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PRESS RELEASE

EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND: 9 MORE PROJECTS FINANCED TOTALLING  
NEARLY 14 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT

On 28 February the EEC Commission decided to finance 9 more projects by non-repayable EDF grants totalling 13 974 000 u.a. (= US dollars). The projects, which had been endorsed by the EDF Committee at its fourteenth meeting, on 15 February 1966, concern the following:

1. Second annual tranche of the programme of aid to production in Senegal: 2 404 500 000 Frs. CFA or some 9 741 000 u.a. This will be used to support the price of groundnuts and finance structural improvements in groundnut production.
2. Production of oil of oranges in Mali: 10 150 000 Mali francs or some 41 000 u.a. A new type of production will be started and equipment installed to ensure that the programme is continued and developed. This is the first scheme submitted by the Mali Government under its five-year programme of aid for diversification.
3. Extension of the Institute of Social Paediatrics of the University of Dakar in Senegal: 60 million Frs. CFA or some 243 000 u.a. The aim is to extend the Institute by financing and equipping a centre for the welfare of mothers and children in the suburbs of Dakar and a building where in-service training can be provided for those who wish to specialize in methods of public health applied to children.
4. Programme to sink rural wells by local labour in the Ouahigouya area in Upper Volta, 30 million Frs. CFA or some 122 000 u.a. The aim is to provide Upper Volta with the personnel and equipment necessary for the sinking of at least 60 wells in the north of the country. This operation forms part of the economic development programme for the Yatenga region financed by the EDF. The wells, the product of "human investment", will be constructed by the inhabitants of the area themselves, trained and directed by teams of technical assistance experts also financed by the EDF.

5. Joint campaign against rinderpest (third stage) in Senegal, Mali and Mauritania: 251.671.000 Frs. CFA or some 1.020.000 u.a. (271.000 u.a. for Senegal, 242.000 u.a. for Mali, and 507.000 u.a. for Mauritania). This project will provide systematic vaccination against rinderpest, over a period of three years, for about 4.7 million cattle in an area of some 600.000 sq. km., the aim being to eliminate the remaining centres of infection. This will be the third and last stage of the joint campaign to eradicate rinderpest, launched under the auspices of the Scientific, Technical and Research Committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). The project is a regional one; the part of it that concerns Associated States will be paid for by the EDF, while American aid (AID) will finance the campaign in the non-associated African States and the north of the Ivory Coast.

6. Extension to eastern Chad of the joint campaign against rinderpest: 129.541.000 Frs. CFA or some 525.000 u.a. The project extends to eastern Chad the first part of the joint campaign to vaccinate cattle which was carried out between 1962 and 1965 in the west of the country. It was found necessary to extend the campaign because of the threat of infection from the east.

7. Central African Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Training in Chad: 245 million Frs. CFA or some 992.000 u.a. The aim is to construct and equip buildings in Fort-Lamy to house the new Institute which will train medium-grade staff for the Livestock Departments of Chad, the Central African Republic, Congo (Brazzaville), Gabon, and ultimately also Cameroon. The founding of the new Institute forms part of a regional policy of education and training undertaken during the last few years by the Governments of the Central African States, assisted by the EDF.

8. Bridge on Aruba in the Netherlands Antilles: 2.150.000 NA Fl. or some 1.140.000 u.a. A bridge will be built across a lagoon in Aruba, and a stretch of road constructed, in order to restore the direct link between the two main towns of Aruba, one of the three islands in the main group of the Netherlands Antilles.

9. Training of medium-grade staff to supervise public works in the Central African Republic: 37.027.950 Frs. CFA or some 150.000 u.a. The object is to train locally the supervisory staff required for the five-year programme of road maintenance and improvement in the Central African Republic. The EDF will pay the salary of an engineering instructor for the whole of the three-year training period and the scholarships awarded to the trainees for the third year, while the Government of the Central African Republic will provide the scholarships for the first two years.

The commitments of the second European Development Fund since it began operations in July 1964, including the projects which have just been approved, amount to some 220.384 u.a. for 112 projects.

Annexe: I

SENEGAL: SECOND ANNUAL TRANCHE OF PROGRAMME OF AID TO PRODUCTION

On 28 February 1966 the EEC Commission approved the financing, by non-repayable grants from the second European Development Fund (EDF), of the second annual tranche of the programme of aid to production in Senegal, amounting to 2 404 500 000 Frs. CFA or some 9 741 000 u.a. (= US dollars). The Commission's decision had received the prior approval of the EDF Committee at its fourteenth meeting.

In March 1965 the Commission had taken note of the five-year programme and fixed the amount for the first year at 2 590 million Frs. CFA. Owing to difficulties encountered by the Senegal authorities in preparing the files and carrying out the operations planned, some of the latter could not be started, and the credits relating to them have therefore been carried over to the second tranche.

Apart from the operations thus carried over, part of the sum approved for the second year will be used to support the price of groundnuts (1 058 million Frs. CFA), to enable them to be marketed at world prices at the end of the five-year programme. The remainder is earmarked for structural improvement, and will be used to provide information and advisory services, to distribute selected seeds and fertilizers, and to build sheds to hold seed and barns for storage.

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Annexe: II

REPUBLIC OF MALI: PRODUCTION OF OIL OF ORANGES

On 28 February 1966 the EEC Commission approved the financing of a diversification project in Mali by non-repayable grants from the second European Development Fund (EDF). The EDF Committee had endorsed the project at its fourteenth meeting. The cost is estimated at 10 150 000 Mali francs or about 41 000 u.a. (= US dollars).

The object is to start production of essential oil of oranges and to install the necessary equipment to ensure that the programme is continued and developed. This is the first scheme submitted by the Mali Government under its five-year programme of aid for diversification.

The project concerns the south-west region of Mali, which is mainly inhabited by isolated families who raise cattle and have for generations planted orange-trees producing an average of 3 000 oranges each. The large centres of consumption are too far away and the roads too inadequate to allow the oranges to be sent there, so that the only practical possibility is to extract the oil contained in the orange-rind; this oil has a high commercial value in relation to its volume and is easy to transport. These oils do in fact enter into international trade, almost the whole supply being used by the cosmetics and perfume industries and the food industry.

The oil may be extracted either manually or mechanically with the help of a simple extracting machine. The scheme is planned in three stages, in the first of which experts will be sent to supply information, train instructor-operators, and demonstrate the equipment provided by the EDF.

In view of the underemployment and poverty in the area, this additional use for oranges, which were formerly consumed by the growers, will provide them with a very considerable new source of income; moreover, this initial scheme may be regarded as an experiment that may later be expanded and extended to other similar sectors.

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SENEGAL: EXTENSION OF THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL PAEDIATRICS  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF DAKAR

On 28 February 1966 the EEC Commission decided to finance a social project in Senegal by non-repayable grants from the second European Development Fund (EDF). The project, estimated to cost 60 million Frs. CFA or some 243 000 u.s. (= US dollars), had been endorsed by the EDF Committee at its fourteenth meeting.

The aim is to extend the Institute of Social Paediatrics of the University of Dakar by financing, furnishing and equipping a centre for the welfare of mothers and children in the suburbs of Dakar and a building where in-service training can be provided for those who wish to specialize in methods of public health applied to children.

The high rate of increase of the population in Dakar (from 64 000 in 1930 to 374 000 in 1960), due to natural increase and the continual exodus from rural areas, has led the Government of Senegal to try to fill the numerous gaps in child and adolescent welfare in the capital by giving the existing Institute of Social Paediatrics the funds it needs to extend its work in the towns while at the same time continuing its activity in rural areas. The new arrivals in Dakar are almost all farmers, who cannot all find work and often live in precarious and insanitary conditions. This part of the population includes nearly 80 000 children from 7 to 14 years old, whose state of health, both physical and mental, generally gives cause for anxiety. There can therefore be no doubt that special action by the public authorities is required if these children are to be prepared for adult life in reasonable conditions.

The new centre will be established in the poorest part of the capital, and the work of the Institute of Social Paediatrics will comprise a study of the needs of the child and the training of medical and paramedical personnel to meet these needs. The extension of the Institute's work calls for additional staff and the construction of new premises (library, offices, studies for research workers, and a hostel for in-service trainees).

UPPER VOLTA: SINKING OF WELLS BY LOCAL LABOUR IN THE OUAHIGOUYA AREA

On 28 February 1966 the EEC Commission approved the financing, by non-repayable grants from the second European Development Fund (EDF), of a project of technical assistance and social investment in Upper Volta. The project had been endorsed by the EDF Committee at its fourteenth meeting, and is estimated to cost 30 million Frs. CFA or about 122 000 u.a. (= US dollars).

The aim is to provide Upper Volta with the personnel and equipment necessary for the sinking - over a period of 12 months - of at least 60 wells in the Ouahigouya area in the north of the country. This operation, which forms part of the economic development programme for the Yatanga region financed by the EDF and which will provide water for a rural population of about 100 000, has one notable feature: these wells, the product of "human investment", will in fact be constructed by the inhabitants of the area themselves, trained and directed by teams of technical assistance experts also financed by the EDF.

In addition to the obvious benefit of ensuring adequate supplies of drinking water for about 170 villages scattered over the area, the main interest of the project is that it will educate the local population by showing them simple construction methods that they can use themselves and enabling them to take an active part in the construction of works that they will later use. Finally, the programme provides for the training, during operations, of two Volta technicians who will take over from the European experts and continue their work of informing and training the local population. The project is thus one of national, as well as regional, interest, for it will develop a technique that can later be applied to the whole country.

Annexe: V

SENEGAL, MALI AND MAURITANIA: JOINT CAMPAIGN AGAINST RINDERPEST  
(Third stage)

On 28 February 1966 the EEC Commission approved the financing, by non-repayable grants from the second European Development Fund (EDF), of a scheme of economic investment linked with technical assistance in Senegal, Mali and Mauritania. The EDF Committee had endorsed the project at its fourteenth meeting, and the total cost is estimated at 251 671 000 Frs. CFA or about 1 020 000 u.s. (= US dollars). Of this, 242 000 u.s. will be spent in Mali, 271 000 u.s. in Senegal, and 507 000 u.s. in Mauritania.

The project will provide systematic vaccination against rinderpest, over a period of three years, for 4.7 million cattle in an area of some 600 000 sq. km., the aim being to eliminate the remaining centres of infection. Apart from a complementary scheme submitted by Chad and approved by the EDF Committee at the same meeting, this will be the third and last of the campaigns of this kind financed by the EDF; as a result, all the cattle in the associated States of equatorial and West Africa should, in the medium term, attain lasting immunity from the disease.

Action to eradicate rinderpest - formerly one of the great obstacles to stock-raising in Africa - was recommended for the first time in 1961 at a conference held in Kano under the auspices of the Interafrican Animal Health Office and the Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara (CCTA), at which the EDF, American aid (AID) and FAO were represented by observers. The conference's recommendation was put into effect a year later in the "joint campaign against rinderpest in the Lake Chad basin", financed by the EDF and AID; this ran from 1962 to 1965 and was an undoubted success, the number of centres of infection being reduced from 700 to 10. The second campaign, which was financed in the same way, began in 1964 and covers eight States to the west of the region originally dealt with.

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Once the process of complete vaccination from East to West had begun, it seemed logical to extend it to the Atlantic. The project for this third campaign was evolved at a meeting called by the EDF in December 1965 and attended by the heads of the Livestock Departments of Mali, Mauritania, Senegal and Chad and by the co-ordinating body. The principles, techniques and methods adopted for the third campaign will be those that have already proved their worth in the two previous ones.

The part of the campaign to be carried out in the three associated States of Mali, Senegal and Mauritania will be financed by the EDF, while AID will pay for the part concerning Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Gambia and the Ivory Coast. The campaign is launched under the auspices of the Scientific, Technical and Research Committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). The project is thus a regional one which will benefit both States that are associated with the EEC and States that are not, and it will be financed by American and European aid, co-ordinated by an African organization.

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Annexe: VI

JOINT CAMPAIGN AGAINST RINDERPEST EXTENDED TO EASTERN CHAD

On 28 February 1966 the EEC Commission decided that a scheme for economic investment linked with technical assistance in Chad should be financed by non-repayable grants from the second European Development Fund (EDF). The project, which had been endorsed by the EDF Committee at its fourteenth meeting, is estimated to cost 129 541 000 Frs. CFA or about 525 000 u.a. (= US dollars).

The money will be spent over a period of three years on a systematic campaign to vaccinate some 1 800 000 cattle in eastern Chad against rinderpest. The campaign thus extends to eastern Chad the first part of the joint campaign which was carried out between 1962 and 1965 in western Chad under the auspices of the Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara (CCTA) and which showed that the results already achieved might well be jeopardized by the ever-present threat of infection from the eastern part of the country. The usual annual movement of cattle to other regions will in fact bring several hundred thousand head a year from the protected area into one in which rinderpest is still rife. Moreover, as Ethiopia and the Sudan are the countries of Africa where rinderpest is most prevalent, and as the virus in question is spreading from East to West, Chad could not leave its eastern flank so dangerously unprotected.

The extension of the campaign by means of the grants recently authorized will reduce the rinderpest frontier to a stretch of about 300 km along the Sudan border. Control will be facilitated by the administrative, customs and police posts already established along the border, and also by the fact that migratory herding is not practised in the area. The precautionary measures will therefore be much more effective than they could have been along latitude 20° E, which is where the first campaign stopped.

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Annexe: VII

CHAD: CENTRAL AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND VETERINARY TRAINING

On 28 February 1966 the EEC Commission approved the financing of a social infrastructure project in Chad by non-rapayable grants from the second European Development Fund (EDF). The project had been endorsed by the EDF Committee at its fourteenth meeting, and is estimated to cost 245 million Frs. CFA or some 992 000 u.a. (= US dollars).

The aim is to construct and equip buildings in Farcha, a suburb of Fort-Lamy, to house the Central African Institute of Zootechnic and Veterinary Training; this will train medium-grade staff (certificated stock-breeders and stock inspectors) for the Livestock Departments of Chad, the Central African Republic, Congo ( Brazzaville), Gabon, and ultimately also Cameroon.

The national Livestock Departments consider the training of certificated stock-breeders and stock inspectors essential if their ever-increasing needs for staff are to be satisfied and continuity assured.

Of all the countries of Central Africa, Chad has by far the largest head of livestock, which provides one of its principal sources of exports, and the needs of its Livestock Department are therefore the most acute. Fort-Lamy is the best place that could be chosen for the Institute in Central Africa, for the Central African Veterinary Laboratory and the refrigerated slaughterhouse are both in Farcha, as well as the Agricultural Department's experimental farms. The necessary specialists will therefore be available to provide efficient technical training and use the varied and well equipped premises to carry out practical work under optimum conditions.

The construction of this Institute will supplement the wide range of the EDF's activities to assist stock-raising in the countries of Central Africa; these include the development of pastoral water supplies, the

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campaign against rinderpest, the creation of cattle ranches, the introduction of animal-drawn tilling, and the construction of veterinary stations, laboratories, cattle markets and a technical school for stock-raising.

The founding of the new Institute forms part of a regional policy of education and training undertaken during the last few years by the Governments of the Central African States, assisted by the EDF. This has also concerned the Teachers' Training College in Brazzaville in the Congo Republic, the Statistical Training Centre at Yaoundé in Cameroon, and the Central African Institute of Agricultural Studies at Wakombo in the Central African Republic; the EDF is also considering the establishment of an Institute of Wood Technology in Gabon.

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Annexe: VIII

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES: BRIDGE ON ARUBA

On 28 February 1966 the EEC Commission approved the financing of an economic investment project in the Netherlands Antilles by non-repayable grants from the second European Development Fund (EDF). The project, estimated to cost NA Fl. 2 150 000 or about 1 140 000 u.a. (= US dollars), had been endorsed by the EDF Committee at its fourteenth meeting.

A bridge will be built across a lagoon in Aruba, and a stretch of road constructed, in order to restore the direct link between Oranjestad and Sint Nicolaas, the two main towns on Aruba. One of the three islands in the main group of the Netherlands Antilles, Aruba has an area of 190 sq. km. and a population of about 60 000, giving a population density of over 300 to the sq. km.

The island, which was discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1499 and colonized by the Dutch in 1634, was little developed until 1924, when the establishment there of one of the largest oil refineries in the world, second only to that at Abadan, brought it unexpected prosperity. Since the last war Aruba has also captured a large part of the Caribbean tourist trade. The runway of the airport on Aruba had to be extended to take four-jet planes, so that the road between Oranjestad and Sint Nicolaas had to be cut in two.

The object of the present scheme is to restore this direct road link. The bridge across the lagoon will be about 27 metres long, and will open in the middle to let small boats through. It will be of reinforced concrete and must be able to carry very dense traffic - perhaps 7 000 vehicles a day at peak periods. The highway in question does in fact link the island's three ports, in which 70% of the island's population live.

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Annex: II

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: TRAINING OF MEDIUM-GRADE STAFF TO SUPERVISE  
PUBLIC WORKS

On 28 February 1966 the EEC Commission decided to finance a project of general technical co-operation in the Central African Republic, by non-repayable grants from the second European Development Fund (EDF). The project, estimated to cost 37 027 950 Frs. CFA or about 150 000 u.a. (= US dollars), had been endorsed by the EDF Committee at its fourteenth meeting.

The object is to train locally two grades of supervisory staff required for the programme of road maintenance and improvement in the Central African Republic.

The country's economic life virtually depends on the 18 000 km. of roads which constitute its main communications network. The EDF has already provided a total of some 9 million u.a. for ten road projects in the Central African Republic and is at present considering financing other similar works.

The Central African Republic's five-year programme provides for the roads to be maintained and improved by the public works departments, largely by mechanical means. The techniques used in such operations necessitate a considerable number of supervisory staff, mainly of medium grade. The present scheme concerns the training of foremen and site superintendants, that of the other grades having already been provided for by bilateral aid (French and American). The training will extend over a period of three years; the Government of the Central African Republic will provide scholarships for the trainees during the first two years, and the EDF will pay grants for the third year as well as the salary of an engineering instructor for the whole training period.

Besides being useful for the execution of the road works, the scheme to train African technicians on the spot will obviate the need for more expensive foreign staff and encourage young people in the Central African Republic to engage in occupations of service to production.