

April 14, 1958

**Note by Foreign Secretary Subimal Dutt on
Economic Cooperation with the Bandung Countries**

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Summary:

This note is not hopeful of the prospects for economic cooperation.

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Following the Bandung Conference we set up a committee with representatives of the various concerned Ministries here to examine the prospect of closer economic cooperation among the Bandung countries. The results of the examination were not very hopeful. It was found that the economies of most of these countries were based on raw material export. They are not complementary. A proposal for joint shipping concern with Egypt and other countries examined but ultimately dropped. An additional complicating factor was the coming together of Pakistan, Iraq and Iran for closer economic collaboration under the auspices of the Baghdad Pact.

(S. Dutt), 14.4.58

C.S.