EXTENSION OF THE THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR GABON

Note by the Administrator

1. The third country programme for Gabon (DP/CP/GAB/3), which was approved by the Governing Council at its special meeting in February 1982, expired on 31 December 1986. In view of the very serious economic decline that took place during 1985 and which resulted in sharp reductions in revenues and foreign exchange earnings, the Government has taken strong austerity measures, including drastic cuts in the investment budget for the medium term.

2. Because of the uncertainty of funds to be made available for cost-sharing programming with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Government has requested that its third country programme be extended by one year, to allow for time to assess the impact of the change in the economic and financial situation of the country and to relate the programme to the structural adjustment programme currently under preparation. The objectives of the third country programme, as approved by the Governing Council, remain unchanged.

3. The fourth country programme will be submitted for review and approval to the Governing Council in February 1988.

4. The Administrator wishes to inform the Council that he has approved the extension of the third country programme for Gabon by one year to the end of 1987.