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COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMING AND PROJECTS

Consideration and approval of country programmes

THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR VENEZUELA

UNDP assistance requested by the Government of Venezuela for the period 1982-1986

Illustrative IPF for 1982-1986: \$US 10 million.

INTRODUCTION

- 1. The third country programme for Venezuela covers the period 1982-1986 and is to be executed in two stages: 1982-1984 and 1985-1986. The National Department of Technical Co-operation of the Central Office for Co-ordination and Planning (CORDIPLAN) prepared the programme in close co-operation with the Office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Venezuela.
- 2. Programming took several months and coincided with the final stages of the global, sectoral and regional talks which culminated in the official presentation

Note: In accordance with decision 81/15 adopted by the Governing Council on 27 June 1981 (E/1981/61/Rev.1, Annex I), the third country programme for Venezuela is being submitted to the Council without an accompanying note from the Administrator.

The previous programmes for Venezuela and the attached notes from the Administrator were published under the symbols DP/GC/VEN/R.1 to DP/GC/VEN/R.2 and DP/GC/VEN/R.1/RECOMMENDATION to DP/GC/VEN/R.2/RECOMMENDATION respectively.

of the Sixth National Plan 1981-1985 by the President of the Republic of Venezuela Technical assistance needs were identified in the course of the in August 1981. preparation of the Sixth Plan, and the Government therefore decided that there was no need for missions from the different agencies to prepare sectoral analyses for the drafting of the country programme. The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) nonetheless participated directly in the preparation of the sectoral plan, while the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA)/Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), the United Nations, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Labour Organisation (ILO)/Regional Employment Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (PREALC), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) sent missions to help in the preparation of specific A dialogue was also maintained with those agencies which have representatives in Venezuela, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Total UNDP resources available for the third programming cycle (1982-1986) were calculated on the basis of 80 per cent of the illustrative indicative planning figure (IPF) approved by the Governing Council in June 1981. As the illustrative IPF for Venezuela is \$US 10 million, total available resources amount to \$US 8 million for the five-year period. Given the considerable reduction in the IPF in real terms between the second and third programming cycles and the desire of the authorities that UNDP assistance should have the maximum catalytic effect, the Government decided to assign the greater part of the resources available under the IPF to projects accorded top priority in the Sixth National Plan 1981-1985. view of both the scarcity of IPF funds and the importance of the specialized technical assistance provided by the United Nations system in certain areas, the Government of Venezuela has encouraged a number of national institutions, which will make a substantial financial contribution through the cost-sharing system, to participate in the third UNDP programming cycle. These government funds will make it possible to mobilize approximately \$US 15 million in UNDP technical assistance during the period 1982-1984. Although the IPF covers a five-year period, this programme is being presented in detailed form for the first three years of execution only, allowing sufficient flexibility to make changes, adjustments and corrections wherever necessary should the execution of the above-mentioned programme and/or the emergence of new requirements so demand.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE COUNTRY PROGRAMME AND THE OPJECTIVES OF THE SIXTH NATIONAL PLAN

4. The third country programme was formulated using the Sixth National Plan 1981-1985 as a frame of reference. The latter sets the following development objectives for the period: (a) to improve income distribution; (b) to achieve an economic growth rate of between 3.5 and 4.5 per cent; (c) to increase the efficiency and productivity of the economic system; (d) to reinforce the population's socio-cultural patterns in order to consolidate the democratic system; (e) to reduce inter-regional income and employment disparities; (f) to increase

public participation in development management and reduce the latter's social costs; and (g) to maintain the country's petroleum exporting-potential.

- 5. In order to help achieve these objectives within the over-all context of the country's technical assistance requirements, it was decided to use the UNDP contribution to increase the efficiency of the public sector in key development areas and to respond fully to the needs deriving from the role of development promoter which development strategy has assigned to Venezuela.
- 6. In the area of support for the planning process and general matters relating to development, the Government plans to: (a) consolidate and improve on the progress made in setting up the national planning system; (b) improve and expand development planning in specific areas such as agriculture, transport and communications and higher education; (c) devise policies and measures for implementing the Sixth Plan in areas such as the promotion of non-traditional exports; (d) reinforce investment activities by following-up and supervising public projects and encouraging the formulation and execution of capital goods projects; (e) continue the adaptation of the fiscal system; and (f) extend hydrometeorological activities in line with development needs.
- 7. The training of human resources occupies a central place in technical co-operation and is a component of each of the projects described below. Nevertheless, in order to meet urgent human resources training needs, specific training activities are envisaged in such areas as economic and social planning, municipal development, training of production engineers, civil aviation and science and technology. Also in connexion with human resources, it was deemed essential to deal with problems raised by those sectors of the population which are most disadvantaged in terms of employment and the acquisition of skills.
- 8. With regard to co-operation in the economic and social sectors, we should mention action to strengthen the country's institutions, generate and process statistics, develop scientific and technological research, organize the population and encourage their participation, and deal with specific problems in the areas of health, nutrition and the family.
- 9. At regional level, reflecting the importance which the Sixth National Plan attaches to geographical problems and problems of organizing the national territory, there are plans to pursue activities relating to the identification and handling of the country's environmental macrosystems, support for the implementation of plans contained in the Regional Plan 1981-1985 and the strengthening of municipal bodies.
- 10. UNDP assistance under the third country programme will be provided through projects in the following areas:

A. Global aspects of development

11. The national planning system. This project is designed to improve planning methodologies and techniques; devise policies and measures for implementing the Sixth National Plan; devise and implement a system of follow-up and review of the Plan; and train staff of the national planning system.

- 12. Employment planning and policies towards disadvantaged sectors of the population. This project is aimed at establishing a methodology which would make it possible to standardize the formulation of human resources and employment analyses and policies for low-income groups.
- 13. Promotion of non-traditional exports. This project involves studying changes in the laws on incentives and financing and the export insurance system; identifying new methods of export promotion; and making analyses with a view to the co-ordination of export promotion policy with other policies and areas of the economy.
- 14. Modernization of the fiscal system, Phase II.* The main objectives of this project include improving methods of evaluating the impact of public spending and revenues; changing the methods for projecting and calculating public revenues; computerizing the handling of the budget; expanding the system of computerized budgetary follow-up of projects and works; selecting criteria for determining the amount of budgetary resources to be allocated to public enterprises; and preparing analytical reports on the budgets of these institutions.
- 15. <u>Integrated planning of municipal development</u>. This project is designed to help reinforce the integrated planning of municipal development as part of the national planning system and to give support to policies, programmes and projects designed to increase the participation and efficiency of municipal governments in fiscal and administrative management and local public services.
- 16. Expansion of hydrometeorological activities and development of an operational pilot system of hydrological prediction. This project includes design and planning work for setting up the basic hydrometeorological network the country needs; the development of an operational pilot system of hydrological prediction in the Rio Guaire basin; and staff training in modern hydrometeorological techniques and the application of this kind of information to development.

B. Sectoral aspects of development

(a) Energy and mines

17. Advisory assistance to the Ministry of Energy and Mines.* This project includes preparation of the draft Organic Law for the Electric Power Service; completion of the establishment and organization of the central electric power board; finalization of the drafting of a model statute for the public electricity companies which will depend on the central board; completion of the legal texts that will regulate coal-producing activities; and analysis of current mining legislation to identify lacunae and discrepancies so that more modern and dynamic legislation can be drafted which will permit the development of the different areas, in particular that of small- and medium-scale mining.

^{*} In the process of execution.

(b) Agriculture and fisheries

- 18. Strengthening of agricultural planning.* This project is designed to back up the formulation of the Long-Term Agricultural Plan as part of the Sixth National Plan and of the development strategy for the 1980s.
- 19. Agricultural research planning.* This project is designed to: give final form to the agricultural research planning system at national and regional level; design and execute research programmes; and train a group of professionals from the National Agricultural and Livestock Research Fund in the planning and evaluation of agricultural research.
- 20. System of fisheries information.* This project envisages the implementation of a statistical system for gathering fixed and operational data on all components of the fishery sector; the design of a system for the automatic processing of biological data not generated by the statistical system; the development of training courses; the formulation of organizational proposals for the fisheries information science group; the updating of current methods of analysing and forecasting information; and the design of a monitoring system for this industry.
- 21. <u>Fisheries</u>. Technical assistance activities are envisaged in the area of the development of fishing technology and in non-industrial fishing in the Orinoco area.

(c) Science and technology

- 22. Pilot plan for human resources training and for research into the biochemistry and cellular biology of parasites which cause disease in man. In addition to providing co-operation in training and research work, this project will contribute to the establishment of a national biochemical network for the dissemination of scientific knowledge and the flow of information on the subject.
- 23. Restructuring and modernization of the Industrial Property Register. This project is designed to strengthen Venezuela's technological base by transforming the Industrial Property Register of the Ministry of Development. It will also promote and facilitate the acquisition of appropriate foreign technology and its adaptation to the country's development needs, making use of the country's creative potential in order to increase Venezuela's self-sufficiency.

(d) Industry

24. Development of the capital goods industry. This project involves increasing the country's capacity to develop capital goods projects and programmes; effectively generating and promoting specific projects; and training Venezuelan production and management staff for the metallurgical and engineering industries and other sectors producing capital goods.

^{*} In the process of execution.

(e) Transport and communications

25. <u>National telecommunications laboratory</u>. This project is designed to help improve the quality of telecommunications systems and services by evaluating and controlling the technology of imported equipment, and to encourage applied research in this field.

(f) Education

- 26. Improvement of institutional university planning.* This project, which will be completed in mid-1982, involves co-operation in designing the course of study leading to a degree in architecture and training human resources in academic planning.
- 27. Simon Bolivar Experimental School of Agriculture for a United World. The basic objective of this project is to teach how to run medium-size agricultural enterprises (farms) in tropical areas.
- 28. <u>Training of production engineers</u>.* This project involves the phase in which the equipment of the Guayana Experimental Polytechnical University Institute will be installed, put into operation and maintained.
- 29. <u>Civil aviation</u>. This project envisages the following staff training objectives: to complete the training of instructors for the staff who operate and maintain aeronautical services on the ground; to help train technical staff to maintain the country's aircraft and general aviation equipment; and to support the creation of a Civil Aeronautics Instruction Centre. It also includes assistance in devising up-to-date procedures for incoming, outgoing and in-flight operations and in increasing the efficiency of search and rescue operations.

(g) Health and nutrition

- 30. <u>Nutrition project</u>. The aim of this project is to design and set up a national system of popular nutrition, food supply and consumption in order to significantly improve the standard of living of marginal population groups in the country's main cities.
- 31. Study and control of tropical diseases in the Amazonas federal territory. This project comprises an epidemiological analysis of the impact of onchocerciasis on the area's indigenous population; the preparation of recommendations for improving disease control; the design of priority research programmes into the biology of <u>filariae</u> in the neo-tropical region; the preparation of reports on the monitoring and control of viroses of the digestive system and of inaccessible sources of malaria; and the training of research workers in specific subjects.

^{*} In the process of execution.

(h) Social development and participation

32. Promotion of young people's participation in economic and social development activities. The purpose of this project is to bring about the implementation, execution and evaluation of youth mobilization programmes; to increase employment among the young sectors of the population and found and develop youth organizations; to set up an experimental programme of young people's self-management enterprises for marginal urban groups; to introduce a system of follow-up and evaluation for certain programmes; and to promote greater interagency co-ordination between public and private bodies dealing with youth problems.

(i) The family, children and young people

33. Support for the family project. The purpose of this project is to help raise the educational level of Venezuelan families, especially that of the less privileged groups, by means of a non-formal education programme designed to impart technical know-how and over-all stimulation with a view to developing to the full the potential of children in the first six years of life.

C. Regional aspects of the Plan

34. <u>Venezuelan environmental macrosystems</u>. This project involves laying the technical bases for presenting proposals on how to organize the national territory and handle the environment; designing and operating a data bank for the processing of basic information on the territory; and formulating recommendations for an environmental education and training programme.

D. Other sources of international technical co-operation related to the above areas

- 35. The Government of Venezuela will pursue the programme of technical co-operation at government level through which the country obtains technical and scientific advice in priority areas and sectors and enjoys extensive opportunities for training human resources at different levels. We might mention its important co-operation with various industrialized countries and with countries whose level of development is similar to that of Venezuela. The Organization of American States and the Inter-American Development Bank will also carry out a major over-all programme of technical co-operation with Venezuela through their different areas.
- 36. The Government will take the necessary steps to ensure that technical co-operation from the above-mentioned sources complements assistance under the third UNDP programming cycle so as to avoid duplication and to help ensure that each institutions's special skills and know-how are put to good use.

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<u>Annex</u>

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A. Resources (a) IPF and other resources (i) Illustrative IPF for the programming 10,000,000 period (ii) Carry-over from previous IPF cycles (iii) Other resources (Government cost sharing) 11,054,000 (b) Credits to ensure sufficient programming* Total 21,054,000 Utilization of resources В. (a) Programmed resources (i) Ongoing projects 5,924,000 New projects and new phases included in (ii) country programme 9,413,000 Resources directed towards specific objectives (iii) and activities for which projects have to be 140,000 formulated (ongoing programming in a later stage) Subtotal 15,477,000 (b) Reserve (if any) 3,577,000 (c) Non-programmed balance a/ 2,000,000

Total

21,054,000

^{*} See G-3200, sect. 302.

a/ Representing the 20 per cent of the illustrative IPF which was not taken into account in the programming exercise, in accordance with the Administrator's instructions contained in UNDP/PROG/FIELD/111; UNDP/PROG/HGTRS/126.

C. Financial breakdown of the programme by sector

Sec	ctor b/	Ongoing projects	New projects	Amounts reserved for the sector	Total
02	General development questions, etc.	599,000	1,982,000		2,581,000
03	Natural resources	360,000			360,000
04	Agricultural and livestock production	1,025,000		140,000	1,165,000
05	Industry	2,212,000		0 ₂₀ cas ees	2,212,000
06	Transport and communications	648,000	4,372,000		5,020,000
07	International trade and development finance		173,000		173,000
10	Health	Tip exis	531,000		531,000
11	Education	1,080,000	118,000	~	1,198,000
12	Employment		250,000	~~~	250,000
16	Science and technology		1,987,000		1,987,000
	Total	5,924,000	9,413,000	140,000	15,477,000
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 $[\]underline{a}/$ This represents 20 per cent of the illustrative IPF which was not taken into account in programming in accordance with the administrator's instructions contained in UNDP/PROG/FIELD/lll; UNDP/PROG/HGTRS/126.

b/ According to the ACC classification.