PROGRAMME PLANNING

Country and intercountry programmes and projects

FOURTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR HUNGARY

Note by the Administrator

I. PROCESS OF THE PROGRAMMING EXERCISE

1. In Hungary, as in most European countries, the Government took the leading role in preparing the country programme, while the UNDP European Office remained closely associated. On the Government side, a body called the Hungarian Project Jury, comprised of representatives of major ministries and heads of national commissions for United Nations organizations, was responsible for the task of country programming. The focus of the UNDP operation in Hungary has been on the transfer of technology, especially the training of nationals. In considering project proposals from all departments, the Jury maintained this focus. In all, 79 proposals were received, of which only 14 were selected to form an articulated programme, covering natural resources, health and environmental protection.

2. Since the Government had already decided the concentration of the small UNDP resources when the amount of Hungary's IPF became known, it was felt that...

*The notes by the Administrator concerning previous country programmes for Hungary are contained in documents DP/GC/HUN/R.1/RECOMMENDATION and DP/GC/HUN/R.2/RECOMMENDATION.
the submission of a Resident Representative's note would be neither necessary nor appropriate. The European Office was in agreement with the Government about the best utilization of UNDP resources, and the views of the United Nations system organizations were elicited by circulating the draft country programme document among them.

II. THE FOURTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME

3. To attain its development goals enunciated in the seventh five-year plan 1986-1990, now being completed, the Government proposes to concentrate IPF resources in areas considered of most importance to the national development effort.

4. On the one hand it is apparent that the Government wishes to avail itself, through its collaboration with UNDP, of the latest techniques and know-how in a variety of disciplines in order to accelerate the development process. This implies a need for the specialized training of Hungarian nationals which is of paramount importance for sustained and self-reliant socio-economic development. Forty per cent of IPF resources will be used for training. Of the remaining 60 per cent, 50 per cent will be for equipment and 10 per cent for international consultancies.

5. Another noteworthy feature is that the programme has an important TCDC element as the results of UNDP support to some specialized institutions could be of benefit to developing countries in other regions. Worthy of mention in this respect are UNDP's co-operation in the areas of scientific and technical information systems, low-grade and secondary raw materials and haematology, immunology and blood transfusion. It is expected that the implementation of such types of activities will lay the foundations for a continuous development of relations and exchanges which could give balance to international co-operation and consolidate its horizontal dimension.

III. MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAMME

6. Reviews of the fourth country programme will be held on an annual basis with the participation of officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as co-ordinating authority, the Hungarian UNDP Project Jury and a representative of the UNDP European Office. The role of the Hungarian Project Jury also extends to other management actions including participation with agency and UNDP representatives in tripartite and monitoring reviews. In view of the limited number of projects in the fourth programme, tripartite reviews will be held frequently, while internal and in-depth evaluations of projects will be conducted on a selective basis. Tripartite reviews have proven to be an effective monitoring technique in the past in the absence of a local field office.

IV. RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

7. The Administrator endorses the orientation of the fourth country programme for Hungary and recommends that the programme be approved by the Governing Council.