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COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Consideration and approval of country programmes

THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

UNDP assistance requested by the Government of the United Republic of Cameroon for the period 1983-1986

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INTRODUCTION

1. This document is submitted for the approval of the UNDP Governing Council within the framework of the indicative planning figure (IPF) allocated to the United Republic of Cameroon. It constitutes the third reference country programme and covers the period 1983-1986.
2. The programming exercise began in January 1981 at a special meeting on programme preparation attended by representatives of the technical ministries, co-ordinated by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning, and by representatives of United Nations executing agencies, led by the Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa.
3. These activities, which were temporarily affected by UNDP's financial liquidity problems, were intensified towards the end of 1981 with the approval of the fifth five-year development Plan, covering the period 1981-1986.
4. The content of the third country programme has been determined on the basis of development options and perspectives reflected in the five-year Plan, following consultations held under the auspices of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning, in co-operation with the relevant services of the Office of the President of the United Republic of Cameroon.
5. The financial envelope of the country programme will complement activities undertaken by the Government.

Duration, timetable and anticipated resources

6. The period covered by the third country programme (1983-1986) corresponds fairly closely to the 1981-1986 five-year development Plan, which ensures greater coherence between the two programmes with regard both to the reorientation of current activities and to the identification of new assistance proposals.
7. The illustrative IPF is \$US 27.5 million. Of this amount, 55 per cent has actually been programmed in accordance with the instructions transmitted by UNDP. Taking into account the financing, under a cost-sharing arrangement, of the project Assistance in the rehabilitation of telecommunications (CMR/79/001) and expenditures made in 1982, the available resources for 1983-1986 total \$US 21,160,000. Of this sum, it appears that 40 per cent is allocated for the continuation of existing projects, 20 per cent for the financing of new activities or projects resumed under more specific guidelines and 40 per cent is the unprogrammed balance.
8. Relations with bilateral and multilateral programmes are being developed. At the present time, since the number of projects submitted by the Government exceeds UNDP's financing capabilities, the Government's own resources or external resources would have to supplement the IPF in order to permit expansion of UNDP assistance activities for the Government. Moreover, the United Republic of Cameroon has participated in a number of regional projects receiving UNDP assistance and will continue to do so during the new cycle. These activities have sometimes been complementary to national projects.

Social-economic profile and development strategy

9. Over the past ten years, the economy of the United Republic of Cameroon has shown a reasonable growth rate (5 per cent annually). Thanks to its traditional natural resources, which are conducive to food self-reliance, and to the new potentials which are being strengthened, the country is emerging from the development structure inherited when it achieved independence. A new Plan has been drawn up and its objectives identified through analysis of the results obtained from previous plans, and from the fourth development Plan in particular, and in accordance with the long-term development projections and hypotheses.

10. In accordance with the concepts of "planned liberalism" and "self-reliant development", development policy will continue to allow free-market forces to guide national production activities, within the framework of regulations drawn up by the Government. Moreover, in the financing of the new Plan, the anticipated inputs will be, respectively, 60 per cent by the public sector and 40 per cent by the private sector.

11. At the level of the principal production sectors, it has become apparent that the primary sector, while still making, in terms of absolute value, an important contribution to the gross domestic product (GDP), or 35 per cent, is, nevertheless, relatively backward by comparison with the development of the other productive sectors. The maintenance of agriculture and rural activities is still, however, of primary importance on the social plane, because it provides 75 per cent of employment and satisfies 80 per cent of food needs.

12. The constant progression of the secondary sector, whose contribution has risen from 19 per cent to 24 per cent of GDP, reflects the growing activities of the public works construction industries and, in particular, the mining industries, whose income has, fortunately, made up for the deterioration of the terms of trade of industrial export crops, such as coffee and cacao.

13. In the tertiary sector, whose contribution to GDP (41 per cent) has, for 10 years, exceeded the two other production sectors, growth, while globally satisfactory, has been unevenly distributed among activities. It has been relatively mediocre in the fields of transport and telecommunications, owing to the inadequacy of the organization and infrastructure of the services. Conversely, the financial institutions have shown annual increases of 25 per cent of credits.

14. The Government has drawn up its long-term development strategy on the assumption of an increase in domestic production of foodstuffs, ensuring, as a matter of priority, long-term food self-reliance, having regard to demographic projections for the next 20 years.

15. This explains why, among the sectors of development, agriculture and rural development in general remain, as in previous years, the main concern and first priority of the five-year development Plan. The other two priorities, namely, intensification of research for the exploitation of mineral and energy resources and the reorientation of the industrialization policy through the development of local resources, are a corollary of agricultural development, as a factor for the acceleration of general development.

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NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMMES TO BE SUPPORTED BY UNDP

A. Agriculture, stock-raising and forestry

Amount programmed: \$4,108,437

16. Agriculture (73 per cent), stock-raising (16.5 per cent) and, to a lesser degree, forestry (7 per cent) constitute the bulk of the activities of the primary sector and make it possible to meet food needs to a large extent, to provide 30 to 40 per cent of national budgetary resources and to obtain a major portion of foreign exchange (70 per cent).

17. The pursuit of food self-reliance, the keystone of the development strategy, is encountering some constraints, namely, the growth of the population, the rural exodus and the socio-economic evolution of food needs.

18. The Government intends to take measures, in the course of the current Plan, to accelerate the development of the rural areas and, within this framework, is receiving assistance from UNDP and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) through the IPF and the regular programme of this executing agency.

1. Knowledge of the rural areas

19. The determination of measures presupposes a precise prior knowledge of the rural areas. Accordingly, UNDP has planned to intervene during the next agricultural census by providing assistance in that operation.

20. Under the concept of dynamization of village communities, complementary activities will be carried out, in order to create in the rural areas a socio-economic environment and employment conditions that will be able to keep on the land the manpower necessary for maintenance of the growth of global production and improvement of productivity at the level of individual farms.

21. Financial measures, measures to strengthen the co-operative system and activities in the field of training, the preparation of technical supervisors, research extension programmes and the investment of earnings from sales are planned for implementation in pilot zones.

2. Programme for the training of farmers and technical support for training services

22. These programmes concern the creation of new co-operatives or the strengthening of existing co-operatives and their regrouping in order to achieve economically viable dimensions, as well as assistance to the management of co-operative units. Furthermore, training and direct assistance for young independent farmers will be continued in order to promote their integration in rural production circuits.

23. Since 1979, the project National project for co-operative education (CMR/77/001) has been operating within the Ministry of Agriculture in order to educate population groups about the co-operative movement and increase their awareness of it. Action is oriented towards conceptualization and programming at the national level, co-operative education at the regional level and rural leadership at the village level, with the use of itinerant expert mobile teams. In the course of a new phase, starting in 1983, the project will deal, in particular, with the management and financial control problems of co-operative movements.

24. The project Assistance to the National Office for Development Participation (ONPD) (CMR/78/006), which has focused on a restricted category of the population, that of rural youth, has, since 1978, provided assistance to this Office in the establishment of programmes of training and management training for young farmers in order to give them some practical modern knowledge of farming. UNDP is working in co-operation with the sectoral supervisory companies established in the cash crop zones (cacao, coffee) but also at the level of the as yet untrained rural communities of the traditional agricultural sector (90 per cent of agricultural activities). During the following phase, starting in January 1983, the project will strengthen UNDP training structures by an increase in the number of training staff and the adoption of training programmes with a more practical content. In addition, particular attention will be given to UNDP intervention and management methods, in order to increase its capacity for intervention among young farmers.

3. Production and conservation of agricultural basic foodstuffs

25. In spite of the fact that agricultural export crops still bring in most of the country's foreign exchange receipts, emphasis should be placed on the primordial role played by basic foodstuffs both in the nutritional balance of the population and because of the place and value in production, accounting for 70 per cent of the agricultural GDP.

26. The authorities, while strongly encouraging industrial crops such as cotton, cacao and coffee, therefore attach great importance to the production of basic food crops, such as millet and maize (staple food of the north) and, more recently, cereals, whose production will restrict the exit of foreign exchange.

27. The project Assistance to the Cereals Agency (CMR/78/012) was, in fact, set up in 1978, four years after the creation of the Agency, an organization established in the northern province, for the accumulation of the stocks necessary to stabilize seasonal prices and supply that region on a regular basis. It is in the areas of marketing and the accumulation and conservation of stocks that the project has operated so far.

28. During the next phase, UNDP/FAO assistance will be oriented mainly towards improvement of the management methods of the Cereals Agency, with a view to more effective utilization of the subsidies granted by the State and the consequent increase of the Agency's participation in the seasonal purchasing and reselling of basic foodstuffs, thus removing them from commercial speculation.

29. The need for a rapid increase in the productivity of agricultural farming, in order to meet the quantitative and qualitative food needs of the population implies also, at the outset, the necessity of producing, multiplying and disseminating high quality seeds and vegetable material. Such is the *raison d'être* of the national seed plan to be implemented during the 1981-1986 five-year Plan.

30. Under the project Assistance to the establishment of the national seed plan (CMR/81/005), during a first intermediate phase which began in 1982, UNDP and FAO are assisting the Government, at the planning and consultation level, in the establishment of a technical secretariat to define the orientations of the seed plan. In a later phase, which might begin during the first quarter of 1983, UNDP assistance will be of a more operational kind, because it will be a question of assisting the structures responsible for establishing this seed plan. It should be mentioned here that food and basic fruit production constitute priority areas of intervention under the seed plan. In addition, the project will be called upon to collaborate with the agronomical research services, such as the Ekona Pedology Centre, mentioned below, and with the extension and distribution programmes, such as the projects Co-operative education (CMR/77/001) and Assistance to the Cereals Agency (CMR/78/012), described in paragraphs 23 and 27 above.

31. Sizeable loans from the World Bank have been granted to the Cameroonian Government for rural development activities (rice production, integrated rural development/ZAPI, improvement of the land system of the western region, assistance to a palm plantation/Cameroon development (CAMDEV)).

4. Agronomic research and development of production

32. A significant increase in productivity is necessarily effected through the extension of the results of agronomic research at the level of rural production.

33. Originally conceived and executed under the head of "Pedology" (CMR/72/009) for assistance to the Pedology Department of the Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (DGRST), the former National Scientific and Technical Research Agency (ONAREST), the current project Soil service (CMR/78/002) has a more specific task, namely, to develop the Pedology Department into a national soil service. This service will comprise in one institution three pedology sections complementary in their orientations, as follows: (a) at Ekona (south-west), central service; (b) at Nkolbisson (centre-south), basic research; (c) at Maroua (north), agropedology. This project, the new phase of which begins in 1983, will place emphasis on the training of national personnel, parallel with the establishment of a large-scale soils map, which is necessary for the pursuit of a rational land use and physical planning policy.

34. In addition, with a view to optimizing the application of research results, the Government is planning to set up a long-term agricultural mechanization plan with which UNDP, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and FAO would be associated.

5. Stock-raising

35. In spite of a doubling of demand every five years, animal production remains comparatively stagnant. Owing to the presence of typanosomiasis, the stock-raising zone remains confined to the northern part of the country (77 per cent of all cattle), where animal husbandry remains largely traditional and of the home type.

36. Satisfaction of the domestic market remains a priority objective of the development plan. Intensive grazing ranches have therefore been established.

37. A proposal for assistance for the establishment of a studies and projects unit in the Directorate of Stock-raising might be formulated during the current cycle.

6. Forestry and timber utilization

38. The United Republic of Cameroon ranks third among the African countries with regard to forest resources and probably second with regard to future potentials. Concern to embark on rational forest management was expressed through the execution of the project Deng-Deng forest (CMR/77/003), the purpose of which is to formulate the forestry and economic objectives of the forest massif of the Deng-Deng area and define the rules for exploitation.

7. Agrometeorology

39. Lastly, UNDP assistance continues in the field of meteorology, in the form of two distinct projects.

40. The purpose of the first, Assistance to national meteorology (CMR/77/019), is to assist the Directorate of National Meteorology in strengthening its activities relating to climatology, hydrometeorology, synoptic meteorology and the organization of an instruments maintenance service. Activities under this project include also the provision of supplementary equipment, the training of staff and the establishment of a principal agrometeorology station in the western part of the country.

41. The chief objective of the second project, Agrometeorology (CMR/79/023), is to strengthen specifically the agrometeorological section of the National Meteorological Service through the following: (a) the establishment and equipment of climatological and pluviometric stations; (b) inauguration of the system for collecting, storing, processing and disseminating data; (c) establishment of a new agrometeorological station in the north; (d) training of the necessary staff. This project is complementary to the activities for the development of agriculture and stock-raising in the northern part of the country, which is a drought area.

B. Mineral resources and industry

Amount programmed: \$5,609,803

42. The industrial sector makes a modest contribution to the economic development of the United Republic of Cameroon. It is, in fact, characterized by the relative importance of the traditional activity branches, under-exploitation of the national wealth, strong dependence on imports and considerable foreign financial and operational control. Its impact on the other sectors has thus so far been limited.

43. In 1978, branches such as foodstuffs, textiles, beverages, tobacco and timber represented more than 50 per cent of the industrial turnover. However, it should be noted that aluminium production, hydrocarbon refining and cellulose production activities have shown real development. Strongly extraverted, concentrated on the coast and with small utilization of its production capacity, industrial production was, therefore, the subject of reassessment within the framework of the preparatory work for the formulation of the new Plan.

44. The objectives make the agricultural sector a basic sector of the economy but accord industry the role of a key sector, as a factor for the acceleration of development through the exploitation of national mineral resources and raw materials that it will entail and also the more rational utilization of human resources that it will lead to. The privileged branches thus become:
(a) agroindustry, with all the areas contributing to the processing, storage, transport and conversion of agricultural products; (b) the area of the exploitation of the various sources of energy; (c) the branches exploiting essential resources (iron ores, bauxite and forests).

45. If the financing of the industrial sector is not to be based to a large extent on resources obtained through agriculture, the export of industrial products becomes an essential condition in the development strategy. The degree of autonomy vis-à-vis foreign elements, the level of integration of national resources and the impact of production units on regional development are becoming essential criteria in the assessment of industrial projects. In order to meet these ambitious objectives, the Government has defined the basic operators as follows: small and medium-sized national enterprises, the public sector and the foreign private sector. So that they will be able to face up to their many obligations, various incentives are planned (revision of the investment code, tax relief, procedural and financial flexibility). With regard, more particularly, to the public sector, the State has assigned various tasks to the Société nationale d'investissement (SNI), a public financial holding company, with a view to better management and development of State participation in the industrial sector. As for the national private sector, the National Centre for Assistance to Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (CAPME) has been confirmed in its primordial role in the promotion of and assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises.

46. All these objectives and their strategy require, however, to be defined more precisely. The current five-year Plan, therefore, provides both for a programme of action in the field of industrial investment and for reflection that should result in the elaboration of a future master plan for industrialization. With regard to

the investment programme, emphasis has been placed on the development of agricultural and forestry products and on the development of construction materials. The studies on the development of mineral resources will be actively pursued.

47. The United Nations system plays an essential role through its assistance to the development of the mining and industrial sector. Although the principal financing of assistance activities depends on the national IPF, additional resources have been provided for. Thus, UNIDO is financing the organization of seminars dealing with the training of supervisory personnel in production management techniques, the establishment of a training unit of this type in the country and studies on the creation of an intravenous solutions unit and a unit for the manufacture of syrups, capsules, tablets, etc. The programmes of UNIDO's special industrial services (SIS) are participating in the studies for designing a palm-oil press, while the Regular Programme of UNIDO is financing the organization of a seminar on the training of supervisory personnel in industrial maintenance.

48. UNDP assistance, for its part, is devoted to the following activities.

1. Direct support of ore prospecting activities

49. The area of minerals has hitherto played little part in the development of the United Republic of Cameroon, whereas its potential is considerable, particularly with regard to bauxite. Several iron deposits have been discovered on the coast and in the south-east; cassiterite and rutile have been found, and the presence of significant indications of uranium, iron, diamonds and other metallic substances has been noted. It has also been possible to identify thermomineral water resources. With the exception of the iron ore deposits in the Kribi region, none of the mineral resources have so far been the subject of quantitative estimates. Exploitation of gaseous and liquid hydrocarbon potentials is only beginning. Thus, the country has energy resources that could ensure satisfaction of its domestic needs, integrated development of the petrochemical branch and influxes of foreign exchange resulting from export.

50. Since the minerals sector is the basis of industrial development and the latter is regarded as the main force in the achievement of economic development in general, it follows that minerals exploration is seeking to expedite its work and to accelerate the training of national personnel of a high technical level capable of taking over from foreign experts.

51. The development of mineral and energy resources will aim at developing this wealth to meet domestic needs, primarily, but also to permit the export of semi-finished products. Within this context, bauxite and iron ore have a primordial role among the mineral substances recognized.

52. UNDP has long been providing assistance to minerals exploration under the projects Minerals exploration (CMR/74/011) and Minerals prospecting (CMR/77/L17). The programme has focused, in the past, on prospecting for deposits in the south-east, over an area of 65,000 square kilometres (km²) and has revealed

interesting indications of uranium, diamonds, iron, copper, nickel and chrome. It has, moreover, not been possible to train a Cameroonian staff on that occasion.

53. The third phase of the project Minerals exploration (CMR/81/005) will endeavour to undertake in-depth exploration, with a view to the eventual exploitation of the most promising deposits, while seeking to continue the collective training of national prospecting teams.

54. The development of mineral resources is also the subject of either bilateral or private assistance proposals, and, in the case of the Kribi iron deposit, a pre-feasibility study is under way, with the aim of determining the volume of production, the range of production and the type of product. On the other hand, the studies on the bauxite deposits are only to be updated.

2. Participation in the elaboration of a master plan for industrialization

55. Industrialization is regarded as a means for achieving the elimination of regional disparities, the exploitation of local raw materials, utilization and promotion of human resources and satisfaction of the needs of the essential sectors: agriculture, infrastructure, transport, housing and services. To this end, it is intended to establish a coherent and integrated methodological approach and a long-term industrial development plan, based on the country's potentials: iron ore, timber, bauxite and hydrocarbons.

56. After a preliminary phase of assistance in general planning, under the project Planning assistance (CMR/78/004), the Government hoped to continue co-operation with UNDP in the area of the establishment of a master plan for industrialization, which would make it possible to determine the long-term development strategy for the sector, to identify programmes of investments attracted and, lastly, to cast light on the spin-off generated in the other basic sectors. The project Preparatory assistance for the elaboration of the master plan for industrialization (CMR/81/007) was approved to this end.

57. Following the preparation of this general plan, various studies are to be undertaken by branches, so that the future five-year Plan for the industrial sector can be drawn up. World Bank assistance complements that of UNDP in the area of the financing of specific studies and technical assistance to selected industrial development structures.

58. The purpose of UNDP assistance is to help the Government in defining the terms of reference of the studies to be undertaken, following up the preparation of those studies, supervising the work carried out by subcontractors and, lastly, synthesizing studies with a view to establishing a coherent policy for the development of the industrial sector. This assistance will extend also to the establishment of the institutions responsible for subsequent follow-up of the implementation of the plan.

3. Support for institutions responsible for the development of small and medium-sized enterprises

59. In the growth of the economy, small and medium-sized enterprises (PME) are to play an important role. The Government does not regard the private and the public sectors as mutually antagonistic but endeavours to promote all available energies and to utilize the vitality of the national private sector and its educational and economic role in pursuit of the development efforts.

60. The Centre for Assistance to Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (CAPME), the basic institution of the system for the promotion of PME, has, since its establishment, received ongoing assistance from the United Nations system and various bilateral assistance. Through its knowledge of the problems encountered by PME, it has been able to propose a programme of action to the Government, and institutional measures to consolidate and promote the activity of PME are now planned.

61. UNDP action in this area concerns the training of CAPME personnel, under the project CAPME training (CMR/79/013), and the provision of equipment and technical assistance under the project Bassa workshop (CMR/79/012). The area of intervention is thus limited to the provision of assistance to CAPME structures, in order to enable them to strengthen their assistance to PME. The UNDP effort is integrated in the global assistance extended by the World Bank and, on a bilateral basis, by the Governments of Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany.

C. Transport and communications

Amount programmed: \$1,713,034

62. The transport and communications sector is strategic for the development of Cameroon and for the opening up of the bordering countries. Unfortunately, the situation with regard to the various modes of transport is very uneven; thus, the road sector is very little developed. The main road axis linking Douala to Yaoundé, which is vital for the promotion of domestic trade, has not yet been paved. Generally speaking, the road network suffers from the following shortcomings: inadequate maintenance; high cost of investment; mediocre technical instructions.

63. The projects of the fifth plan accord primordial importance to the road sector with regard to: (a) construction and reinforcement of roads and bridges; (b) establishment of a regular and effective maintenance programme. The bilateral and international financial institutions of Canada, the United States, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the World Bank, and the African Development Bank (AfDB) have responded generously, in this area, to the Government's request by the financing of urgent operations.

64. At the level of the Central African subregion, it was possible to take an inventory relating to the establishment of priority projects in the area of road and riverine transport. It was possible to short-list 37 road projects and 22 riverine

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transport projects for the first phase; the technical consultative meeting with donors, held in Yaoundé in 1981 under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), served to enhance bilateral and multilateral institutions' awareness of the subregion's infrastructures. With regard, more particularly, to the United Republic of Cameroon, 10 road projects covering a length of 2,700 kilometres (km) and involving a total cost of \$1,500 million were submitted.

65. With regard to the railway network, emphasis is placed on the renewal of stock and improvement of management. The main projects relate to the rectification and equipment of the Douala/Yaoundé line, on the one hand, and, on the other, a study of the west coast and south coast links, with a view to promoting the development of mineral and forestry resources and participating in the opening up of the frontier regions. International and bilateral assistance has been pledged to assist the country in this sector also (Canada, France, Federal Republic of Germany, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (BIRD)).

66. UNDP action has thus been directed to the other areas, namely, maritime transport, air transport and telecommunications.

1. Strengthening of the institutions responsible for
maritime and aeronautical transport

67. The United Republic of Cameroon has three seaports: Douala, Kribi and Tiko and a riverine port, Garoua. Since traffic is increasing considerably, the Plan objectives are therefore to meet this growing demand and consolidate Cameroonian ascendancy in the maritime transport sector. UNDP had been asked by the Government to assist it, under the project Maritime transport (CMR/77/031), in the achievement of this second objective.

68. Since the basic institutions responsible for maritime transport are the Directorate of the Merchant Marine, the General Directorate of Ports and the National Maritime Shippers' Council, UNDP, in liaison with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), plans to provide assistance in the following areas: (a) improvement of management, co-ordination, supervision and planning activities at the operator level; (b) strengthening of the negotiating capacities of Government authorities in their relations with ship owners and at the level of maritime conferences.

69. UNDP is providing assistance in the training and advanced training of personnel but also in the organization of civil aviation services, under the project Civil Aviation (CMR/77/030). A number of scholarships have already made it possible to train Cameroonian personnel with a high level of technical skills. In addition, the purchase of a single-engine aircraft now makes it possible to conduct the preselection of candidates for navigation on the spot. One of the residual tasks of the project is to assist the Cameroonian authorities in the establishment of an infrastructure service and the revision of the existing laws and regulations.

2. Assistance in the upgrading of telecommunications

70. UNDP action consists of assisting the Cameroonian authorities in the repair of installations and the organization of maintenance services. This programme does not, therefore, concern the installation of new equipment, for which international bilateral and private assistance is contributing. The project Rehabilitation of telecommunications (CMR/79/001), for which the Government has provided considerable financing on a cost-sharing basis, has had a very positive impact, since the rehabilitation of the network has been achieved and the training of managerial personnel carried out. The organization of maintenance services through preventive or remedial maintenance teams should enable national personnel to take over the maintenance responsibilities of the general network in future.

71. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Universal Postal Union (UPU) will contribute, outside the UNDP-financed programme, technical assistance to the Government for the establishment of a national television network and for the execution of a project for the establishment of new structures for the training and advanced training of technical personnel in the field of broadcasting, switching and network management. This programme follows the recommendations of a World Bank/ITU joint mission; in addition, Canadian bilateral assistance is participating by contributing to the restoration of the posts and telecommunications administration and the establishment of a planning unit.

D. Health

Amount programmed: \$180,670

72. The development of primary health care and the search for better medical coverage constitute the basic objectives of the health policy. To that end, it is intended to strengthen and extend health units, such as hospitals, clinics and rural pharmacies. Education and the development of preventive medicine, together with improvement of public health conditions in urban and rural centres, are to play a major role in the success of this policy.

73. Teaching and research are privileged areas. Attention will henceforth be given to the qualitative and quantitative training of medical and paramedical personnel, on the one hand, and to medical research, including traditional medicine, and pharmaceutical research, on the other.

74. The effort will also cover improvement of the management and equipment of hospital centres. In spite of a spectacular increase starting with the 1980-1981 financial year, health budget expenditures remain at a low level and represent only 3.7 per cent of the national budget.

75. The World Health Organization (WHO) is intervening, within the framework of its specific programme, through assistance to the Cameroonian authorities in the following areas: (a) the strengthening of preventive medicine: public health, nutrition, mother and child welfare, leprosy, cholera, trypanosomiasis, malaria and venereal disease control, expanded immunization programme; (b) the strengthening of

medical research structures, including the area of traditional medicine; (c) assistance to health structures in terms of equipment, expertise and training. Bilateral assistance plays a great role in the public health field, particularly the assistance provided by the United States and the French Governments.

76. Within the framework of this vast programme, UNDP has so far participated in two types of operation: (a) the strengthening of university-type teaching under the project University Centre for Health Sciences (CMR/77/023); (b) assistance in the development of a pharmaceutical industry under project Vaccine production (CMR/77/029), Laboratory equipment for DGRST (CMR/79/006), Assistance in the exploitation of medicinal plants (CMR/79/010). It is, however, intended to examine the possibility of UNDP intervention in the area of primary health care, water and environmental sanitation, thus complementing assistance from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA).

77. The third phase of the project University Centre for Health Sciences places emphasis on dentistry, in the form of activities relating to the planning of instruction in stomatology for medical students and to the training of health technicians in a dental elective. The expertise provided makes it possible to proceed to the teaching of courses, technical and administrative assistance and dental clinic management.

1. Assistance in the development of a pharmaceutical industry

78. The Plan objectives envisage the establishment of a national pharmaceutical office, the establishment of provincial pharmacies, development of the exploitation of medicinal plants and the establishment of a laboratory for pharmaceutical product quality control. The annual State expenditures for pharmaceutical products are now growing rapidly and amounted to \$8 million in 1982. Almost all the products are imported, even in the most elementary forms (syrops, suppositories, etc.).

79. The Cameroonian authorities wish both to improve their knowledge of the properties of medicinal plants, as used both in traditional medicine and in modern medicine, and to promote their development. UNDP is providing assistance to two projects, Equipment of DGRST laboratories (CMR/79/006) and Assistance in the exploitation of medicinal plants (CMR/79/010), as a sequel to a project for a UNIDO project for the supply of laboratory equipment. The project consists of the provision of expertise and the training of the personnel responsible for using the laboratory instruments, but it will also involve assistance to Government authorities in updating an old quinine-processing unit, with a view to reconverting it for the extraction of the active elements of various medicinal plants (voacanga, pygeum).

80. In order to ensure better immunization coverage, the Cameroonian authorities have requested UNDP assistance in the establishment of a unit for the conditioning of serums and vaccines under the project Production of serums and vaccines (CMR/77/029). This unit, which is intended to supply the serums and vaccines

needed to meet the country's needs, should make it possible, through the national personnel already trained under the project, to achieve greater regularity in the supplying of medical centres, less product wastage and substantial savings. Later on, it is planned, in liaison with bilateral aid, to proceed from the stage of processing to the stage of local manufacture of serums and vaccines.

E. Education

Amount programmed: \$462,438

81. Education in the United Republic of Cameroon is bilingual (French-English). At the beginning of the fifth Plan, more than 1,250,000 children are being educated at the primary level, nearly 150,000 at the general secondary level, more than 45,000 pupils are receiving technical education, and more than 10,000 students are being educated in university institutions. The share of the public sector represents 64 per cent at the primary level, 53 per cent at the secondary level and only 25 per cent at the technical level. University education is, on the contrary, provided mainly by public institutions.

82. As may be seen from the fifth Plan, the education system is encountering the following difficulties: under-qualification of teachers; a high dropout rate among pupils during the school cycle; a shortage of equipment and classrooms; irregularity of the spatial distribution of educational centres; failure of the education system to adapt to cultural and socio-economic realities.

83. The main efforts during the new Plan will focus on teacher training, the creation of new classrooms, educational reform, the establishment of institutional measures (creation of a national education fund) and the introduction of financial incentives for teachers.

84. UNDP has provided assistance in this area to the project Assistance to the Higher School for Training Technical Teachers and schools for training technical teachers ENSET/ENIET (CMR/79/004) and to the project Educational reform, to be carried out in co-operation with the World Bank. The aim of the project (CMR/79/004) is to orient the majority of young people who have completed the post-primary and secondary levels of general education towards technical and vocational education. The activities planned are as follows: (a) participation in the definition of a policy for the development of technical and vocational education; (b) the preparation of teacher-training programmes; (c) the establishment of a pedagogical research section; (d) participation in the training of 280 teachers for the technical education colleges and lycées.

85. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) will take a particular interest in the study of a functional literacy programme; it will also continue its assistance to the project for launching a local press and to the publication of textbooks in vernacular languages. UNESCO will also contribute to the development of scientific research in the country (definition of programmes, conception of projects and identification of possible sources of financing). World Bank intervention in the area of education will deal, in particular, with technical education (building, equipment and staffing assistance).

F. Employment and training

Amount programmed: \$541,900

86. Although the creation of jobs resulting, essentially, from the growth of the secondary and tertiary sectors has been satisfactory in absolute value during the implementation of the fourth development Plan, the percentage of the unemployed continues to grow. This is due mainly to the rural exodus phenomenon, which accentuates population pressure in open areas. Joblessness affects primarily rural youth seeking work for the first time.

87. In the current social context of a young population where economically active persons support an average of two economically inactive persons, the mass creation of jobs thus becomes of capital importance. It is the category of young women which seems the most underprivileged, because usually work opportunities are nonexistent. Current undertakings prefer, in the main, to give work to applicants already possessing an adequate level of modern education. Thus, for the unskilled, the modern sector offers few openings. Accordingly, it appears that there are a greater number of potential openings for this level in unclassified and traditional activities.

88. It is in this perspective that the project Craft hostels (CMR/78/005) was conceived and has been under way since 1982; it is expected to be fully operational starting in 1983. The handicrafts activities of the Douala Centre are intended for the training of young women, with a view to integrating them in active life. They cover tapestry weaving, ceramics and pottery, basket-making and embroidery. At a later stage, it is hoped that similar centres will be established in other regions of the country.

89. At the level of job creation in the modern sector, the project Centre for Assistance to Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (CAPME) (CMR/79/013), which has been in operation since 1980, has as its object the completion of the establishment of the structures of the Centre for Assistance to Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises located at Douala. This project will contribute to the organization and, in part, to the financing of various types of supplementary training for the Centre's supervisory personnel and technicians.

90. The project Hotel training (CMR/81/001) provides for basic instruction and refresher courses for catering and hotel trainees. This project will be continued and expanded upon the establishment of a hotel school at Ngaoundéré.

91. Lastly, the regional project African Regional Centre for Labour Administration (CRADAT) (RAF/78/003) provides, thanks to assistance from the ILO and the Belgian Government, training, specialized training and advanced training for the labour and social security administration personnel of its 13 member States.

92. An operation for the education of workers within the unions is financed under the project Workers' education (CMR/79/015).

93. In order to enable the Government to formulate a global policy in the area of human resources, in particular in the relationship to be established between training and education, on the one hand, and the evolution of the job market, on the other, the World Bank has financed a study, carried out with ILO participation. The encouraging results obtained show that assistance in human resources planning is essential for the continuation of the work begun.

94. UNDP, in liaison with UNIDO, is envisaging assistance in the area of the training of industrial personnel, particularly in the key sectors of the development of the United Republic of Cameroon. This activity might be continued, with regard to UNDP, through assistance in the formulation of a policy for the human resources planning.

G. Planning and Public Administration

Amount programmed: \$20,000

95. Just as the formulation of the main orientations of the fifth Plan reflects the suggestions and aspirations of the population, expressed through the existing political and economic structures, the preparation of the Plan itself was the result of a collective endeavour in which the various partners participated at the national, regional and sectoral levels.

96. The United Nations system was also associated with this task. In 1981, a UNDP/FAO sectoral mission, financed under the project FAO sectoral mission (CMR/80/005), was entrusted with the task of identifying those sectors where activities to stimulate rural development might be undertaken. In view of the magnitude of the cost of the recommended programme relative to the availability of financing, the mission proposed that priority should be given to the carrying out of feasibility studies or the strengthening of existing institutions. In this spirit, during the third cycle, the major institutional support projects, such as ONPD (CMR/78/006) or Cereals Agency (CMR/78/013), accord particular attention to management problems encountered by these organizations.

97. In the complex area of public administration, the project Assistance to the Administrative Reform Division (CMR/77/022) provided the division with technical support that should enable it to become operational as soon as possible in the implementation of the plans and programmes prepared by it. UNDP activity under this project is henceforth restricted to training as of 1983.

98. Although it is financed from the regional IPF, we should mention in this section the activity of the projects Multinational Centre for Project Programming and Execution (MULPOC) (RAF/76/026) and Demographic Training and Research Institute (IFORD) (RAF/70/009), which have a subregional mandate but whose permanent headquarters are established at Yaoundé. It is understood that MULPOC at Yaoundé will continue to play its dual role, namely, the integration of the economies of the seven countries of the region, including the United Republic of Cameroon, through the study and execution of multinational projects in the essential areas of the industrial development of resources.

99. UNFPA is also very active in the country. It has supported IFORD, which serves as a demographic training and research centre. UNFPA has also collaborated in the general census of population and housing, analysing and publishing the final results. Through a project for demographic action and improvement of the family welfare of those working in co-operatives, UNFPA is participating in the improvement of the living conditions of the rural population. Another UNFPA project of especial interest aims at studying and analysing all the direct or indirect effects of the law on demographic factors. Lastly, UNFPA will assist the Government, through the project for population planning assistance, in the formulation of a national demographic policy.

100. At the multilateral level, it is also appropriate to mention here the Technical Co-operation Agreement of 23 June 1981, financed by the Agency for International Development (AID) in the amount of \$10 million, under which the World Bank will procure for the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning and the technical ministries concerned the expertise necessary to strengthen their services in the areas of development planning and the formulation of policies and programmes relating to energy, agriculture, industry, social development and management of the public debt.

Annex

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A. <u>Resources</u>	<u>Dollars</u>
IPF and other resources	
(i) Illustrative IPF for 1982-1986	27 500 000
(ii) To be deducted (balance not programmed) <u>a/</u>	(5 500 000)
(iii) To be deducted: level authorized for the 1982 budget	(4 200 000)
(iv) Balance from preceding IPF cycle	2 263 000
(v) Other resources: cost-sharing contributions	<u>1 097 032</u>
	21 160 032
B. <u>Use of resources</u>	
(a) Programmed	
(i) Ongoing projects	8 377 961
(ii) New projects and phases included in the country programme	2 258 321
(iii) Projection for specific activities to be finalized at a later stage	<u>2 000 000</u>
Subtotal	12 636 282
(b) <u>Reserves</u>	8 523 750
Total amount programmed plus reserves:	<u>21 160 032</u>

C. Sectoral breakdown of programme resources

<u>Sector b/</u>	<u>Ongoing projects</u>	<u>New projects</u>	<u>Projections</u>	<u>Total</u>
02. General development	20 000			20 000
03. Natural resources	4 096 000			4 096 000
04. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1 131 709	976 728	2 000 000	
05. Industry	544 168	969 635		1 513 803
06. Transport and communications	1 673 034	40 000		1 713 034
10. Health	140 670	40 000		180 670
11. Education	462 438			462 438
12. Employment	309 942	231 958		541 900
TOTAL	8 377 961	2 258 321	2 000 000	12 636 282

a/ Twenty per cent of the illustrative IPF, which has not been taken into account for programming. It should, however, be noted that the country programme was prepared on the basis of the recent 45 per cent reduction. The same format was used for this programme in order to ensure conformity with the other country programmes, where the reduction was not taken into account. The 25 per cent difference appears on the line for that item.

b/ According to the ACC classification.
