



PRESS CLIPPINGS  
TEL: 26026 5021/5022



Email: [unido@unido.org](mailto:unido@unido.org)

## UNIDO attacks poverty in developing world

*Devsagar Singh*

Vienna



*Carlos Magarinos*

DISCUSSING POVERTY in the rich and modern city of Vienna, the capital and nerve centre of developed European country Austria, seemed out of sync. But that was a major topic of debate at the biennial general conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) held at Vienna last week.

Fighting poverty through sustainable industrial development that is how UNIDO sees the scenario in the developing world. And the attack was led by young and dynamic Director General of the organisation, Carlos Magarinos, in the midst of 169 member states. India was represented by secretary of the department of industrial policy and promotion V Govindarajan, Tata Energy Research Institute Director General RK Pachauri and, UNIDO's Managing Director N Mohanty.

Among international experts and renowned economists who took part in the debate included J Denis Belisle, executive director of the International Trade Centre, Prof Ibrahim Fawzy of Cairo University, Prof Masayuki Kondo of the Yokohama National University (Japan), Dr YoMaruno of UNIDO, and Bamanga Tukur, executive president of the African Business Round Table.

Held under the aegis of the industrial development forum of UNIDO, the discussion touched upon important issues troubling the developing world ranging from lack of industrial infrastructure to environment and trade barriers in the fast globalising world.

Setting the tone of the discussion, Mr Magarinos opined that industrialisation was a tool to achieve effective progress in the fight against poverty. Growth and productivity gains had to go hand in hand. Industrialisation was no longer an end in itself. Instead, it is justified on grounds of its actual contribution to productivity growth.

How is the UNIDO fighting poverty? We are not in the business of alleviating poverty by means of direct resource transfers to the poor. Our approach consists of achieving a durable eradication of poverty by fostering a modernisation, productivity growth and technological progress. Our focus is on countries that lag behind. Our means is the supply of public goods that bridge the gap between private and social costs and benefits, Mr Magarinos said.

Indeed, it was against this background that UNIDO's industrial development forum was convened: as a further step in the organisation's efforts to explore how best industry can be used to support a process of sustainable development.

THE PIONEER  
13 December 2001  
New Delhi & Lucknow