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REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON PETROLEUM INDUSTRY IN AFRICA
(Note by the secretariat)

Resolution 225(X) of the Conference of Ministers adopted at Tunis in February 1971 requested the Executive Secretary to convene, as soon as possible and not later than 1972, an African conference on the petroleum industry and to seek the necessary funds for it. The secretariat immediately initiated the collection of data for the preparation of conference papers and the preparation of these papers is under way.

While the secretariat originally aimed at holding this conference in 1972, this has not proved to be feasible. The large numbers of participants that can be expected to attend such a conference has made it difficult to find a country that would be willing to act as host. Difficulties were met in finding the necessary financing. In addition, it was not possible to prepare fully the necessary conference papers in the limited time available. However, negotiations with a host Government are at present under way. Also, the preparation of the necessary documents is progressing. It is hoped to obtain from UNDP the funds necessary to service the conference but no assurances that this will be possible can be given at this stage.

The secretariat now envisages the convening of the conference for the second half of September 1973.