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^{*} Original of letter to Eugene Rotberg signed by: representative of Salomon Brothers, Managing Director of Morgan Stanley, and Senior Vice President of First Boston Corporation (all signatures illegible).

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THE WORLD BANK Washington, D.C. 20433 U.S.A.

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Office of the President

September 21, 1977

MEMORANDUM TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Subject: Discussion of the Future Role of the Bank

Several months have now passed since the Executive Directors accepted my recommendation to seek agreement on a further Capital Increase for the IBRD before the end of FY78. During the past few months a consensus appears to have developed in favor of an increase in the Bank's resources sufficient to permit a continuation of growth in commitments in real terms. You will recall that this was one of the points of agreement reached in the concluding session of the Conference on International Economic Cooperation.

In order that this general consensus on the need for a further Capital Increase may be translated into a specific agreement, the Executive Directors will need to deal with a number of critical and complex issues in the months ahead. It would be highly advantageous to the Bank if these discussions could be completed early in calendar 1978 so that the preparation of the budget for FY79 and decisions on other financial and operating matters requiring long lead times could proceed in an orderly fashion. Because of the importance of these discussions to the future of the Bank, it would be undesirable to impose arbitrary restrictions either on their scope or duration. But what can and should be done is to organize the discussions in such a way as to make the best possible use of the time available between the Annual Meeting and the early months of calendar 1978.

Accordingly, I propose that the discussions begin as soon after the Annual Meeting as is practical, possibly on October 18th. As a first objective, the Executive Directors might aim to establish the rate of growth in IBRD commitments which should form the basis for the

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Capital Increase. While many of the issues raised in my memorandum on the Future Role of the World Bank (R77-18) have some tangential bearing on the rate of growth which is appropriate for the Bank, I would hope that the Executive Directors would confine their attention at this stage to those few issues which would, as a practical matter, affect significantly the level of IBRD lending.

Assuming that agreement -- or at least a convergence of views -- can be achieved with respect to the appropriate real rate of growth of IBRD commitments, a second objective might then be to settle the other parameters which govern the overall size of Capital Increase required. In this category would be included the assumptions to be adopted regarding: (a) the rate of inflation; (b) the repayment terms for future IBRD loans; (c) the appropriate interval between capital increases for the IBRD; and (d) the interpretation given to the notion of 'non-disruptive' adjustment.

A third objective would be to reach an understanding on the terms of the Capital Increase. Here the principal issues are likely to involve the Board representation and voting power of developing countries. It is possible that the IMF will make enough progress on these issues in the next few months to facilitate agreement within the Bank. To allow for this possibility I propose waiting until later in the year before commencing our own discussion. Apart from the voting rights and Board representation questions, it will also be necessary to determine the proportion of the Capital Increase which is to be paid-in.

Rather than attempting to fix a specific schedule of meetings at this stage, I suggest that the scheduling for each of the three broad subject areas be determined in light of the particular issues raised at the initial meeting on each topic. The initial meeting on the future rate of IBRD growth could take place on October 18th. An initial meeting on the other factors affecting the size of the Capital Increase might tentatively be scheduled for November 15th, and discussion of the terms of the Increase could commence on December 13th.

May I suggest an informal meeting of the Executive Directors on the afternoon of October 4th to consider these proposals?

Bout S. M. Neman

Proposed Schedule for Initial Discussions of "Future Role of the Bank"

	Visit Control of the	
Topics	Relevant Sections in Board Memorandum	Tentative Timing
TOPICS	Doard Remorandum	TIMINE
Discussion #1		March 8
Planning Assumptions for IBRD Commitments		
in FY78/79 Design	8	
Timetable for Discussion on a Capital Increase	8 .	
Discussion #2		April 12
Growth Prospects of LDCs and External Capital		
Requirements	2	
Prospective Pattern of External Finance	2	
IBRD Role in the Poorest Countries	3	
IBRD and Private Finance	3	
IBRD and the Regional Banks	3	
"Graduation"	4	
Sectoral Pattern of Lending	4	
Discussion #3		May 17
Growth Rate for Future IBRD Lending	4	
IBRD Borrowing Prospects	5 5	
Administrative Implications of Growth	5	
Discussion #4		July 7
Size of Capital Increase, including	6	
- Frequency and relation to IMF Quota Reviews	O	
- Inflation assumptions		
- Repayment terms		
- Definition of "non-disruptive" adjustment		
Proportion of Increase to be Paid In	7	
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Discussion #5		July 19
Voting Power and Board Penregentation	-	
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Oct 28, 1977	Memorandum			
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To: Executive Directors				
From: P.N. Damry				
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Document Date	Document Type			
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Correspondents / Participants To : Executive Directors From : P.N. Damry			œ.	
	¥			
Subject / Title Informal Meeting on " Future Role of the E	Bank " - December 13, 1977 - 1	0:00 A.M.	al (
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To: Executive Directors		*			
From : P.N. Damry					
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Future Role of the Bank - Revisions to Tec	hnical Note #1				
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