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COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Consideration and approval of country programmes

THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR

LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

Note by the Administrator

Programme period

1982-1986

Illustrative IPF for 1982-1986

US\$5 million

I. Nature of the programming exercise

1. The country programme for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was formulated in close co-operation with the Secretariat to the People's Committee for the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and the Secretariat of Planning, as well as the relevant United Nations system organizations. The preparatory activities included the circulation of the Resident Representative's note, on which several positive comments were received. The country's development priorities incorporated in the Second Socio-economic Transformation Plan (1981-1985) were analyzed on a sectoral basis by both Secretariats concerned and the Executing Agencies of the United Nations system, mainly those with a significant share in the country programme.

^{1/} The notes by the Administrator concerning the previous country programmes for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya were issued under the document symbols DP/GC/LIB/R.1 RECOMMENDATION-DP/GC/LIB/R.2/RECOMMENDATION.

2. This was followed by a series of meetings, with the ministries concerned, at which the technical assistance needs of each sector were discussed and projects in various areas and fields were identified. Finally, the proposals submitted at these sectoral meetings were discussed between officials of the Secretariat of Planning, the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs and the UNDP Resident Representative, after which an overall list, ranking the technical co-operation projects in a priority order, compatible with the resources available, was prepared. The results of these consultations constituted essential inputs to the country programme document, the first draft of which was circulated for comments to all the interested parties, including all United Nations system organizations. The final document was prepared based on the comments received.

II. Relation of the country programme to national development objectives

3. The country first embarked on its development efforts by preparing medium-term plans. Subsequently, a 20-year (1980-2000) perspective study of the country's development requirements was launched, directed to constitute the framework within which future medium-term plans will be prepared. The current socio-economic transformation plan (1981-1985) has been prepared within this framework. The plan provides for a total fixed capital formation of LD. 16,893 million (US\$ 57,070,946).

4. The major objectives and priorities of the Second Socio-Economic Transformation Plan, which have relevance to technical co-operation activities incorporated in the country programme, include, inter alia, the following:

(a) Continuation and intensification of the efforts to achieve the targets of the Socio-Economic transformation plan. The manufacturing sector has been given the highest priority and has received the largest share of investment, followed by the agricultural sector, with the goal of reducing the current dependence of the national economy on imports of commodities and to ultimately achieve self-sufficiency and self-reliance in the production of basic commodities;

(b) Accelerated development of human resources with emphasis on skills required for industrialization and diversification of the economy;

(c) Establishment of new industries which would depend on the use of local raw materials, intensification of geological and mineral resources studies, especially in promising areas, and the conducting of technical and economic assessment for the raw materials where the initial indicators reveal their viability for economic utilization;

(d) Establishment of suitable industries to ensure more balanced regional development and equitable income distribution;

(e) Development of science and technology, and protection of the human environment;

(f) Strengthening of the planning machinery with a view to train Libyan nationals on scientific aspects and techniques in the preparation of coherent long-term development plans.

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5. The priorities in designating United Nations technical co-operation assistance have been given to those areas and activities which are expected to contribute most directly and to the greatest extent to the achievements of the aforementioned strategic objectives of the Transformation Plan 1971-1985.

6. The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is a developing country in a stage of rapid economic and social development. Through its own resources, it is financing almost all of its development and technical co-operation activities, and the US\$ 5 million IPF constitutes the only external inflow of development resources. The country programme for 1982-1986 is based on a total of US\$ 30.578 million out of which US\$ 5 million emanate from the IPF allocation for the programme cycle 1982-1986. The balance constitutes the Jamahiriya's cost-sharing contribution. The Administrator is negotiating with the Government of Libyan Arab Jamahiriya a suitable increase in its contribution in support of UNDP local office costs in accordance with decision 79/35 in respect of Governments participating in cost sharing activities in excess of 25 per cent of the established IPF.

III. Contents of the country programme

7. The total financial resources available for the programme is US\$ 30.578 million out of which 37 per cent has been allocated to industry, 36 per cent to general development issues, policy and planning, 14 per cent to employment, 5 per cent to agriculture, 4 per cent to transport and communications and 4 per cent has been left as a reserve.

8. In a planned socialist economy such as the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, development performance depends to a great extent on the efficiency of the planning and plan implementation process. Furthermore, efficient planning would require the use of more sophisticated planning techniques with the availability of reliable and timely statistical data. For this reason the continuation of United Nations technical assistance in these fields was requested and has been incorporated in the programme.

9. In conformity with the priority given to industrialization, a new phase for further strengthening of the Industrial Research Centre (IRC) is planned for implementation during the IPF cycle 1982-1986, to consolidate the progress already made. UNDP participation in the agricultural sector is directed at up-grading the planning capacity of the Secretariat of Agricultural Reclamation and Land Development. Other proposed projects included in the programme are in the fields of development of manpower, transport planning and the strengthening of the Geological Research and Mining Department.

10. It should be noted that the general strategy of this programme has been geared to achieve maximum impact for implementation of the objectives of the Socio-economic Transformation Plan as outlined in Chapter II above.

