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PROGRAMME PLANNING

Country and intercountry programmes and projects

FOURTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR CHAD

Note by the Administrator

I. THE PROGRAMMING EXERCISE

1. The programming exercise got under way immediately after the round-table conference held in Geneva in December 1985. At that meeting, organized with UNDP assistance, donors considered the macro-economic strategy and the sectoral priorities adopted by the Government of Chad for its medium-term development. Following the consultations at the round table, several donors made firm commitments to fund specific activities and programmes in line with the the sectoral priorities outlined by the Government. Against this backdrop, UNDP, through its Resident Representative in N'Djamena, initiated negotiations with the Ministry of Planning and National Reconstruction in order to define the content and direction of the new country programme, in accordance with the overall strategy discussed and adopted by all parties present at the round table.

2. At the round table, and throughout the programming exercise, consideration was given to the very special situation of Chad, where socio-political events had been taking their toll on the country and its population for a number of years. Because of this very real situation, medium-term technical assistance has often yielded to immediate problems, such as emergencies and concrete measures to bring about the recovery of a disintegrating economy. Overall technical assistance needs are so great that it is still difficult to assess them and to quantify them realistically. As a result, UNDP resources and, in large part, bilateral assistance are programmed on a more or less ad hoc basis. This realism was a constant in the exercise of programming fourth-cycle resources.

3. A critical, in-depth examination of the third programming cycle (1983-1986), scheduled for 1986, was not possible because of the political and military situation of the preceding years, and for various reasons having to do with emergency and crisis measures over the 1984-1985 period. However, at informal consultations, the Government, UNDP, executing agencies of the United Nations system and some donors have been able to exchange views and experiences concerning ongoing activities and programmes.

4. In May 1986, the Government, UNDP and the bilateral donors represented in Chad held consultations in N'Djamena. The purpose was to determine together the contents and the direction of the new programme to be reflected in the note by the Resident Representative and ultimately, in the country programme document, which was endorsed by the Government in October 1986.

II. THE FOURTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME

5. The new programme (1987-1991) is in many respects an extension of the previous one (1983-1986), in that both take into account a Chadian economy still shaky because of a series of crises and emergencies (persistent drought and other natural disasters). This new programme, like the previous one, is geared to priority activities and sectors involving reconstruction and recovery of the national economy. IPF resources have been allocated for three priority goals identified in the strategy evolved at the round table of December 1985, as follows:

(a) development of agriculture, forests and pastures with a view to attaining food self-sufficiency and action to meet other essential needs of the population (primary health and education); (b) improved accessibility through the reconstruction and rehabilitation of transportation and communication networks; and (c) development of human resources through training of the cadres vital to the administration and day-to-day management of operational sectors of the economy and national life.

6. The agriculture, forest and pasture sector accounts for 46 per cent of the IPF resources, or 41 per cent of the total programme funding from all sources combined. This sub-sector comprises seven projects initiated during the third cycle, and two new projects in the programmed reserve. The infrastructure sub-sector has been allotted 12 per cent of the IPF, or 23 per cent of the entire programme, to finance six projects carried over from the third cycle. The human resources sub-sector encompasses a rather broad package of institutional support, employment, primary health care and education projects. This objective involves 10 projects from the previous cycle, 8 new projects and an unprogrammed reserve of \$4,160,000. This theme accounts for 42 per cent of the IPF, or 36 per cent of the fourth-cycle financing package. For the historical reasons mentioned above, a great many projects designed to achieve the three programme objectives became operational only towards the end of the third cycle.

7. Support and development of the sectoral activities under the projects to achieve the three priority objectives mentioned above called for projects which would contribute to the success of the programme as a whole. This, for example, was the reasoning behind a project providing support for implementation of the

programme (CHD/84/002) and a project for the administration of emergency assistance (CHD/81/007). The first project, initially financed by the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries (SMF) and a contribution from the IPF, will help to ease the shortage of housing and office space for project personnel in the capital city of N'Djamena. Project CHD/81/007, which will remain in operation through December 1987, was conceived in October 1981 to administer the emergency humanitarian assistance which the international community had provided to Chad. This is a logistics project (60 trucks and 49 trailers, and radio equipment), which is no longer appropriate for a non-emergency situation. Administration of the project by local authorities is encountering some problems, which should be solved in 1987.

8. In addition to project funding from the IPF, a number of organizations in the United Nations system have contributed to the 1987-1991 programme from their own resources, or by mobilizing resources. Among those organizations are the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). A very substantial amount of bilateral assistance is also being provided - for example, by France, Switzerland, the United States and Italy, which finance very large-scale projects within a framework closely related to the Chad country programme.

III. ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAMME

9. The Ministry responsible to the President for Planning is the government co-operating agency responsible for the co-ordination of external assistance. The Government is fully committed to completing the fourth programming cycle. The UNDP Resident Representative and the Ministry of Planning are in very close contact for purposes of co-ordinating and harmonizing the UNDP programme with external assistance. Tripartite meetings and in-depth project evaluations are planned in consultation with the executing agencies in order to make the programme successful. A comprehensive evaluation of the fourth country programme is scheduled for 1989.

IV. RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

10. The Administrator recommends that the Governing Council approve the fourth country programme for Chad.
