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de la Commission

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der Kommission

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della Commissione

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WOORDVOERDER  
van de Commissie

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PRESS RELEASE

EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND: EIGHT MORE SCHEMES  
FINANCED TOTALLING 15 MILLION OF UNITS OF ACCOUNT

On January 21, 1965, the E.E.C. Commission decided to finance eight projects approved by the EDF Committee at its 5th meeting on January 8, 1965, to a total of 15.352.000 units of account (= US dollars). These are as follows :

1. Aid to production in Dahomey: first annual tranche of 253.580.000 Frs. CFA or about 1.027.000 u.a. This is part of a five-year programme of aid to production and diversification under Article 28 of Protocol No. 5 of the Yaoundé Convention;
2. Sinking of 150 wells in Niger : 495.000.000 Frs. CFA or about 2.005.000 u.a. This undertaking, which will supply water to a population of some 80.000, is supplementary to a programme financed by the first EDF under which 395 wells were sunk;
3. Construction of nine dams and installations at two springs in East Mauritania: 335.000.000 Frs. CFA or about 1.357.000 u.a. The project, which will benefit 18.000 inhabitants of Assaba and Hodh, is an extension to a previous project, financed by the first EDF, under which five dams were built in the Brakna area;
4. Aid to economic diversification in Rwanda : 4.400.000 Frs. RW or some 88.000 u.a. The project concerns the installation of 400 apiaries, four centres for the extraction of honey, the provision of skilled staff and the training of instructors;
5. An overall allocation of 5.000.000 u.a. for surveys relating to the presentation and execution of investment projects submitted for EDF financing and for general surveys on diversification prospects in the associated States and on problems concerning these States as a whole;
6. A total allocation of 4.000.000 u.a. for the management and supervision of work carried out with EDF aid. This will enable the Commission to take prompt action, at the request of the Governments of the associated States, whenever for lack of technical personnel they find it difficult to supervise investment projects financed by the EDF. This comes under the heading of technical co-operation forming part of investment aid.

7. Technical surveys for the future port of Owendo in Gabon: 200.000.000 Frs CFA or some 811.000 u.a. The scheme, which combines harbor construction with town-planning, is for a deep-water harbor and terminus of a railway from the substantial iron deposits at Mekambo. This complex project, which will benefit the mining sector and improve communications, is receiving the attention of the World Bank, the UN Special Fund and several private international groups.

8. Technical assistance in the running of the new hospital at Mogadishu in Somalia : 7.600.000 Somali Shillings or about 1.064.000 u.a. This hospital, which was constructed and equipped through the first EDF, will be supplied with a specialist staff of 69 (medical assistants other than doctors, ward sisters, midwives and technical staff) who for two and a half years will supplement the team of 31 doctors and specialist personnel already provided as part of the co-ordinated technical assistance supplied by the Community and, on a bilateral basis, by the Member States.

These decisions bring the total commitments authorized under the new EDF, since the entry into force of the Yaoundé Convention on June 1, 1964, to 39.378.000 u.a.