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DEVELOPMENT SPECTRUM

Personalia: The State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation, Professor Sohn, accompanied by the Director of the German Development Society (DEG), Dr Karenberg, spent ten days in Romania late in September at the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister Patan. They discussed practical opportunities for German-Romanian cooperation in developing countries as envisaged under the agreement between the Federal Republic and Romania of August 3, 1971.

Following an invitation from the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation, Dr Erhard Eppler, the Zambian Minister of State for Planning and Development, Alexander Chikwanda, has had talks in Bonn with his host as well as Prime Minister Kühn of North Rhine-Westphalia, State Secretary von Braun of the Foreign Office and Dr Hanemann of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Finance.

A visit to Peru by a German Government delegation in the spring of 1972 was agreed upon by Minister Eppler and the Peruvian Foreign Minister, Edgardo Mercado Jarrin, when they met at the middle of September. The Peruvian Foreign Minister suggested a general intensification of cooperation and stressed his country's particular interest in aid by the Federal Republic in establishing a social insurance system in Peru, promoting manufacturing activities, planning mining projects and equipping a fishing research vessel.

The Federal Republic will grant Liberia DM 5-6 mn of capital aid for extensions to the port of Greenville. An agreement to this effect was reached by the Liberian Ministers for Planning and

Public Utilities, Bright and Major, with experts of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation who were led by State Secretary Sohn.

Foreign Minister Scheel in Africa: On October 14-23, Federal Minister Walter Scheel visited the African States of Nigeria, Zaire, Cameroon, Ivory Coast and Mauritania. His stay in Nigeria was the first official visit to that country by a German Foreign Minister. The Foreign Office has appraised the African tour as a manifestation of the good and friendly relations existing between the Federal Republic and these countries. They are borne out by the increasing volume of trade. Walter Scheel had visited all these countries earlier already when he was Minister for Economic Cooperation.

The principal topics discussed, apart from the extension of cultural, economic and development cooperation, were the German policy towards Eastern Europe and the relationship of the Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic. In Nigeria, Zaire and Cameroon the discussion also included the Middle East problem. The Presidents of these countries—Gowon, Mobutu and Ahidjo—are members of the African committee for meditation between the Arab States and Israel.

Liaison Centre for Import Promotion: Some months ago the *Bundesverband des deutschen Groß- und Außenhandels* — BGA (German Wholesale and Foreign Trade Federation) set up a liaison centre for the promotion of imports from developing countries. This centre recently arranged a working conference in Cologne to indicate ways in

which access to the markets of the Federal Republic can be improved for products of the EEC associates in Africa and Madagascar (AASM). The suggestion for such a meeting came from the Commission of the European Communities and reflects appreciation for the work done by the BGA-Liaison Centre hitherto to bring sellers from developing countries into contact with German importers.

In arranging such events the BGA is trying to demonstrate the importance of trade to a young economy. By examination of marketing and distribution facilities the developing countries are to be helped to adapt their production to market requirements and patterns. Increasing use is also being made of the BGA-Liaison Centre by German firms looking to the developing countries for new sources of supply. A circular containing enquiries by German firms has now been distributed for the first time among Embassies accredited in Bonn and sent to national export promotion authorities in the developing countries. This accords well with the interests of the German import firms which for reasons of price are interested in extending their relations with the developing countries.

World Bank and IDA in 1970/71: Of the World Bank's total funds in the financial year of 1970/71, which ended on June 30 last, \$1,367 mn—85 p.c. more than in 1969/70—were obtained by 18 new issues. Two issues totalling \$400 mn were placed by public offer in the US market. In the Federal Republic of Germany the World Bank offered three issues totalling DM550 mn to the public. Besides, the World Bank funded DM528 mn of ma-

**World Bank Loans and IDA Credits in the 1970/71 Financial Year
by Regions and Purposes**
(In mn US \$)

By Regions	World Bank Loans		IDA Credits		Total	
	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
Africa	17	347.20	24	121.50	41	468.70
Asia	15	429.10	21	409.40	36	838.50
Europe	19	398.50	2	19.50	21	418.00
Australasia	3	51.00	—	—	3	51.00
Latin America and Caribbean Area	24	670.60	6	33.60	30	704.20
	78	1,896.40	53	584.00	131	2,480.40
By Purposes						
Agriculture		191.00		228.10		419.10
Power Production		68.20		39.70		107.90
Telecommunications		104.70		90.80		195.50
Education		390.20		110.70		500.90
Transport		573.20		77.90		651.10
Industry		32.00		—		32.00
Technical Aid		—		4.00		4.00
Development Finance Companies		253.00		—		253.00
Water Supply and Canalization		185.70		3.00		188.70
Tourism		10.00		—		10.00
Population		3.00		4.80		7.80
General Development		85.40		25.00		110.40
		1,896.40		584.00		2,480.40

Source: World Bank, International Development Agency, Yearly Report 1971.

turing debts in Germany by issuing "Notes". Of these conversions DM 459 mn concerned the Bundesbank and DM 69 mn the Deutsche Kommunalbank.

Export Guide: On behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation the *HWWA-Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung-Hamburg* (Hamburg Institute for International Economics) has prepared an Export Guide to be published in English, French and Spanish. Its purpose is to recount all export outlets for developing countries in the Federal Republic. A description is given of German markets suitable for products from developing countries, and extensive statistical information is supplied on the size and structure of these markets. The Export Guide, besides, contains a comprehensive summary of all measures required when importing into the Federal Republic. The survey of existing foreign trade regulations deserves special attention in this context. Finally, the Export Guide lists all orga-

nisations, associations, societies and other sources of information of importance in regard to imports into Germany. The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation intends it to be used as a counterpart to the publication "Sources of Supply in Developing Countries" which the *Bundesstelle für Außenhandel* (Federal Office for Foreign Trade) issued in 1971 to draw the attention of the German business world to opportunities for obtaining supplies from developing countries which previously had not been widely known.

Seminar on Taxation Policy: A seminar on "Tax law and tax policy in industrialised and less industrialised economies" was held in Berlin by the Central Office for Public Administration of the *Deutsche Stiftung für Entwicklungsländer* (German Foundation for Developing Countries), in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Economics and Finance, from October 18, to November 7, 1971, for financial experts from the following

Latin American states: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Besides, representatives from the UN-Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), the Latin American Free Trade Area (LAFTA) and the Inter-American Centre of Tax Administrators attended as guests. The seminar centred around a general discussion on the importance of taxation policy as an instrument for the promotion and development of the economy in countries at different stages of industrialisation. Specific problems of tax law and tax policy in certain Latin American States and the Federal Republic were also discussed.

German Schools Abroad: The Circle of Friends of German Schools Abroad which for finance relies chiefly on donations from industry spent about DM 3.5 mn in the past few years on supporting German schools in other countries of Europe and overseas. South America ranked first, with DM 1.2 mn, followed by Asia and Africa. One third of the total went on building grants. According to the Central Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHT), the Circle of Friends decided recently to provide an additional DM 186,750 in aid for 34 schools abroad. Classrooms are to be built for this money, which is also to be used for school and pupils' libraries, the purchase of film projectors and tape recorders, and for typewriters and computers for commercial courses.

DIHT deputy general manager Dr Rudiger Altmann has been elected to the Managing Board of the Circle of Friends of German Schools Abroad.

Compiled from Government information data.