



**Governing Council
of the
United Nations
Development Programme**

Distr.
GENERAL

DP/CP/CYP/NOTE/3
5 November 1986

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Special session
February 1987, New York
Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda

PROGRAMME PLANNING

Country and Inter-country Programmes and Projects

THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR CYPRUS

Note by the Administrator

I. PROCESS OF THE PROGRAMMING EXERCISE

1. In Cyprus, as in most European countries, the Government took the leading role in preparing the country programme. The document was prepared by the Planning Bureau, the Government's planning and co-ordinating authority, following consultations with other ministries at a technical and individual level, as well as with the UNDP office. The dialogue with UNDP centred essentially on discussions on the manner in which the country programme could support the objectives of the new Emergency Economic Action Plan, 1987-1991, and comprised a formal assessment of the ongoing programme by both parties, including UNDP's Director of the Unit for Europe when he visited Cyprus in April 1986. The results of these deliberations were presented to the Government in the Resident Representative's Note and took the form of recommendations by UNDP on the substance of the new programme, whose content reflects a convergence of views between the Government and UNDP.

2. The process of country programme formulation was closely co-ordinated with several United Nations specialized agencies and donor sources. This process could not be undertaken through any formal arrangement because of the lack of local agency representatives in Cyprus, but was conducted through discussion with visiting missions and agency visits by the Resident Representative. Steps have been taken to co-ordinate the proposals in the new country programme with programmes of other United Nations bodies. Significant examples are the Transport Sector Master Plan with the World Bank; the joint health assessment mission with

the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); and close co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the World Tourism Organization (WTO) in the respective areas of environmental management, export promotion and tourism planning.

II. THE THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMME

3. The preparation of the new country programme has taken place when adjustments are required to enable the country to take advantage of the impact of full Customs Union with the European Economic Community. The main export markets for Cyprus are the oil exporting countries and falling oil prices point to the need for the country to diversify its export markets at a time of stiff international competition that necessitates efficient and qualitative production techniques. Such factors have influenced the Government in determining the direction of its socio-economic development for the immediate future, which is intended to ensure that industrial expansion will develop rationally and that the country's natural resources will be managed judiciously. Therefore, an important element of the new programme is the development of human resources through the training of officials in the public sector and the introduction of new technology in public sector management.

4. Another important characteristic of the programme is that it is designed as a tool to mobilize additional resources. UNDP will assist in the determination of what is required to develop the industrial sector, to establish the most feasible infrastructure for the management of the environment and natural resources and, at the same time, to identify and mobilize the capital assistance resources and third party cost-sharing from major donors in order to reinforce the Government's efforts in implementing the various plans. One good example is the Nicosia Master Plan project which essentially assists in mobilizing resources for implementing investments for a coherent and balanced development of the capital city. Efforts such as these are expected to increase the collaboration between the UNDP and bilateral donors, on the one hand, and international financial organizations on the other.

5. In comparison with the third cycle, the new programme concentrates on a smaller number of projects which reinforce and complement each other in their attempt to reach a particular objective. All the activities proposed in the new programme rely on the use of limited-period but highly-specialized consultant inputs, supplemented by short courses and study-tours abroad, with relatively little UNDP-financed equipment. The equipment component will be minimal and be limited to very specialized tools for training under a few selected projects.

6. The country programme could also be utilized as a framework for increasing the use of technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) for many development activities. Wherever possible, this will be done through links with the regional and interregional programmes. In view of the programme's emphasis on training the population as the means for promoting development and given the association of qualified Cypriots with the implementation of the programme, there is strong potential for sharing Cypriot capabilities and experiences with other countries.

III. MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAMME

7. Reviews of the fourth cycle country programme will be held on an annual basis with the participation of officials of the Planning Bureau and the UNDP field office. Tripartite review meetings and monitoring visits will be undertaken frequently. In-depth evaluations of projects will be conducted on a selective basis.

IV. RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

8. The Administrator endorses the orientation of the third country programme for Cyprus and recommends that the programme be approved by the Governing Council.
