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COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMING AND PROJECTS

Consideration and approval of country programmes

THIRD PROGRAMMING FOR COLOMBIA

Note by the Administrator

Programme period

1983-1986

Illustrative IPF for 1982-1986

\$US 22 million

I. Nature of the programming exercise

1. The programming exercise officially began with the submission to the authorities of the National Planning Department (DNP) of the note by the Resident Representative, which contained some basic guidelines on UNDP technical co-operation to be used as a frame of reference for the formulation and implementation of the programme.
2. Specific issues relating to the evaluation and selection of projects to be included in the programme and operational arrangements for them were the subject of detailed discussions with DNP, government counterpart bodies and the executing

1/ Notes by the Administrator on previous country programmes for Colombia were issued under the document symbols DP/GC/COL/R.1/RECOMMENDATION and DP/GC/COL/R.2/RECOMMENDATION.

agencies. This programme is part of the national programme of technical co-operation prepared and co-ordinated by DNP in collaboration with all the bilateral and multilateral sources of technical assistance to Colombia, including other agencies of the United Nations system.

3. To complement UNDP resources, which amount to \$US 14,409,000 for the period 1983-1986, the Government will contribute \$US 11,133,000 by way of cost sharing, in accordance with its co-financing policy, under which every national counterpart agency must contribute in cash (dollars) the equivalent of 30 per cent (for new projects) or 50 per cent (in the case of extensions of ongoing projects) of the UNDP cost funded under the indicative planning figure (IPF). The experience gained with the implementation of the second country programme has shown that this policy brings about greater control of and participation in projects and better utilization of their results by the national agencies.

II. Relationship of the country programme to the objectives of the National Development Plan

4. The third UNDP country programme has been designed as an instrument for promoting the three fundamental objectives of the National Development Plan, now being promulgated, the central theme of which is development with equity. These objectives are: (a) planning of social change; (b) revival and stabilization of the economy; and (c) consolidation of development.

5. The planning of social change has as its purpose to bring about greater equity in the distribution of opportunities for progress within a framework of broad community participation. To that end, government action will be directed towards meeting basic needs in general, through the democratization of education ("open" university and "distance-teaching"), primary health care, nutrition, drinking water supply and low-cost housing.

6. Under the objective of reviving and stabilizing the economy, the aim will be to attain moderate growth rates in the coming two years by reducing inflationary trends in the economy, reducing the budget deficit to a smaller proportion of gross domestic product (GDP), reorganizing the financial sector, developing a rational scheme for protecting national industry and granting larger real incentives for exports. An effort will likewise be made to introduce the concept of "balancing or stimulating" sectors, such as construction, and to channel public investment into national production.

7. Under the objective of consolidating development, the aim is to have the country attain growth rates considered to be normal in 1985 and 1986. Emphasis will be given in this phase to sectors in which the country has a demonstrated comparative advantage. The National Development Plan emphasizes the complementarity of all sectors of production in this effort.

8. Construction will be treated as the lead sector, with the carrying out of a comprehensive programme of low-cost housing, the allocation of a growing volume of savings and budgetary resources to this activity and the granting of tax incentives.

III. Content of the country programme

9. Within the framework of the Government's priority objectives, UNDP co-operation for the period 1983-1986 embraces the implementation of 30 projects in the following fields:

- (a) Health. Project: administrative development of the health sector;
- (b) Education. Project: Training of human resources for the "open" and "distance-teaching" higher education programmes;
- (c) Housing. Project: low-cost housing;
- (d) Public finance. Projects: supervision of the State's financial management; information system on public finance;
- (e) Agriculture and livestock production. Projects: national and regional agricultural planning; livestock production development programme; training plan for the Colombian Agricultural Institute; establishment of supply centres at Barranquilla and Bucaramanga; rural development in the Departments of Boyacá and Santander;
- (f) Renewable natural resources. Projects: preparation and organization of programmes for development of fishing; national water survey;
- (g) Industry. Projects: supplementary feasibility study on a phosphate fertilizer plant; technical assistance to the Cartagena industrial and commercial duty-free zone (ZFIC); training in investment promotion; leather technology centre; planning of the capital goods industry; modernization of the administration of industrial property; agro-industrial development of the National Territories;
- (h) Mining. Projects: basic metals; development of the El Cerrejón coal project; national mining development plan;
- (i) Transport. Projects: strengthening and development of the Administrative Department of Civil Aviation; road transport; modernization and expansion of the national railways; advisory services to Puertos de Colombia (COLPUERTOS);
- (j) Communications. Project: technical and operational strengthening of the National Radio and Television Institute;
- (k) Energy. Project: management, monitoring and programming of hydroelectrical works;
- (l) Miscellaneous. Projects: improvement of the systems for the registration of consultancy firms; fund for activities of technical co-operation among developing countries (TDC).

10. The third country programme consists chiefly of new projects. Projects which went into operation during the second programming cycle are expected to end in 1983 or early 1984.

11. The projects making up this programme are instruments for the transfer and adaptation of skills, experience and technologies which the country does not possess and which cover economic and social spheres that are the subject of the country's priorities. To this end, emphasis has been given within the programme to large-scale projects designed to promote investment in both economic and social fields through the carrying out of pre-feasibility and feasibility studies and direct support for the execution of investment and for projects directed towards the strengthening of institutions and sectoral planning and programming.

12. A breakdown of the resources by sector is given in the annex to the country programme document.
