



**United Nations
Development Programme**

Distr.
GENERAL

DP/1983/15
8 April 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GOVERNING COUNCIL
Thirtieth session
June 1983
Agenda item 4(c)

S U P P O R T

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
ASSISTANCE TO SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Report of the Administrator

Summary

At its thirty-seventh session the General Assembly adopted a series of resolutions (37/145, 37/148, 37/149, 37/151, 37/156, 37/158, 37/159, 37/160, 37/161, 37/162, and 37/164) by which it requested the UNDP and various other organizations of the United Nations system once again to continue to expand their programmes of assistance to certain developing countries. The resolutions further invited the organizations to bring to the attention of their respective governing bodies, for their consideration, information about the special needs of these countries, and to report the decisions of these bodies to the Secretary General by July 1983. This year, the General Assembly requested information about the programme of assistance rendered to Benin, Botswana, Central African Republic, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Tonga and Uganda.

The present report informs the Governing Council of actions taken or being considered in favour of the countries concerned.

A. Assistance to Benin

1. At its thirty-seventh session, the General Assembly by resolution 37/151 requested UNDP and other organizations, inter alia, "to maintain and expand their programme of assistance to Benin, to co-operate closely with the Secretary-General in the work of organizing an effective international programme of assistance and to report periodically to him on the measures they have taken and the resources they have made available to help that country and to bring to the attention of their governing bodies, the special needs of Benin and to report the decisions of those bodies to the Secretary-General by 15 July 1983".

2. During 1982, the UNDP continued to implement its ongoing programme of technical co-operation with the Government of Benin. The illustrative IPF for the third cycle, 1982-1986, was more than doubled than for the previous cycle. However, at the 55 per cent programming level, the resources available for programming during the third cycle is \$ 18.206 million. In 1982, approximately \$ 4.2 million was expended on priority development projects.

3. As an LDC, Benin was granted another allocation of \$244,000 from the Special Measures Fund, bringing Benin's total allotment from that Fund to \$2.995 million. Four new projects were approved recently by the United Nations Capital Development Fund. In addition, the UNCDF has fielded another project identification and formulation mission to Benin.

4. In August 1982, emergency assistance of \$30,000 was provided from UNDP's Special Programme Resources to help the Government respond to the consequences of severe floods which occurred in that country.

5. Resolution 37/151 urges appropriate United Nations agencies and Member States to provide certain special assistance, including food. The World Food Programme, administered through the Resident Representative, continued to provide relevant support to Benin in 1982.

6. Additionally, during 1982 UNDP provided substantial assistance in organizing a Round Table Donors Conference. The Conference took place in Cotonou (28 February-4 March 1983) with the participation of representatives of 22 governments, 27 inter-governmental organizations, and 12 financial institutions and development banks. It was generally agreed that the Round Table was a success. A separate report on this and other Round Table meetings is being submitted (DP/1983/11).

B. Assistance to Botswana

7. General Assembly resolution 37/148 of 17 December 1982 invited UNDP and other international organizations, inter alia, to bring to the attention of their governing bodies, for their consideration, the assistance they are rendering to Botswana, and to expand assistance programmes, wherever possible.

8. At its session in May 1982, the Governing Council approved the third country programme for Botswana (DP/CP/BOT/3). During 1982, \$835,000 of UNDP Indicative Planning Figure funds were expended in conjunction with substantial project inputs from the Government to implement the first part of the country programme. Approximately \$150,000 was also made available to meet Botswana's priority needs through the Special Measures Fund/Least Developed Countries allocations. Additionally, the UNCDF has contributed \$2.5 million to the programme of development.

9. Operative paragraph 4 of resolution 37/148 draws attention "particularly to the projects in the field of transport and communications", in the context of Botswana's priority requirements. It is noteworthy that the largest ongoing project of technical co-operation, extended in the third country programme, is budgeted to provide nearly \$2,000,000 from 1980 to 1986 for the development of civil aviation. A small project already carried out with financing from the Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries also completed a feasibility study in this priority sector.

10. The Government of Botswana and UNDP collaborated during 1982 to prepare for a Round Table Conference of Donors in mid-1983. After careful consideration, however, the Government requested UNDP to postpone indefinitely the convening of such a meeting.

11. Botswana is the headquarters for the secretariat of the nine-country Southern Africa Development Co-ordinating Conference (SADCC). For the third cycle, UNDP will provide assistance to SADCC from its regional programme for Africa.*/ Such funds will be used for funding projects and programmes to be formulated by SADCC beginning in 1983.

C. Assistance to Central African Republic

12. The General Assembly resolution 37/145 of 17 December, 1982, inter alia, requested UNDP and other organizations of the United Nations system to maintain their programmes and to provide all possible assistance to help the Government and population of the Central African Republic as well as to bring

* Other members of SADCC to whom this allocation is applicable are Lesotho and Mozambique.

to the attention of their governing bodies, for their consideration, the special needs of the country. Relevant information will be provided to the Council at its thirtieth session in connection with the submission of the third country programme for the Central African Republic (DP/CP/CAR/3).

D. Assistance to the Gambia

13. General Assembly resolution 37/159 of 17 December 1982 invited UNDP and other organizations to bring to the attention of their governing bodies the special needs of the Gambia.

The resolution also requested the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue its efforts to mobilize the necessary resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to the Gambia;

(b) To keep the situation in the Gambia under constant review, to maintain close contact with Member States, the specialized agencies, regional and other intergovernmental organizations and the international financial institutions concerned, and to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1983, on the status of the special programme of economic assistance for the Gambia; and

(c) To report on the progress made in the economic situation of the Gambia in time for the matter to be considered by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

14. Since the adoption of resolution 37/159 UNDP has taken a number of important decisions and initiatives designed to augment its current development activities in the Gambia. First, the Resident Representative of UNDP, who assumed his post in February 1982, has successfully completed his immediate task which was to assist the Government in a thorough review of the country's social and economic situation and on that basis, to urgently prepare with the Government and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system the third country programme covering the period 1983-1986. The Gambia country programme (DP/CP/GAM/3) was approved by the UNDP Governing Council in February 1983. Details of the programme of assistance in response to the Gambia's special needs can be found in that document already submitted to the Governing Council earlier this year.

15. Second, UNDP allocated in 1982 an amount of \$100,000 from the SMF/LDC for the purpose of assisting the Government in the organization in 1983 of a Donors' Round Table Conference which would provide for the Government an effective forum for the mobilization of external resources for economic and social development in the Gambia.

16. In terms of actual resources, it is to be noted that the IPF for the Gambia rose from \$7 million in the second cycle, 1977-1981 to the illustrative IPF of \$14,250,000 in the third cycle, 1982-1986. Due to the present financial constraints, the programming level will, however, be 55 per cent of that amount. In addition, the Gambia has received a total allocation to date of more than \$1,000,000 from the SMF/LDC, about \$350,000 of which was utilized in 1982. Moreover, \$ 816,000 of new project commitments were agreed to during 1982 by the UNCDF, bringing Gambia's total allocation from UNCDF to \$5.7 million.

E. Assistance to Guinea Bissau

17. General Assembly resolution 37/156 invited UNDP and other organizations to bring to the attention of their respective governing bodies, for their consideration, the special needs of Guinea-Bissau, to report the decisions of those bodies to the Secretary-General and to advise him periodically of the steps taken and the resources made available.

18. The second UNDP country programme for Guinea-Bissau (DP/CP/GBS/2) was approved by the Governing Council at its Special session in May 1982. Compared with the \$6.1 million IPF for the second programming cycle, 1977-1981, the illustrative IPF for the third cycle, 1982-1986 is \$21,750,000. However, the recent adjustment of the programme to 55 per cent illustrative IPFs due to financial constraints means that the resources effectively available under the country programme at the present time amount to \$10,963,000. The Arab Gulf Fund has contributed an amount of \$500,000 as third-party cost sharing for the Rural Water Supply project GBS/82/007.

19. Given that Guinea Bissau is included in the list of least developed countries (LDC), Guinea-Bissau has been granted an allocation for 1983 from the SMF/LDC of \$ 157,000. This brings to \$ 648,000 the total allocations from that fund granted to date to Guinea-Bissau for project activities, of which \$ 361,000 has already been expended or committed. Moreover, an additional amount of \$ 100,000 has been allocated from the SMF/LDC as part financing for the organization of a Round Table Donors' Conference. The remainder of the financing for the preparatory work is provided from the country IPF. The donor's conference was originally scheduled to take place during the first half of 1983. However, it has now been postponed at the request of the Government to the last quarter of 1983.

20. During 1982, Guinea-Bissau also received an allocation from the UNDP regional programme for Africa - Special Programme for Small Island Countries - of US\$400,000 for the period 1983-1986. As the UNDP regional programme has been affected by equally severe cutbacks due to the financial constraints, and the amounts allocated out of this special programme have had to be reduced for the present to \$75,000 for the 1983 to 1984 period. This cutback will affect the continuation of the project commenced under SMF/LDC funding for the integrated development of the Bijagos Islands.

21. Programming missions were undertaken by UNSO in 1981 and by UNCDF in April 1982. UNCDF has an ongoing programme of more than \$1 million being implemented in Guinea-Bissau.

F. Assistance to Lesotho

22. General Assembly resolution 37/160 of 17 December, 1982, inter alia requested UNDP and other organizations to help Lesotho by organizing an effective programme of technical assistance, and invited them to bring to the attention of their governing bodies, for their consideration, the special needs of the country.

23. UNDP reported at considerable length on the particular needs of Lesotho and its programme of technical co-operation in the third country programme (DP/CP/LES/3), approved by the Governing Council at its special session in May 1982.

24. During 1982, the first part of the new country programme was implemented, reflecting both a continuation of the ongoing programme of assistance, as well as new projects of a priority nature. Nearly \$3,000,000 of UNDP IPF resources were applied to projects in 1982, supplemented by approximately \$300,000 of SMF/LDC funds, and \$910,000 of new project commitments from the UNCDF.

25. Resolution 37/160 makes reference to a few special concerns, inter alia, the need for agricultural development and self-sufficiency in food and development of air transport. The Lesotho country programme pays particular attention to these two priority sectors: large-scale projects are now being implemented which follow up on previous assistance in these two fields of development. Additionally, important projects of technical co-operation were in progress during 1982 to assist the Government with its economic planning efforts.

26. UNDP has been requested by the Government of Lesotho to assist in organizing a Round Table Donors Conference later in 1983, for which preparations began during 1982.

G. Assistance to Liberia

In its resolution 37/149 of 17 December 1982, the General Assembly requested the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations organizations to maintain and expand their programmes of assistance to Liberia, to co-operate closely with the Secretary-General in his efforts and to report to him by 15 July 1983 on the steps they have taken and the resources they have made available to help that country. It also requested the UNDP and other organizations to bring to the attention of their governing bodies, for their consideration, the special needs of Liberia.

Additionally, the above resolution particularly requested the Secretary-General:

- (a) To continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Liberia.
- (b) To ensure that adequate financial and budgetary arrangements are made to continue the organization of the international programme of assistance to Liberia.
- (c) To keep the situation regarding assistance to Liberia under constant review, to maintain close contact with Member States, regional and other intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies and international financial institutions concerned, and to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1983, of the current status of the special economic assistance programme for Liberia.
- (d) To report on the progress made in the economic situation of Liberia and in organizing and implementing the programme of assistance for that country in time for the matter to be considered by the General Assembly and its thirty-eighth session.

28. Relevant information on the assistance provided by UNDP to Liberia in response to the special needs of the country is contained in the third country programme document (DP/CP/LIB/3) which will be before the Council for its consideration at the thirtieth session. In addition, information relating to the Government's request that Liberia be considered as if it were a least developed country is contained in a note by the Administrator, DP/1983, which will also be before the Council at its thirtieth session.

H. Assistance to Mozambique

29. General Assembly resolution 37/161 of 17 December 1982, inter alia, called upon UNDP and other organizations to strengthen their programmes of assistance, and to bring to the attention of their governing bodies, for their consideration, the special needs of Mozambique, and to report the decisions of these bodies to the Secretary-General in time for the consideration of the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

30. Mozambique is proceeding with implementation of the projects included in its third country programme which was approved by the Governing Council in its special meeting in May 1982. The specific needs of Mozambique in its development efforts were taken into consideration in the preparation and submission of the country programme last year (DP/CP/MOZ/3).

During 1982, the UNDP programme provided approximately \$7.0 million from IPF resources to development projects. Mozambique's illustrative IPF for the third cycle, 1982-1986 of \$ 74 million is the third largest in Africa, and even with resources limited to the 55 per cent level, more than \$ 40.0 million is presently being made available for programming.

32. Included in resolution 37/161 is a special request to the international community to provide assistance so that Mozambique can meet its food needs. UNDP assistance is highly relevant to this particular sectoral requirement. Several large scale technical co-operation projects are being implemented: in land and water resources surveys, planning emergency crop and livestock production, fishery training and development, wheat and soybean development, agricultural research and training, and assistance to meteorologic services.

I. Assistance to Sierra Leone

33. General Assembly resolution 37/158 of 17 December 1982, requested the appropriate organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to expand their programmes of assistance to Sierra Leone, to co-operate closely with the Secretary-General in organizing an effective international programme of assistance and to report periodically to him on the steps taken and the resources made available. Organizations were also invited to bring to the attention of their respective Governing bodies the special needs of the country.

34. The third UNDP country programme for Sierra Leone (DP/CP/SIL/3) in which the needs of the country are described in detail was approved by the Governing Council at its special meeting in February 1983. Compared with the \$12.9

million allocated for the second cycle, 1977-1981, the illustrative IPF for the third cycle, 1982-1986, is \$32,500,000. However the recent adjustment of programme levels to 55 per cent of illustrative IPFs due to resource constraints means that the resources effectively available under the country programme at the present time amount to only \$16,884,000.

35. On the basis of the General Assembly's decision, Sierra Leone has been included in the list of countries accorded LDC status. Thus, Sierra Leone has been granted a first allocation of \$ 236,000 for 1983 from the SMF/LDC. Moreover, an additional amount of US \$ 100,000 has been allocated out of the SMF/LDC to assist in the organization of a Round Table Donors' Conference for which the preparatory work will start later in 1983.

36. The Secretary General is despatching an inter-agency mission to Sierra Leone in March 1983 to review with Government authorities the needs of the country in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 37/158. A UNCDF programming mission is also expected to take place during the first half of 1983. Both of these missions are being conducted with the involvement of the Resident Co-ordinator.

J. Assistance to Tonga

37. General Assembly resolution 37/164 of 17 December 1982, invited UNDP and other organizations to bring to the attention of their governing bodies, for their consideration, the special needs of Tonga and to report their decisions to the Secretary-General by 15 July 1983.

38. In presenting the third country programme for Tonga (DP/CP/TON/3) at its special meeting in February 1983, to the Governing Council, the special needs of Tonga were brought to the Council's attention. However, with the shortfall in anticipated UNDP resources, the authorized programme level for Tonga at 55 per cent of the illustrative IPF of \$2.5 million for 1982-1986 would be only \$1,375,000. This is, of course, a very modest contribution in view of the requirements of over \$ 58 million presented in the report of the Secretary-General.

39. On the occasion of the approval of the third country programme for Tonga (1983-1985), the UNDP Governing Council was informed that based on the country's brief former status "as if" it were an LDC, UNDP, in 1982, provided \$500,000 in regional LDC funds under the Transit and Transport Facilities and Equipment regional project (RAS/81/075), for Airport Development in Tonga. UNCDF approved \$850,000 for Artisanal Fisheries Development (TON/81/C01), intended for the construction of 60 fishing boats to be built at boatyards in

each of the three major island groups of Tonga. A total of \$230,000 in UNDP Special Programme Resources was approved for 1982-1983 following the destruction caused by cyclone Isaac. The projects supported were Disaster Relief (TON/82/001); Rural Water Supply (TON/82/002); and Rehabilitation of Agriculture (TON/82/003). Other UNDP assistance received by Tonga (1981-1982) on the basis of its "as if LDC" status included approximately \$16,000 from the SMF/LDC and another \$25,200 in regional LDC funds, under two separate training and advisory service projects.

40. UNDP also financed the services of an economic planning expert through the United Nations Department for Technical Co-operation for Development (TCD) who co-ordinated much of the formulation of the details for the \$58 million proposal, "Projects in the Special Economic Assistance Programme", prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 34/132.

K. Assistance to Uganda

41. Both the General Assembly and the Governing Council adopted decisions on Uganda's economic and social development at their last sessions. General Assembly resolution 37/162, inter alia, requested the UNDP and other United Nations organizations to maintain their current and future programmes of assistance to Uganda, and to bring to the attention of their governing bodies the special needs of the country.

42. In accordance with Governing Council decision 82/5, A, VIII, UNDP has continued to provide assistance to Uganda while a new country programme was in preparation. In 1982, UNDP's programme of technical co-operation expended approximately \$6.8 million from IPF funds. The new country programme, covering the years 1983-1986, is being submitted for the Council's consideration at the current session and is described in documents DP/CP/UGA/2 and DP/CP/UGA/Note/2. The new programme, while it includes elements related to rehabilitation and restoration of essential facilities and services, is directed towards institution building and the establishment of a sound base for economic development.

43. With reference to Governing Council decision 82/14, UNDP has continued to co-operate closely with the World Bank in mobilizing international support for the programme of the Government of Uganda for reconstruction, rehabilitation and development.

44. Following a visit to Uganda by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in February 1983 and subsequent to the preparation of the UNDP country programme, the Government prepared a memorandum about its needs for assistance from the United Nations system. The memorandum, which makes specific

reference to General Assembly resolution 37/162 reviews the background of the situation in the country, summarizes current Government strategy and programmes for rehabilitation and requests the assistance of the United Nations system in several areas.

45. With specific reference to UNDP, the Government has requested that the third cycle illustrative IPF for Uganda be adjusted upward to not less than \$80 million and that at least 51 per cent of that amount be utilized for equipment and other capital inputs. The Government has also requested a mission to assess the need for the rehabilitation of Makerere University.

46. The memorandum also requests that United Nations system special funds with no programmes in Uganda discuss with the Government the establishment of appropriate programmes of economic and social support. Finally the memorandum asks that all funds already earmarked for Uganda be disbursed speedily.

47. With regard to adjusting the IPF, UNDP has advised the Government that the illustrative IPFs for 1982-1986 for all countries were approved by the Governing Council on the basis of guidelines established by the Council which apply without exceptions. Uganda was allotted an illustrative IPF of \$59.5 million; however, the flat across-the-board reduction of programme levels, in accordance with Council decision 80/30, to 55 per cent of illustrative IPFs in the light of the current resource situation, results in useable resources of \$ 38.6 million, including carry-on from the second cycle. Requests for additions beyond the programming amounts resulting from Council decision 80/30 have not been accepted in the past.

48. The Government has also been advised that there is no ceiling on the ratio of the volume of equipment in relation to total UNDP assistance, and that decisions on equipment will be made on a project by project basis during the implementation of Uganda's new country programme, in accordance with Governing Council decision 82/4,B and the guidelines contained in General Assembly resolutions 2688(XXV) on the capacity of the United Nations development system and 3045 (XXX) on new dimensions in technical co-operation.

49. Consistent with the Government's request, a joint UNDP/FAO/UNESCO mission to evaluate the three UNDP-financed projects at Makerere University is scheduled for April 1983. The mandate of the mission has been broadened to include preparation of terms of reference for a survey team to examine the needs of the University and make recommendations, as appropriate, for additional assistance.

50. Most of the United Nations system trust funds for which the Administrator is responsible and from which Uganda is eligible for assistance either have

projects underway or have already begun discussion with the Government. The UNCDF has a large programme in operation and during 1982 nearly \$ 2.5 million of new projects were approved. The UNV programme also has an ongoing programme. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development and the Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries are actively negotiating with the Government either about resumption of programmes interrupted by the war or about the beginning of new programmes. An energy assessment of Uganda has recently been completed by the joint UNDP/World Bank Energy Sector Assessment Programme, which receives funding from the Energy Account.

51. With respect to the Government's concern about prompt provision of assistance, although there have been constraints on delivery of inputs to some projects, at least partially due to shortages of housing for the requested expertise, much of the UNDP programme has been delivered with little delay. A UNDP housing loan, now under negotiation, should lead to improved delivery in the longer run.

52. Additional information about the Uganda programme which may become available by the time the Governing Council meets, will be presented orally during the Council's session.

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