties of the socialist countries. The growing economic potential of the CMEA states and their achievements in the development of science and technology enable them to set and fulfil ever more challenging tasks in raising the material and cultural level of the working people's life.

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The historic advances of the community are inseparably linked with the immense work the Communist and Workers' Parties are doing to perfect the all-round cooperation of the fraternal countries. The unbreakable militant unity of the Marxist-Leninist parties is the basis of the close cooperation of the socialist states, is its guiding and organising force.

Relations and contacts between the leaders of the Communist Parties of the socialist countries are becoming ever more intensive. Bilateral and multilateral meetings and joint discussion of key problems of home and foreign policy help find effective ways of accomplishing the tasks of economic and cultural development and working out an agreed line to pursue in the international arena. Important problems

are considered at conferences of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states and at sessions of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. The Crimean friendly meetings and talks of Leonid Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, with the leaders of the parties and states of the socialist community are a major element of the entire system of relationships.

Armed with the theory of Marxism-Leninism, the CPSU and other ruling parties of the socialist countries are creatively working on problems related to the development of the community. The 24th and 25th Congresses of the CPSU scientifically established the necessity of developing socialist economic integration. The congresses of other fraternal parties also made their own thorough analysis and put forward proposals for the solution of this problem.

The transition from separate integration measures to comprehensive integration planned for many years ahead was prepared by previous experience of economic cooperation between the CMEA member countries. The 23rd special session of CMEA, held in Moscow in April, 1969, at the level of leaders of the fraternal parties and governments, worked out basic long-term aims which formed the foundation of the Comprehensive Programme for the Further Extension and Improvement of Cooperation and the Development of Socialist Economic Integration by the CMEA Member Countries, adopted in 1971.

The tasks of the fraternal countries' mutual action in the economic sphere at the present stage and the methods and forms corresponding to these tasks, found concrete expression in the Comprehensive Programme. As was said at the 25th CPSU Congress, this programme "raises cooperation among socialist

countries to a much higher level than ordinary promotion of trade. For example, it means the joint development of natural resources for the common benefit, the joint construction of large industrial complexes to meet the needs of all the partners and cooperation between our countries' enterprises and whole industries planned for many years ahead".

The CMEA member states have been energetically carrying out the Comprehensive Programme. Its implementation is the main way to improve the international socialist division of labour, a most effective means of intensifying social production and of more speedily mastering achievements of the scientific and technological revolution. Successes in the realisation of the Comprehensive Programme make it possible to boost the economic cooperation of the socialist countries and the mutually complementary character of their economies—to no small benefit for each of them.

The past ten years are characteristic in this respect. The CMEA member countries have doubled their industrial potential and their mutual trade turnover has increased more than threefold during this period. Underlying this dynamic development are not only each country's national efforts but also the integration factor and the rational and mutually advantageous division of labour.

Integration has been making steady headway, expanding and acquiring new meaning. The creation and putting into operation of the economic mechanism of the integration process is a most important result of the fraternal parties' collective work, of the thirty-year-long activities of CMEA. The chief method of cooperation and of the extension of the international socialist division of labour is the joint planning work of the CMEA member countries. Practice has given birth to such effective forms of this

as consultations on key problems of economic policy, the coordination of state economic plans, and so on.

Many new elements have appeared in joint planning activities over the past few years. For the first time in CMEA practice an agreed plan of multilateral integration measures to be taken by the Council member countries in 1976-1980, has been drawn up. The plan envisages the joint construction of large industrial complexes. The implementation of this plan benefits all the participants.

The CMEA countries have done a great deal in the sphere of the international socialist division of labour, above all in specialisation and cooperation of production. The fraternal states' efforts in this field are pooled and coordinated by over a hundred multilateral and about a thousand bilateral agreements. Some eighty multilateral agreements on specialisation and cooperation of production are in force in machine building alone. They cover more than 8,000 items.

The CMEA states are successfully implementing the measures in the field of scientific and technical cooperation envisaged in the Comprehensive Programme. Now taking part in this work are more than 3,000 research and design organisations and schools of higher education, among them about 200 institutes of the Academies of Sciences. Fifty-six centres for coordinating activities in major fields of science and technology have been set up, and over 14,000 theoretical and applied studies have been completed by joint effort. Many of these have been put into practice and have had a great economic effect. The transition from the study of separate topics to that of comprehensive problems is becoming increasingly characteristic of mutual activity in the field of science and technology.

A graphic illustration of the effective pooling of the efforts of the CMEA member countries is cooperation in the field of computer technology. A unified system of third generation computers has been established within a short space of time. The countries of the socialist community have recorded remarkable successes in implementing the Intercosmos programme. The year 1978 saw the first ever orbital space flights of international crews including citizens of the socialist states.

All-round cooperation has acquired such immense scope today that it directly involves many millions of people building a new world. A vivid page in the history of our peoples' brotherhood has been written by the production teams of the Csepel metallurgical and engineering integrated works in Hungary and of advanced industrial plants in other fraternal states. To mark the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution they launched socialist emulation to fulfil Soviet orders on schedule and with a high quality rating. The new form of labour competition became a manifestation of truly internationalist solidarity.

To mark the 30th anniversary of CMEA the production team of the Volzhski Motor Works have taken specific obligations to fulfil their export targets and have called for the strengthening of fraternal cooperation. This initiative has been enthusiastically taken up in the USSR and abroad.

The CPSU and other Communist Parties are doing a great deal to promote integration activities. Analysing the results achieved and setting forth new tasks in the field of economic cooperation, the 25th CPSU Congress established the need for working out special long-term programmes of cooperation in the main fields of material production. "On the basis of what has been achieved we can now take the next

step," Leonid Brezhnev said at the Congress. "The present priority is to work out and fulfil special long-term programmes. Their purpose is to meet by common effort the rapidly growing needs in energy, fuel and basic raw materials, and to satisfy more fully the demand in food products and manufactured consumer goods, to raise the level of engineering, and accelerate development of transport. Those are our immediate common objectives."

All CMEA states have shown a profound interest in tackling these problems. In the summer of 1978, the 32nd CMEA session endorsed three out of the five projected special long-term programmes of cooperation, covering energy, fuel and raw materials; agriculture and the food industry; and engineering. The drawing up of cooperation programmes to increase the output of manufactured consumer goods and to develop transport is now being completed.

Long-term special programmes of cooperation are an entirely new form of the CMEA countries' joint activities in planning. Giving specific expression to, and developing, the Comprehensive Programme, they are determining the agreed strategy of collaboration for a long period to come. Their elaboration and implementation illustrate the socialist method of solving pressing economic development tasks which, in fact, concern mankind as a whole.

This is confirmed by the approach of the CMEA countries to the fuel and energy problem. The long-term programme is aimed at ensuring the most thrifty and rational use of the CMEA countries' energy resources, considerable changes in the pattern of their fuel and energy supply, and the accelerated growth of nuclear power generation. Atomic power stations with an aggregate capacity of nearly 37 million kw will be built in CMEA countries by 1990. On Soviet territory the joint construction of two

atomic power stations, each with a capacity of four million kw, is planned to supply electricity to other CMEA states. The organisation of specialisation and cooperation in the production of equipment for atomic power stations is envisaged. At present a common task is to carry out these far-reaching plans in the shortest possible time.

Integration is also proceeding in other directions. There is a strategy not only of multilateral but also of bilateral cooperation. Bilateral programmes of specialisation and cooperation in production for 1981-1990 are being worked out. The Communist Parties are fully resolved to make the CMEA countries' next two five-year plans a period of intensive in-depth growth of specialisation and cooperation in production.

The economic integration of the CMEA countries, the coordination of their plans and efforts protect their economies to a substantial degree from the adverse influence of the capitalist world which is experiencing currency, energy and raw materials crises. The CMEA countries satisfy the bulk of their own requirements for equipment and machinery, raw materials and fuel by means of domestic production and mutual trade. Reciprocal trade accounts for the greater part of their overall foreign trade—about 60 per cent today.

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The experience of socialist construction and the establishment of firmer inter-state relations of a new type give rise to hatred on the part of capitalism's advocates who are doing all they can to distort the essence of integration processes under socialism, the character of the relations linking the fraternal states, and CMEA activities. The Chinese leaders are acting in unison with reactionary bourgeois politicians and

propaganda experts. The slanderers allege that socialist economic integration is not dictated by the objective requirements of the development of productive forces and the relations of production, and that it infringes the sovereignty of the socialist states and their independence in managing their own internal affairs and in conducting their foreign policy. The CMEA, however, has never had nor does it have any supra-national bodies. It guarantees full equality of its member-states.

Imperialist policy, which is supported by the Peking leaders, and which is aimed at undermining the socialist community and driving a wedge between its members, is countered by the fraternal parties pursuing the course leading towards the further strengthening and development of their cooperation in all fields. This found fresh expression in the Declaration adopted by the Warsaw Treaty Political Consultative Committee which met in Moscow in November, 1978.

The economic integration of the socialist countries is a complicated process, in the course of which the CMEA countries act as trailblazers. They overcome difficulties connected above all with the uniqueness of this phenomenon. Marking the 30th anniversary of the CMEA, Communists and all working people of the CMEA countries recall Lenin's words to the effect that the best way to celebrate an anniversary is to concentrate one's attention on unresolved tasks.

The scope of joint work and the new level of cooperation raise problems which are not so simple. The main thing is to enhance the effectiveness of links, to take into account not only present-day requirements but also long-term prospects, and to work for the utmost smoothness in operations. The drawing up and implementation of long-term programmes for specialisation and cooperation in pro-

duction should be speeded up. The exchange of progressive experience in management should occupy an important place. The CMEA countries agree that it is necessary to ensure the more efficient working of all the machinery of mutual action and to raise the efficiency of the Council's work. The forthcoming 33rd Session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance will sum up the results of its work over the past 30 years and will assess the progress made in implementing the Comprehensive Programme of Socialist Economic Integration. It will be an important landmark in cooperation between the fraternal countries.

The steady growth of the economic, scientific and technical potential of the socialist community and the democratic nature of CMEA, in which genuine equality of the partners has been effected in practice, have enhanced its international prestige. The example of the socialist economic links between the CMEA countries is making an ever greater impact on world economic relations. It is helping to remove the discrimination and inequality to which imperialist and neocolonialist policies give rise. Interest in cooperation with CMEA is growing in various parts of the world.

A major event in the life of the community was the entry of Vietnam into CMEA in 1978. Yugoslavia is actively cooperating with CMEA. Representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Laos, and also of Angola and Ethiopia are participating in its work as observers.

The CMEA countries are active supporters of equitable mutually beneficial economic cooperation between states belonging to different social systems. This principled line stems from their adherence to the cause of peace and it is an integral part of the policy of relaxation of tension. One of the proofs

of this is the signing of the agreement on cooperation between CMEA and Finland. Agreements on cooperation have been concluded between CMEA and Iraq and between CMEA and Mexico.

The CMEA member countries promote their foreign economic policy in the spirit of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Everyone knows of the initiative of the Council which, on behalf of the governments of the CMEA member countries, submitted a proposal to the European Economic Community on establishing official relations. The draft provides for the conclusion of a framework agreement between the CMEA and CMEA member countries, on the one hand, and the EEC and EEC member countries, on the other, which can create favourable conditions and the possibility of equitable mutually advantageous cooperation between the two organisations and the states belonging to them.

CMEA's activities and the principles on which they rest are receiving due recognition in the developing countries. Upholding the legitimate right to use their natural resources as they see fit and working to overcome dictation by the monopolies and to assert their own economic independence, these countries are cooperating ever more closely with CMEA and its members, whose internationalist policy they know very well and highly appreciate. The community countries are giving comprehensive economic and technical assistance on mutually beneficial terms to 78 independent states of Asia, Africa and Latin America. As many as 2,685 industrial and other kinds of installations have been put into operation in these states with the participation of the CMEA member countries, while 875 more enterprises are being built or are planned for construction. Higher schools and specialised secondary schools in the

CMEA countries have trained 43,000 specialists for these states. A special CMEA scholarship fund has been set up for citizens of the developing countries.

The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance has established relations with 60 international organisations. CMEA's high prestige is attested by the United Nations' granting it official status.

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The CPSU and other Communist Parties of the fraternal countries, guided by the decisions of their respective Congresses, are devoting paramount attention to developing the economic ties of the CMEA member countries and to successfully implementing the Comprehensive Programme of Socialist Economic Integration.

The CPSU Central Committee and its Political Bureau are constantly attending to the expansion and improvement of the Soviet Union's relations with the other community countries. They are effecting systematic control over the work of the organisations connected with the implementation of plans of economic cooperation. Questions concerning the deepening of these business relations were given close attention at the Plenary Meeting of the CPSU Central Committee last November and at the recent session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

Party organisations and work collectives of the USSR are guided in their work by the directives of the 25th Congress of the CPSU to the effect that the strict and precise implementation of undertakings collectively drawn up by the fraternal states is a supreme duty of the State Planning Committee, ministries, departments, associations and enterprises, a supreme duty of everyone involved in this work. Our Leninist Party and its Central Committee are doing everything to strengthen the material foundations of

the community and the positions of world socialism.

The historic drawing together of the socialist states is gaining momentum and their influence on the course of international developments is becoming ever deeper. The CPSU and other fraternal Parties of the community countries are working tirelessly for the positions of world socialism to grow stronger and for the morrow to bring fresh proof of its unlimited possibilities and of its superiority over capitalism.

