1. The Administrator wishes to inform the Council that he has approved the Government's request to extend the second country programme for Sudan, 1982-1986, for one year, until the end of 1987.

2. The implementation of the second country programme has suffered delays due to the internal difficulties of the country, and, as a result, an important part of the programme has had to be temporarily discontinued. In addition, the evaluation of the UNDP-financed activities has been postponed to November 1986.

3. In 1985-1986, the transitional Government dealt first with the critical issues of drought and the restoration of democracy, having just started to articulate the objectives and priorities of national economic development. Consequently, discussions on the broad areas of concentration for the fourth UNDP cycle have only recently been initiated between the Government and the UNDP office. The country programme needs assessment mission, responsible for identifying project proposals, will be carried out in January 1987.

4. Given the time frame for the subsequent steps in the country programming process, the third programme, 1988-1991, will be presented to the Council in 1988.