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PROGRAMME PLANNING

Country and intercountry programmes and projects

FOURTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR YUGOSLAVIA

Note by the Administrator

I. PROCESS OF THE PROGRAMMING EXERCISE

1. The fourth country programme for Yugoslavia was elaborated by the authorities of the six republics and two autonomous provinces in charge of international technical co-operation at the local decentralized level, and at the national level by the federal administration for technical co-operation, in its capacity as co-ordinating authority. UNDP supported the country programme exercise by participating in several meetings organized by the federal authorities. The Resident Representative in Yugoslavia briefed the Government on the guidelines for the preparation of the document and exchanged ideas on specific areas and projects in which he felt UNDP could make a meaningful contribution. UNDP involvement at the preparation was limited, however, for the following reason: given the uncertainty regarding the fourth cycle IPF until late June 1985, no steps towards programming were taken until that time. By then, the previous Resident Representative had left and his successor arrived only in the latter part of August, by which time the Government had gone ahead at a considerable pace. A resident representative's note was not, therefore, prepared. The views of the United Nations system organizations were elicited by circulating among them the draft country programme document.

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II. THE FOURTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME

2. The most significant characteristic of the new programme, which is similar to preceding programmes, is that it intends to make an impact on the development process of all constituent parts of the country, thus conforming to the specific socio-political system which requires that the distribution of the IPF be made on an equitable basis. The programme is therefore not located simply around one or two major cities.

3. It is commendable that the programme has been limited to three main development objectives, representing an attempt to locate a common factor among the divergent sectoral priorities of the constituent parts. While the programme comprises a series of largely unrelated activities, IPF resources are concentrated on increasing production levels across the board, thereby enhancing exports and reducing imports. Apart from focusing on a stronger economy and an improved balance of payments position, the programme will also foster the use of existing human and material resources.

4. While it is noted that IPF funds have been programmed without consideration of linkages with any other source, the Government is conscious that certain technical co-operation activities in the third country programme resulted in follow-up investments by the World Bank and expects that similar linkages will develop in the new programme. This is all the more likely as Yugoslavia ranks third among the recipients of World Bank loans in Europe and the Arab world.

5. There is no significant change in the type of UNDP involvement in the proposed country programme as compared with the previous one. However, the inclusion of activities dealing with biotechnology in the programme is an innovation, since it is an area that would be supported by UNDP for the first time. Another significant aspect is that, for the first time too, the Government has proposed a federal project for the handling of patent documentation.

III. MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAMME

6. Annual reviews of the country programme will be scheduled to discuss programme priorities and experiences with implementation. Project monitoring visits will be of special significance in view of the large number of projects and their dispersion. At least one tripartite review will be scheduled for each of the projects over the period, while in-depth evaluations will be conducted on a selective basis. Internal evaluations will be conducted routinely for all projects.

IV. RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

7. The Administrator recommends that the Governing Council approve the country programme for Yugoslavia.