



REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS
OF THE PEREZ-GUERRERO TRUST FUND FOR ECDC/TCDC
New York, 22-25 June 1998

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF 77
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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to the provisions of the High-level Meeting on ECDC held in Cairo in August 1986, the rules of procedure adopted at its first meeting held in Caracas in August 1987, the provisions of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 held in New York in September 1988, the Seventh Meeting of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Coordination Committee on ECDC (IFCC-VII) held in Kuala Lumpur in July-August 1989, the First Annual Meeting of the Group of 77, held in New York in September 1989, the Eighth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Coordination Committee on ECDC (IFCC-VIII), held in Panama City in August-September 1993, the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Annual Ministerial Meetings of the Group of 77, held in New York respectively in September 1994 and September 1995, the Ninth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Coordination Committee on ECDC (IFCC-IX), held in Manila on 9-12 February 1996, and the Twentieth and the Twenty-first Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 held in New York respectively in September 1996 and September 1997, the Committee of Experts of the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund (PGTF) for ECDC/TCDC held its thirteenth meeting in New York from 22 to 25 June 1998.

2. The meeting was attended by four of the six members of the Committee, representing the three regions of the Group of 77. A representative of the Chairman of the Group of 77 in New York also attended the meeting. Dr. Eduardo Praselj was elected chairman of this session. The list of participants appears as annex I.

3. A representative of the Special Unit for TCDC of UNDP was invited by the Committee to provide information on matters related to UNDP relevant to the deliberations of the Committee.

4. The Committee adopted the following substantive agenda:

1. Review to the operations of the PGTF;
2. Consideration of new project proposals;
3. Assessment of the implementation of approved projects;
4. Other matters.

5. The Committee had before it the following documents:

1. Forty-three (43) project proposals;
2. Thirteenth (13) project progress, terminal and financial reports received by the Office of the Chairman
3. Sixteen (16) replies received to the survey on benefits of PGTF
4. Note by the Office of the Chairman on the status of approved projects
5. Note by UNDP on the composition of the PGTF portfolio.
6. Note by UNDP on the financial status of PGTF

6. According to the information submitted by UNDP on the financial status of PGTF, total available funds for supporting project proposals in 1998 are approximately US\$1,294,000, including interest projected to be earned until 31 December 1998. Therefore, in line with

guideline A(p) for utilization of PGTF the maximum support that could be given to any individual project would be US\$259,000.

II. REVIEW OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE PGTF

7. The Committee examined a number of operational issues regarding the performance of the PGTF, namely highlights of its operations, yield and expansion of its resources, guidelines, operational arrangements, and survey on the impact of PGTF.

Highlights of eleven years of operation of PGTF (1986-1997)

8. In 1986, a High-level Meeting on ECDC held at Cairo defined the main features for the operationalization of PGTF, including definition of the objectives of the Fund and criteria for project eligibility, as well as operational arrangements for the submission, appraisal and approval of project proposals.

9. The trust fund was established with a core capital of US\$5 million. According to the guidelines for its utilization, normally only the interest accruing on the Fund could be used for project support so as to preserve intact the initial US\$5 million. The core capital plus unexpended resources in any given year constitute the interest-bearing resources (i.e., between US\$6.2 and 6.9 million from 1987 to 1997).

10. From the 1986 to 1997, 331 project proposals were submitted to the PGTF and according to the guidelines for its utilization, the Fund has provided support to 61 projects with a total allocation of US\$5.3 million, i.e., a yearly average of 6 projects and US\$480,000 respectively.

11. A breakdown of the areas that have received support from the PGTF is as follows:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Share of allocated resources (%)</u>
Food and agriculture	23
Trade (mainly support to GSTP)	23
Information exchange and dissemination	18
Technology	8
Other (consulting services, training, other TCDC activities, industrialization and finance).....	28

12. On the basis of country coverage, the PGTF financial support has been distributed in the following manner:

<u>Country coverage</u>	<u>Share of allocated resources (%)</u>
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Interregional projects	47
Subregional projects	28
Regional projects	24
Action Committees	1

Yield of PGTF resources

13. Following the recommendations contained in paras. 20-23 of the report of the Committee at its ninth meeting, the situation of the interest rates and yield of PGTF resources was examined by the Committee at its thirteenth meeting.

14. The interest-bearing resources of PGTF include the core capital plus unexpended resources and, according to the information provided by UNDP, total US\$6.2 million as of mid-June 1998. Over 60 percent of these resources has been invested by UNDP in high-yield medium-term instruments maturing at the end of 1998 while the balance has been invested in lower yield instruments maturing in mid-1999 and early 2001. The average nominal yield of these resources for 1998 is in the order of 8.4 percent while the effective yield - following adjustment by the acquisition price of the various instruments - is 7.1 percent. While the nominal cash revenue in 1998 is US\$525,000, the effective income for 1998 is US\$440,000 as a result of the foregoing adjustment. A breakdown of the main features of the investments instruments is as follows:

Security	Face amount (US\$)	Maturity date	Buy price (% of face value)	Coupon rate (%)	Effective interest rate (%)	Cash receipt in 1998 (US\$)	Income for 1998 (US\$)
Bond	1,000,000	11/05/98	98.60	7.625	8.0487	76,250	75,810
Bond	3,000,000	12/15/98	102.79	8.700	7.8428	261,000	231,546
Bond	1,000,000	4/15/99	109.58	9.000	5.7006	90,000	57,006
Bond	1,000,000	5/1/01	108.02	8.625	6.4601	86,250	64,601
Cash	221,895	-	-	-	5.0000	11,095	11,095
TOTAL	6,221,895			8.4	7.1	524,595	440,058

15. There has been a significant decline in interest rates and there is no clear indication of the medium-term outlook. Current nominal rates for medium-term instruments are around 5.9 percent per annum. In the light of these factors, the Committee recommended to UNDP that following maturity of the above-mentioned instruments in late 1998 and mid-1999, one-half of the corresponding resources be re-invested in new instruments with maturities of two years while the balance be re-invested in instruments with three-year maturities. This conservative investment strategy will ensure a nominal yield for 1999 of 7.5 percent, while the effective yield

would be 6 percent. Available additional resources for project support in 1999 would therefore be in the order of US\$370,000.

Expansion of PGTF resources

16. The Committee examined again practical ways of implementing its recommendations regarding the expansion of the PGTF resources as approved by the Twentieth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 in 1996. In this connection, the Committee recommended that the focus should be on the following actions, to be carried out by the Chairman of the Group of 77 in New York, in close coordination with the Chairmen/Coordinators of the other Chapters of the Group of 77, as agreed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the Chairmen/Coordinators of the Group of 77 held in Geneva in March 1998:

(a) Contributions by major donor countries

17. Several major donor countries have been approached by the Chairman of the Group of 77 assisted by members of the Committee of Experts with a view to enlisting their support. While the initial reaction seems to be promising, a final response is still awaited. The Committee suggested that the Chairman of the Group of 77 undertake a follow-up action at an appropriate time.

(b) Contributions by member countries of the Group of 77

18. The Committee welcomed the contributions made by Mauritius and Pakistan. In this connection, the Committee stressed that what is important is to get the largest possible number of developing countries to support PGTF with contributions, and not necessarily the magnitude of individual contributions. The Committee recommended that the Chairman of the Group of 77 renew his appeal for contributions to the PGTF, since even token contributions would have a significant impact as evidence of the commitment of developing countries to South-South cooperation. To this end, a notional amount of US\$2,000 is suggested.

(c) Contributions by private foundations

19. The Committee recommended that a limited number of major potential sources of funding be approached with a view to establishing a durable relationship with these foundations in support of PGTF activities.

(d) Support by UNDP

20. The Committee recommended that the UNDP should contribute to the above-mentioned ongoing efforts with a view to mobilizing additional resources for PGTF activities, in accordance with decisions taken by various ministerial meetings of the Group of 77.

Guidelines for utilization of PGTF

21. The Committee reviewed the guidelines for utilization of PGTF and, in the light of experience gained in examining the proposals submitted to the Fund, recommended the following amendments to the guidelines with a view to facilitating the preparation of proposals.

- (a) A new sentence would be added to guideline A(f) which will now read as follows:

Projects that are of a national nature would not be eligible for financing. For nationally executed projects to be eligible, the cooperative component of the project has to be established through the identification and declared interest of and explicit participation by other developing countries as potential beneficiaries in the activities of the project, as appropriate. Accordingly, written evidence of endorsement or declared interest should be part of the proposal. The Committee of Experts would not consider proposals failing to comply with this requirement.

- (b) The deadline for submission of project proposals shall be extended on a permanent basis to 30 April of each year. Accordingly, guideline A(o) will now read as follows:

The deadline for submission of project proposals should be the last day of April of each year, so that the necessary consultations between the experts, the Office of the Chairman, governments, organizations and institutions submitting proposals should take place, so as to improve and expedite the process of examination of projects as well as to avoid duplication of existing activities.

22. The Committee noted that in spite of all efforts made to disseminate the guidelines for utilization of PGTF, still a substantial number of proposals presented do not comply with the criteria for eligibility.

23. With a view to assisting the project sponsors in the preparation of proposals, the cover page of the model format for submission of proposals has been revised so as to include a mandatory checklist. This checklist would enable sponsors to easily verify whether their proposals comply with the guidelines, by replying to the following questions:

- (a) Whether the project addresses one of the priority areas of the Caracas Program of Action;
- (b) Whether the project involves at least three developing countries (in order to be considered at least as a sub-regional project);
- (c) Whether the proposal contains written evidence of interest or endorsement of other developing countries as potential beneficiaries;
- (d) Whether contributions from sources other than PGTF are of an amount at least equal to the resources requested from PGTF (matching funds).

24. In addition, in order to facilitate the review of the proposals by the Committee of Experts, the cover page should incorporate a short abstract of the project.

Operational arrangements

25. The Committee reviewed the existing operational arrangements with a view to minimizing the time lag between the approval of projects and signature of project documents or subcontracts, as well as the beginning of disbursement of funds.

26. In the light of recent experience, the Committee recommended the following improvements to the existing procedures:

- (a) Attachment of the relevant model pages of the project document to the letter of notification of approval of projects sent by the Office of the Chairman to beneficiaries; and
- (b) Request the beneficiaries that draft project documents and subcontracts be forwarded to UNDP via email or diskettes with a view to expediting the processing of these documents.

Survey of the impact of PGTF

27. On the basis of the recommendation of the Committee at its twelfth meeting in 1997, a survey on the impact and benefits of the projects funded by PGTF was carried out, with a view to supporting the promotion of the Fund. So far, the Office of the Chairman has received information on 16 of the 32 PGTF-supported projects that have been completed. A summary of the results of the survey is presented in section V of this report (paras. 411 to 424).

III. CONSIDERATION OF NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS

28. The Committee had before it forty-three (43) project proposals submitted to avail of the financing of the PGTF. The list of these proposals is as follows:

- (1) *Safety in biotechnology*
- (2) *Solar power in rural areas*
- (3) *Programme for the academic development and strengthening of marine sciences*
- (4) *Network of advisory centres for small and medium-sized enterprises in Mercosur*
- (5) *Monitoring of natural resources of Mekong catchment in eastern Myanmar: an approach towards sustainable development of the Mekong River Basin*
- (6) *Post training centre project*
- (7) *Dry dock project*
- (8) *Strengthening of steel fabrication technology*
- (9) *Civil aviation master plan*
- (10) *Project for development of maritime training*

- (11) *Regional collaboration in the field of environmental education and research*
- (12) *Application of fuel-efficient stove and fuel wood substitutes*
- (13) *Modernization of village banks*
- (14) *Cotton rehabilitation project*
- (15) *Trade Information Network (TIN)*
- (16) *Emergency Control Measures of the Moroccan Locust and other Insect Pests*
- (17) *Training of Rice Breeding Experts for the Effective Use of Rice Genetic Resources in the Developing Countries*
- (18) *Programme for Women and Youth in the Sahel region*
- (19) *Building Network of Cooperation among the Indonesia State Ministry for the Role of Women, Women's Studies Centres and the Group of 77*
- (20) *Building Technical Competence in the Area of Conformity Assessment in the Latin American Region*
- (21) *The Training, Consultation, Awareness and Capacity Building for Small Hydro Power in Developing Countries*
- (22) *International Youth Leadership Training for Promotion of South-South Cooperation*
- (23) *Master Plan for the Sustainable Development of Transportation and related Infrastructure in South America*
- (24) *Estimation of the Extent and Rate of Deforestation using High Resolution Remotely Sensed Data*
- (25) *Training strategy for the youth participation in integrated multisectoral village development to ensure sound environment and sustainable livelihood program for poverty alleviation*
- (26) *BIMSTEC Cooperative Work programme*
- (27) *The Harmonisation of Agricultural Policies of the COMESA Member States with a View to having a Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)*
- (28) *Programme for Academic and Professional Exchanges among Educators from Latin America and the Caribbean*
- (29) *Hydropower Development in the Cuban Province of Guatanamo*
- (30) *Technology Linkage Through Sharing and Cooperation among Developing Countries*
- (31) *Subregional Intellectual Property System*
- (32) *Regional Remote Sensing Activities*
- (33) *Regional Pest Control Strategy*
- (34) *A Trading/Industrial Cooperation Scheme to Promote Intra-Industry Trade in ASEAN*
- (35) *Establishment of a Statistical Service Unit and Access of World Bank Live Data Base*
- (36) *Macro-economic and sectoral cooperation programme*
- (37) *Enhancing Technological Capacity: Prospects of Cooperation between the SAARC and ASEAN Regions*
- (38) *Strengthening of the competitive characteristics of micro, small and medium-size enterprises as an employment-generating factor, using the technical and economic*

- cooperation mechanism between Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa*
- (39) *Design of a regional project to strengthen strategies to reduce drug demand in Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela*
 - (40) *Plant and Animal Disease Control Project in the San Martin Region in Peru*
 - (41) *Study of the "El Niño" Phenomenon in South Eastern Pacific Countries*
 - (42) *A Proposal for Establishing a Regional Small and Medium Size Industries Center in Jordan*
 - (43) *Development of a Kit for the Diagnosis of the Chagas Disease*

29. The following ten (10) project proposals were received after the established deadline of 30 April 1998 and therefore were not considered by the Committee at this session. Project sponsors will be advised by the Office of the Chairman on amendments to the guidelines recommended at this meeting of the Committee of Experts, so as to enable them to make the necessary adjustments to their proposals before they are taken up at the next meeting of the Committee:

- (1) *Project to extend the circulation of South Letter by funding the production and distribution of French and Spanish versions*
- (2) *Local Development for the improvement of health conditions in Bolivia municipalities bordering with Brazil, Argentina and Peru*
- (3) *First OECS Exposition on Information Technology Related Services*
- (4) *Development of information network and data base system for NAM-CSSTC*
- (5) *Development and land transportation between Iran and middle Asian Countries*
- (6) *Study of creating a common network of monetary and banking activities, and also custom tariffs for Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) member countries*
- (7) *Study the economic and social consequences of joining ECO's member countries to World Trade Organization*
- (8) *Study of fossil fuel conservation and utilization of new sources of energy*
- (9) *Technical and economic feasibility studies (primary and final) for different kinds of civil projects such as housing, construction of roads and dams, and also industrial projects such as power plants and refineries*
- (10) *Sericulture (silk) development project*

Project Proposal No. 1- Safety in biotechnology

30. The proposal was submitted by the National Center for Biological Safety from Cuba and endorsed by the Government of Cuba.

31. According to the text of the proposal, the objectives of the project are: (a) to establish and strengthen the infrastructure of a national safety system in biotechnology; (b) to develop scientific and technical activities, training and education; (c) to prepare and enact the corresponding legal regulations so as to guarantee safety and the proper framework in all aspects related to the utilization of biotechnological results.

32. Total cost of the project, to be carried out over a six-year period, is estimated at

US\$2,677,100. The contribution sought from the PGTF amounts to US\$635,700.

33. The Committee considered that this proposal corresponds to a national project that is not eligible for financing, and therefore recommended that it should not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project Proposal No. 2 - Solar power in rural areas

34. The proposal was submitted by the National University of Lujan from Argentina and endorsed by the Government of Argentina.

35. According to the text of the proposal, the objectives of the project are to improve the power availability and quality of life of inhabitants of isolated rural communities through the implementation of solar and wind power technology in small communities in the provinces of Salta and Buenos Aires as well as to promote their replication. The National Institute for Technology and Normalization from Asuncion, Paraguay, and the Foundation Energy for Development, from Cochabamba, Bolivia, would participate in the project.

36. Total cost of the project to be implemented over a four-year period is estimated at US\$149,500. The contribution sought from PGTF amounts to US\$60,000. A breakdown of the total cost is as follows:

Item	Total contribution (US\$)		
	PGTF	Other	Total
Travel	-	22,500	22,500
Documentation	-	9,000	9,000
Equipment	-	50,000	50,000
Communications and other	60,000	8,000	68,000
Total	60,000	89,500	149,500

The sponsoring institutions are also making contributions in kind that are not accounted for in the total cost of the project.

37. The Committee considered that this proposal corresponded to an important initiative at the subregional level. However, the Committee felt that the potential beneficiaries should explicitly indicate their endorsement of the project.

38. The Committee considered that the PGTF contribution should be US\$25,000. This amount would provide the necessary catalytic support for the first year and a half of implementation of the project.

39. The Committee recommended that this proposal avail from the financing of PGTF and

that US\$25,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal written endorsement of the potential beneficiaries is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

40. Should the previous condition be fulfilled, the Committee recommended that disbursement of the PGTF contribution be made in two tranches. Disbursement of the second tranche would be subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project Proposal No. 3 - *Programme for the academic development and strengthening of marine sciences*

41. The proposal was submitted by the National University of Mar del Plata from Argentina and endorsed by the Government of Argentina.

42. According to the text of the proposal, the overall objective of the project is to prepare a program so as to join efforts to better understand, through an integrated approach, the functioning of the marine ecosystems in the coastal areas of the southwestern Atlantic. In this regard, the project aims at: (a) preparing a program for integrated regional specialization in marine sciences; (b) improving the academic level of participating institutions; (c) consolidating the institutional infrastructure; (d) carrying out joint research programs; and (e) establishing a regional computerized system.

43. Three institutions would be involved in this project, namely the National University of Mar del Plata from Argentina, the Foundation University of Rio Grande from Brazil, and the University of Uruguay.

44. Total estimated cost of the project, to be carried out over a six-year period, is US\$84,174. The contribution sought from PGTF was US\$65,274 while the sponsor's contribution amounts to US\$18,900. A breakdown of the total cost is as follows:

Total contribution (US\$)			
Item	PGTF	Other	Total
Consultants	17,160	2,400	19,560
Travel and per diems	43,114	11,500	54,614
Documentation	5,000	5,000	10,000
Total	65,274	18,900	84,174

45. The Committee considered that in accordance with guideline A(m) for utilization of PGTF, this proposal should include inputs from other sources of an amount at least equal to the resources requested from PGTF. Therefore, the maximum contribution from PGTF could be US\$18,900.

46. Furthermore, the Committee considered that this proposal represented an important cooperative effort at the subregional level. However, it was felt that the potential beneficiaries should explicitly indicate their endorsement of the project. Moreover, the Committee considered that the PGTF contribution should be US\$15,000. This amount would cover almost the totality of the cost of consultants requested in the proposal.

47. The Committee recommended that this proposal avail from the financing of PGTF and that US\$15,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal written endorsement of the potential beneficiaries is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

Project Proposal No.4 - Network of advisory centres for small and medium-sized enterprises in Mercosur

48. The proposal was submitted by the Fundacion Banco Mayo from Argentina and endorsed by the Government of Argentina.

49. According to the text of the proposal, the overall objective of the project is to establish a network of advisory centres for small and medium-sized enterprises in the four Mercosur countries (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay), with a view to promoting the establishment, sustainability and development of these enterprises through the supply of (a) guidance, (b) technical service support required for the development and consolidation of their projects in highly competitive conditions. Four advisory centers are planned to be established respectively in Buenos Aires, Sao Paulo, Asuncion, and Montevideo.

50. Total cost of the project to be carried out over a six-month period is estimated at US\$528,000, the contribution sought from PGTF amounts to US\$60,000. A breakdown of the total costs is as follows:

Total contribution (US\$)			
Item	PGTF	Other	Total
Consultants	60,000	300,000	360,000
Space and equipment rentals		168,000	168,000
Total	60,000	468,000	528,000

51. The Committee considered that this proposal complies in general with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF and is therefore eligible for funding. However, the Committee felt that the potential beneficiaries should explicitly indicate their endorsement of the project.

52. The Committee considered that the PGTF contribution should be US\$25,000 so as to cover the cost of one of the consultants envisaged in the project.

53. The Committee considered that the impact of this project could be greatly enhanced if the proposed network builds links with existing networks such as the "Consultative Group on Assistance for the Poorest" (World Bank, UNDP and others) and "Microstart" (UNDP).

54. The Committee recommended that this proposal avail from the financing of PGTF and that US\$25,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal written endorsement of the potential beneficiaries is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

Project Proposal No. 5 - Monitoring of natural resources of Mekong catchment in eastern Myanmar: an approach towards sustainable development of the Mekong River Basin

55. The proposal was submitted by the Forest Department of the Ministry of Forestry of the Union of Myanmar.

56. According to the text of the proposal, the overall objective of the project is to develop a natural resources management plan, integrating the rational use of land, vegetation and water for the Mekong catchment in eastern Myanmar in support of the sustainable development of the Mekong River Basin (MRB).

57. Beneficiaries of this project would be the members of the Agreement on cooperation for the sustainable development of the MRB, namely Thailand, Cambodia, Lao, and Viet Nam.

58. Total estimated cost of the project would be US\$116,650, the contribution sought from PGTF is US\$57,750. A breakdown of the total cost is as follows:

Total contribution (US\$)			
Item	PGTF	Other	Total
Personnel	6,000	37,100	43,100
Travel	1,000	8,300	9,300
Equipment	22,750	12,000	34,750
Materials and Supplies	24,500		24,500
Other	3,500	1,500	5,000
Total	57,750	58,900	116,650

59. The Committee considered that this proposal corresponded to a very important initiative at the sub-regional level. However, the Committee felt that the potential beneficiaries should explicitly indicate their endorsement of the project.

60. The Committee recommended that this proposal avail from the financing of PGTF and that US\$30,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal written endorsement of the potential beneficiaries is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

Project Proposal No. 6 - *Post training centre project*

61. The proposal was submitted by the Myanma Port Authority, Ministry of Transport from the Union of Myanmar.

62. According to the text of the proposal, the objective of the project is to train port workers and personnel from port-affiliated enterprises with a view to attaining an efficient operation of the port.

63. The total cost of the project, to be carried out in a two-year period, is estimated at US\$3.5 million, the totality of which is the contribution sought from PGTF.

64. The Committee considered that this proposal corresponded to a national project that is not eligible for financing, and therefore recommended that it should not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project Proposal No. 7 - *Dry dock project*

Project Proposal No. 8 - *Strengthening of steel fabrication technology*

Project Proposal No. 9 - *Civil aviation master plan*

Project Proposal No. 10 - *Regional collaboration in the field of environmental education and research*

Project Proposal No. 11 - *Project for development of maritime training*

Project Proposal No. 12 - *Application of fuel-efficient stove and fuel wood substitutes*

Project Proposal No. 13 - *Modernization of village banks*

Project Proposal No. 14 - *Cotton rehabilitation project*

65. These eight proposals were also submitted by enterprises and institutions from Myanmar and endorsed by the Government of that country.

66. The Committee examined the foregoing eight proposals and found that both the scope and the beneficiaries of project proposals 7-9 and 11-14 are of a national character and therefore are not eligible for funding from PGTF. Furthermore, project proposal No. 10 corresponded to a bilateral project that is not eligible for funding either.

67. The Committee recommended that project proposal Nos. 7-14 should not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project Proposal No. 15 - *Trade Information Network (TIN)*

68. The proposal was submitted by the Global Management Center of the Group of 77 Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

69. According to the text of the proposal, the main objective of the project is to implement a pilot project based on the offer of the Government of Egypt and to prepare funding documents seeking donor support for pilot project implementation and overall TIN Plan. In this regard, it is envisaged to identify thirteen pilot national focal points in the preparatory phase.

70. Total estimated cost of the project, to be implemented in one year, is estimated at US\$6 million, the contribution sought from PGTF being US\$100,000. Other inputs include contributions from the Government of Egypt and participating national chambers.

71. The Committee recalled that PGTF had already provided support in 1991 for the establishment of a trade information network (TIN) among the chambers of commerce and industry of developing countries members of the Group of 77, and in 1994 for the establishment of the TIN Management Center. Both projects involved the launching of pilot activities aimed at establishing and strengthening the network.

72. The Committee recommended that this proposal should not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project Proposal No. 16 - *Emergency Control Measures of the Moroccan Locust and other Insect Pests*

73. The proposal was submitted by the General Body for Agricultural Research, located at Abu-Ghraib, Iraq, and endorsed by the Ministry of Agriculture of Iraq.

74. According to the text of the proposal, the objectives of the project are: (1) to evaluate and select for registration chemical insecticides suitable for the control of the Moroccan locust and

other pests to minimize the potential environmental risks resulting from the empirical use of broad-spectrum chemical insecticides; (b) to determine the most efficient and economic techniques for the control of the aforementioned insect pests; (c) to assist in the continuous efforts to develop and implement an integrated pest management programme; and (d) to provide training to professional and technical staff.

75. Potential beneficiaries of the project would be the neighboring countries, namely Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria. Project activities include the establishment of a regional coordinating committee responsible for disseminating the results of the project.

64. Total cost of the project, to be carried out over two years, is \$430,000. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$60,000 (US\$47,000 for the first year and US\$13,000 for the second).

76. The Committee recalled that this proposal was submitted at its previous meeting, formulated and presented as a national project, not eligible for financing. While the revised version of the proposal embodies the cooperative element of the project, the Committee felt that the potential beneficiaries should explicitly indicate their endorsement of the project.

77. The Committee recommended that this proposal avail from the financing of PGTF and that US\$50,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal written endorsement of the potential beneficiaries is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

78. Should the previous condition be fulfilled, the Committee recommended that disbursement of the PGTF contribution be made in two tranches. Disbursement of the second tranche would be subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project Proposal No. 17 - Training of Rice Breeding Experts for the Effective Use of Rice Genetic Resources in the Developing Countries

79. The proposal was submitted by the Academy of Agricultural Science and endorsed by the Ministry of Foreign of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The proposal contained also written endorsements from Ethiopia, Guinea, Mali, and Nigeria.

80. According to the text of the proposal, the main objective of the project is to make a practical contribution to solving the food problem in the participating developing countries through training of local rice builders and establishing rice breeding systems suited to local conditions.

81. Total cost of the project, to be carried out in 13 months, is estimated at US\$255,600. The contribution sought from PGTF amounts to US\$109,100. A breakdown of the total cost is as follows:

Total contribution (US\$)			
Item	PGTF	Other	Total
Personnel	52,600	109,000	161,600
Travel	50,000		50,000
Preparation of plots	2,000	9,000	11,000
Preparation of tools	1,000	21,000	22,000
Other	3,500	7,500	11,000
Total	109,100	146,500	255,600

82. The Committee considered that the impact of this cooperative project could be greatly enhanced through collaboration with institutions such as the West Africa Rice Development Authority (WARDA), headquartered in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), headquartered in Manila, Philippines.

83. The Committee considered that this proposal complies with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF and is therefore eligible for financing. The Committee recommended that US\$100,000 be allocated to this end.

84. The Committee recommended that disbursement of the PGTF contribution be made in two tranches. Disbursement of the second tranche would be subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project Proposal No. 18 - *Programme for Women and Youth in the Sahel region*

85. The proposal was submitted by Sahel DEFIS, a non-governmental organization headquartered in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

86. According to the text of the proposal, the objective of the project is to provide financial support to 26 associations of women and youth in eight West African countries, namely Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo. Individual projects to be carried out in these countries include the production and local marketing of trees, vegetables and foods, food production and local handicrafts.

87. Total cost of the project, to be carried out over a two-year period, amounts to US\$254,280. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$184,000, while the other sources contribution amounts to US\$70,280.

88. The Committee recalled that a first phase of this project was supported by PGTF in 1995 and made possible the implementation of eleven projects of significant impact in three countries, namely Benin, Burkina Faso, and Togo. In the light of these results, the Committee was of the view that this activity should be further supported by the PGTF. In this regard, the Committee

considered that PGTF contribution should be of the same order than the one given to the first phase of the project, i.e., US\$30,000.

89. The Committee recommended that this proposal avails from the financing of PGTF and that US\$30,000 be allocated to this end.

Project proposal No. 19 - Building Network of Cooperation among the Indonesia State Ministry for the Role of Women, Women's Studies Centres and the Group of 77

90. The proposal was submitted by the Ministry of State for the Role of Women from Indonesia.

91. According to the text of the proposal, the objectives of the project are (a) to generate and disseminate the latest policies and programs of the Ministry to all Women's Studies Centers (WSC) in the twenty-seven provinces of the country in the most effective, efficient, and accurate way; (b) to instruct the WSCs to conduct and assess emerging issues which will be used as inputs for policies of the central and provincial governments.

92. Total estimated cost of the project, to be implemented in one year, amounts to US\$366,000. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$246,000.

93. The Committee considered that it was not possible to ascertain the cooperative element of the project since it only envisages the possibility of disseminating results to other developing countries. As stated in guideline A(h) for utilization of PGTF, this cannot by itself be considered as a rationale for the eligibility of the project.

94. The Committee therefore recommended that this project should not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project proposal No. 20 - Building Technical Competence in the Area of Conformity Assessment in the Latin American Region

95. The proposal was submitted by the National Institute of Metrology, Standardization and Industrial Quality (INMETRO) from Brazil and endorsed by the Government of Brazil.

96. According to the text of the proposal, the main objective of the project is to disseminate internationally accepted conformity assessment principles and practices to beneficiary countries with the aim of strengthening and increasing the basis for mutual confidence among member accreditation bodies and equivalence in accreditation processes. Potential beneficiaries would be the accreditation bodies from five countries members of the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC), namely Bolivia, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela.

97. The total cost of the project, to be carried out over a two-year period, amounts to US\$352,000. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$168,000. A breakdown of the total cost

is as follows:

Item	Total contribution (US\$)		
	PGTF	Other	Total
Personnel	95,000	40,000	135,000
Travel and per diems	39,000	74,000	113,000
Documentation	25,000	10,000	35,000
Technical assistance		30,000	30,000
Other	9,000	30,000	39,000
Total	168,000	184,000	352,000

98. The Committee considered that this proposal complies with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF. However, it felt that the potential beneficiaries should explicitly indicate their endorsement of the project.

99. The Committee recommended that this project should avail from the financing of PGTF and that US\$50,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal written endorsement of the potential beneficiaries is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

100. Should the previous condition be fulfilled, the Committee recommended that disbursement of the PGTF contribution be made in two tranches. Disbursement of the second tranche would be subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project proposal No. 21 - The Training, Consultation, Awareness and Capacity Building for Small Hydro Power in Developing Countries

101. The proposal was submitted by the International Network on Small Hydro Power headquartered in Hangzhou, China and endorsed by the Ministry of Foreign Technical and Economic Cooperation of China.

102. According to the text of the proposal, the overall objective of the project is to promote the development of small hydro power in order to address issues such as rural electrification, poverty alleviation and environmental protection. In this context, the project includes training, consultative missions, awareness promotion, and capacity-building. Potential beneficiaries of the project are countries from the three regions of the Group of 77, namely Bangladesh, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Jamaica, Lao, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Panama, Venezuela, and Zambia.

103. Total estimated cost of the project, to be implemented in one year, is estimated at US\$520,400. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$185,300. A breakdown of the total cost is as follows:

Total contribution (US\$)			
Item	PGTF	Other	Total
Personnel		169,800	169,800
Travel and per diems	165,300	99,300	264,600
Miscellaneous	20,000	66,000	86,000
Total	185,300	335,100	520,400

104. The Committee considered that this proposal complies with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF and is thus eligible for financing.

105. The Committee recommended that this project avails from the financing of PGTF and that US\$150,000 be allocated to this end. The Committee recommended that disbursement of the PGTF contribution should be made in two tranches, disbursement of the second tranche being subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project proposal No. 22 - *International Youth Leadership Training for Promotion of South-South Cooperation*

106. The proposal was submitted by the All Nigeria United Nations Students' and Youth Association located in Lagos, and endorsed by the Nigeria National Planning Commission.

107. According to the text of the proposal, the objective is to prepare and hold a seminar for selected participants from developing countries around the theme "Young Generation and Issues related to South-South Cooperation". The outcome of the seminar and relevant follow-up action would be disseminated via a training manual/guide for youth activists.

108. Total cost of the project, to be implemented in six months, is estimated at US\$97,849. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$48,003.

109. The Committee, bearing in mind the importance of encouraging and supporting the participation of youth in South-South cooperation, recommended that this project avails from the financing of PGTF and that US\$20,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal endorsement from the Government of Nigeria is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

Project proposal No. 23 - Master Plan for the Sustainable Development of Transportation and related Infrastructure in South America

110. The proposal was submitted by the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), headquartered in Montevideo, Uruguay.

111. According to the text of the proposal, the objectives of the project are: (a) to provide transport authorities in the region with an assessment of trade flows, that would enable adequate planning of the required transportation facilities and infrastructure; (b) to provide governments with options for a better allocation of resources for transportation infrastructure as well as priority areas for investment in the field; and (c) to provide field operators and users with the best options for transportation of goods.

112. Total estimated cost of the project, to be carried out over a two-year period, is estimated at US\$380,314. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$188,000. A breakdown of the total cost is as follows:

	Total contribution (US\$)		
Item	PGTF	Other	Total
Personnel	168,000	169,314	337,314
Travel and per diems	20,000	6,000	26,000
Miscellaneous		17,000	17,000
Total	188,000	192,314	380,314

113. The Committee considered that this proposal complies with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF and is thus eligible for financing. The Committee recommended that US\$50,000 be allocated to this end.

114. The Committee recommended that disbursement of the PGTF contribution be made in two tranches. Disbursement of the second tranche would be subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project proposal No. 24 - Estimation of the Extent and Rate of Deforestation using High Resolution Remotely Sensed Data

115. The proposal was submitted by the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) from Brazil and endorsed by the Ministry of Science and Technology of Brazil.

116. According to the text of the proposal, the objectives of the project are: (a) to transfer to Venezuela and Peru the methodology adopted in Brazil to generate annual estimates of the extent and rate of gross deforestation in the Amazon forest, based on satellite high-resolution remotely sensed data; (b) to help identify the possible causes of deforestation, based on the analysis of the

sizes of the deforested plots; (c) to help identify the types of vegetation affected by deforestation, which provide different contributions to the carbon dioxide emission; and (d) to create a digital database of the project, with a spatial distribution of the deforestation in the Venezuelan and Peruvian Amazon forest.

117. Total cost of the project, to be implemented in eight months, is estimated at US\$159,400. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$59,400.

118. The Committee considered that given the nature of this activity, this proposal should be resubmitted for consideration by the Committee with the written endorsement from the two beneficiary countries.

Project proposal No. 25 - Training strategy for the youth participation in integrated multisectoral village development to ensure sound environment and sustainable livelihood program for poverty alleviation

119. The proposal was submitted by the Technology Development and Implementation Agency (Techno DIA), headquartered in Dhaka, Bangladesh and endorsed by the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Bangladesh.

120. According to the text of the proposal, the overall objective of the project is to develop and implement low-cost appropriate and sustainable technologies for government, non-government, private, national and international NGOs for alleviation of poverty through income generation and employment creation by supplying credits and providing technical and training assistance. Target beneficiaries are 2,000 youth in Bangladesh.

121. Total cost of the project, to be implemented in two years, is estimated at US\$520,000. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$260,000.

122. The Committee considered that this proposal corresponded to a national project that is not eligible for financing, and therefore recommended it should not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project proposal No. 26 - BIMSTEC Cooperative Work programme

123. The proposal was submitted by the United Nations Economic and Social Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and endorsed by the Second BIMSTEC (Bangladesh-India-Myanmar-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Cooperation) Ministerial Conference.

124. According to the text of the proposal, the objectives of the project are: (a) to assist target countries in improving market access for goods and services in the BIMSTEC context; and (b) to promote technology transfer and endogenous capacity-building.

125. Total cost of the project, to be carried out over a two-year period, is estimated at US\$1.5 million. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$200,000.

126. The Committee considered that according to guideline A(b) for utilization of PGTF, ESCAP is not an eligible entity to benefit from PGTF support. In this context, the Committee considered that this proposal should be submitted by the participating countries or by a developing country institution.

127. The Committee recommended that this proposal should not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project proposal No. 27 - The Harmonisation of Agricultural Policies of the COMESA Member States with a View to having a Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

128. The proposal was submitted by the Secretariat of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), headquartered in Lusaka, Zambia.

129. According to the text of the proposal, the immediate objectives of the project are the harmonization of agricultural policies of the COMESA member states, and the removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers on agricultural trade.

130. Total estimated of the project, to be implemented in one year, is US\$480,000. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$260,000. A breakdown of the total cost is as follows:

	Total contribution (US\$)		
Item	PGTF	Other	Total
Personnel (inc. Consults.)	142,000	42,000	184,000
Travel & accom.	80,000	16,7000	247,000
Workshop	38,000		38,000
Other		11,000	11,000
Total	260,000	220,000	480,000

131. The Committee considered that the proposal in general complies with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF. However, the text of the proposal does not contain evidence of the approval of COMESA governing body, as required by guideline A(k).

132. The Committee recommended that this proposal avail from the financing of PGTF and that US\$60,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal written approval from the governing body of COMESA is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

Project proposal No. 28 - *Programme for Academic and Professional Exchanges among Educators from Latin America and the Caribbean*

133. The proposal was submitted by the secretariat of the Association of Educators of Latin America and the Caribbean (AELAC), headquartered in Havana, and endorsed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cuba.

134. According to the text of the proposal, the objective of the project is to encourage academic exchanges of experiences and methodologies, as well as to strengthen the professional development of educators in Latin America and the Caribbean.

135. Total cost of the project, to be carried out over a two-year period, is estimated at US\$146,000. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$50,000.

136. The Committee recalled that this proposal was previously submitted in 1997 as a budget revision of an ongoing project supported by PGTF (INT/94/K01). On that occasion, the Committee recommended that requests for funding from PGTF should be formally submitted for consideration by the Committee of Experts within the established guidelines, and not as part of a report on implementation of an ongoing project. Furthermore, the Committee indicated that a project proposal on a subject already benefitting from PGTF support should comply with guideline B(f) for utilization of PGTF resources, which states that “no follow-up project would be considered until the previous one is completed”.

137. In this context, the Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77 duly informed the subcontractor (AELAC) that it should submit the outstanding financial statement in order to consider the project as completed. No reply has been received from AELAC, and therefore the Committee could not give any further consideration to a follow-up project until the reporting requirement of the previous one is met.

Project proposal No. 29 - *Hydropower Development in the Cuban Province of Guantanamo*

138. The proposal was submitted by the National Institute for Hydraulic Resources (INRH) from Cuba, and endorsed by the Ministry for Foreign Investment and Economic Cooperation of Cuba.

139. According to the text of the proposal, the objectives of the project are: (a) to improve the energy supply conditions in the province of Guantanamo, with small hydro power stations through transfer of updated technology; (b) provide power to isolated populations; (c) improve the power supplies in areas where small hydro power stations are already installed through utilization of adequate technologies; and (d) to improve the operation of several small hydro power stations with a view to a more effective power supply.

140. Total cost of the project, to be carried out over two years, is estimated at US\$1,135,000. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$235,000.

141. In the light of the information provided, the Committee considered that this proposal corresponded either to a national or to a bilateral project, neither of which is eligible for financing from PGTF. The Committee recommended that this proposal should not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project proposal No. 30 - *Technology Linkage Through Sharing and Cooperation among Developing Countries*

142. The proposal was submitted by the Asian Alliance of Appropriate Technology Practitioners (APPROTEC ASIA) headquartered in Manila, and endorsed by the Technical Cooperation Council of the Philippines.

143. According to the text of the proposal, the project's overall objective is to link developing countries in the three regions through technology sharing and cooperation. In this regard, the project aims at (a) establishing a network linking technology developers, innovators, research and development institutions, and technology transfer agents; (b) organizing an interregional workshop to discuss the most effective mechanism for technology transfer and identify environmentally sustainable technologies; (c) implementing the exchange of the identified technologies and evaluating their effectiveness; and (d) planning for follow-up activities of the network so established.

144. Participating institutions are located in Bangladesh, Chile, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kiribati, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand

145. Total cost of the project, to be implemented over a three-year period, is US\$291,000. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$141,000 (US\$74,000 for the first year, and US\$67,000 for the second).

146. The Committee considered that this proposal complies with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF and is thus eligible for financing. In this regard, the Committee recommended that US\$100,000 be allocated to this project. Furthermore, the Committee recommended that disbursement of the PGTF contribution should be made in two tranches, disbursement of the second tranche being subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project proposal No. 31 - *Subregional Intellectual Property System*

147. The proposal was submitted by the General Secretariat of the Andean Community, headquartered in Lima, Peru.

148. According to the text of the proposal, the objective of this project is to establish a sub-regional patent and trademark system. As a first step, a linkage between Colombia, Peru, Venezuela and the General Secretariat will be established so as to enable the latter to provide users with information about patent and trademark records and to avoid coexistence problems

due to similar marks being registered in different member countries, to allow for due protection of rights in the common market and to facilitate technology transfer.

149. Total cost of the project, to be carried out over a two-year period, is estimated at US\$750,000. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$260,000, while contributions from participating countries and the General Secretariat are respectively US\$200,000 and US\$290,000.

150. The Committee considered that the proposal in general complies with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF. However, the text of the proposal does not contain evidence of the approval of the Andean Community governing body, as required by guideline A(k).

151. The Committee recommended that this proposal avail from the financing of PGTF and that US\$50,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal written approval from the governing body of the Andean Community is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

152. The Committee recommended furthermore that disbursement of the PGTF contribution be made in two tranches. Disbursement of the second tranche would be subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project proposal No. 32 - *Regional Remote Sensing Activities*

153. The project was submitted by the secretariat of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), headquartered in Gaborone, Botswana.

154. According to the text of the proposal, the overall objective of the project is to develop an early warning system for food security in the SADC region enhanced through SADC-coordinated support of a regional remote sensing unit in the compilation, analysis, and interpretation of remote sensing and agro-metereological data, product generation and dissemination, and training. In this regard, the project aims at enhancing capacity in the SADC region, operate a proactive information system, as well as the proactive handling of food and agriculture issues through collection and analysis of data, and dissemination of information products.

155. Total cost of the project, to be implemented in seven months, is estimated at US\$283,640. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$228,640 while the SADC contribution is US\$55,000.

156. The Committee considered that according to guideline A(m) for utilization of PGTF, which states that all project proposals submitted to PGTF should include inputs from other sources of an amount at least equal to the resources requested from PGTF, the maximum Fund support to this project would be US\$55,000.

157. The Committee considered that the proposal in general complies with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF. However, the text of the proposal does not contain evidence of the approval of the SADC governing body, as required by guideline A(k).

158. The Committee recommended that this proposal avail from the financing of PGTF and that US\$50,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal written approval from the governing body of the SADC is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

Project proposal No. 33 - *Regional Pest Control Strategy*

159. This proposal was also submitted by the secretariat of SADC.

160. Since guideline A(d) for utilization of PGTF states that proposing organizations and institutions may submit no more than one (1) project proposal per annum for funding from PGTF, and given that this proposal contains no inputs from sources other than PGTF, the Committee decided not to consider this proposal.

Project proposal No. 34 - *A Trading/Industrial Cooperation Scheme to Promote Intra-Industry Trade in ASEAN*

161. The proposal was submitted by the secretariat of ASEAN, headquartered in Jakarta, Indonesia.

162. According to the text of the proposal, the immediate objective of the project is to design an ASEAN trading or industrial scheme that would specifically encourage growth of intra-industry trade in ASEAN as a tool to increase the share of intra-ASEAN trade beyond the present level.

163. Total cost of the project, to be implemented in seven months, is US\$436,000. The contribution sought from PGTF is US\$109,000, the balance being provided by ASEAN.

164. The Committee considered that this project complies with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF and is therefore eligible for funding from PGTF. The Committee recommended that US\$100,000 be allocated to this project. The Committee recommended furthermore that disbursement of the PGTF contribution be made in two tranches. Disbursement of the second tranche would be subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project proposal No. 35 - *Establishment of a Statistical Service Unit and Access of World Bank Live Data Base*

165. The proposal was submitted by the secretariat of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), headquartered in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

166. According to the text of the proposal, the overall objective of the project is to establish a statistical service unit within the OAU with a view to consolidating the efforts of the various departments involved in statistical gathering and report preparation.

167. Total cost of the project, to be implemented over a three-year period, is US\$1,286,690. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$780,000 (US\$260,000 per year).

168. The Committee considered that the size of the project exceeded significantly the capacity of PGTF. However, given that otherwise the project complies with the guidelines for utilization of the Fund and in the light of the importance and the impact of the subject, the Committee recommended that a component of this project be financed.

169. In this context, the Committee recommended that this project avails from the financing of PGTF and that US\$80,000 be allocated to this end. The Committee recommended furthermore that disbursement of the PGTF contribution be made in two tranches. Disbursement of the second tranche would be subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project proposal No. 36 - *Macro-economic and sectoral cooperation programme*

170. The proposal was submitted by the secretariat of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), headquartered in Lagos, Nigeria.

171. According to the text of the proposal, the objective of the project is to coordinate the economic policies of ECOWAS member states to facilitate intra-regional trade and ensure the convertibility of West African currencies. The project would also encourage member states to take into account the regional dimension of development in order to strengthen their structural adjustment programs and advance regional integration by creating a strong interrelation between the two processes.

172. Total cost of the project, to be implemented in one year, is estimated at US\$823,000. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$260,000.

173. The Committee considered that this project complies with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF and is thus eligible for financing.

174. The Committee therefore recommended that US\$100,000 be allocated to this project. Furthermore, the Committee recommended that disbursement of the PGTF contribution be made in two tranches. Disbursement of the second tranche would be subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project proposal No. 37 - *Enhancing Technological Capacity: Prospects of Cooperation between the SAARC and ASEAN Regions*

175. The proposal was submitted by the Research and Information System for the Non-aligned and other Developing Countries (RIS), headquartered in New Delhi, and endorsed by the Ministry of External Affairs of India.

176. According to the text of the proposal, the objectives of the project are: (a) to undertake matching exercise between technological capacities and needs of the countries belonging to the two Asian sub-regions under consideration; (b) to suggest ways of developing adequate technology transfer mechanisms under discussion; and (c) to identify areas in which collaborative research and development linkages among the countries could be forged.

177. Total estimated cost of the project, to be implemented over a two-year period, is US\$141,000. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$70,500.

178. In the light of the information provided, the Committee noted that, in spite of the fact that countries from two sub-regional groups, namely SAARC and ASEAN are in principle the potential beneficiaries of the project, there is no identification of these countries, nor indications that countries belonging to these groupings are interested in participating in the project. Therefore, the Committee concluded that it was not possible to ascertain the cooperative element of the project, as required by guideline A(f) for utilization of PGTF.

179. The Committee recommended that this project should not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project proposal No. 38 - Strengthening of the competitive characteristics of micro, small and medium-size enterprises as an employment-generating factor, using the technical and economic cooperation mechanism between Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa

180. The proposal was submitted by the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System (SELA), headquartered in Caracas, Venezuela.

181. According to the text of the proposal, the objectives of the project are (a) to identify opportunities to carry out TCDC and ECDC activities, to foster the development of policies and programs to strengthen competitive capacities in the productive sector, particularly in the small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as the creation and consolidation of microenterprises as a means of alleviating unemployment in Africa and Latin America, particularly in high priority sectors such as agro-industry; and (b) to encourage the exchange of experiences on strategies and forms of business cooperation.

182. Potential beneficiaries of the project are Latin American and Caribbean countries, namely Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela, and African countries, namely Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.

183. Total cost of the project, to be carried out over a three-year period, is estimated at

US\$663,000. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$260,000, while contributions from SELA and other sources (OAU, OPEC Fund and UNDP) are respectively US\$120,000 and US\$283,000.

184. The Committee considered that this proposal complies in general with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF and is therefore eligible for funding from PGTF. However, even though the text of the proposal indicates that the project was originated on the basis of mandates of two ministerial meetings, there is no evidence of the approval of SELA's governing body, as required by guideline A(k) for utilization of PGTF.

185. The Committee therefore recommended that this project avails from the financing of PGTF and that US\$100,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal written approval from the governing body of SELA is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

186. Furthermore, the Committee recommended that disbursement of the PGTF contribution be made in three tranches. Disbursement of the second and third tranches would be subject to the timely presentation of the relevant progress and financial reports.

Project proposal No. 39 - Design of a regional project to strengthen strategies to reduce drug demand in Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela

187. The proposal was submitted by the National Drug Directorate from Colombia and endorsed by the Government of Colombia.

188. According to the text of the proposal, the overall objective of the project is to prepare a regional research project aimed at the reduction of drug demand in Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela.

189. Total cost of the project, to be carried out in four months, is estimated at US\$41,076. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$20,076.

190. The Committee considered that this proposal complies in general with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF. However, even though the text of the proposal indicates that the three countries are jointly submitting the proposal, there is no written evidence of the endorsement of Ecuador and Venezuela as potential beneficiaries.

191. The Committee recommended that this proposal avail from the financing of PGTF and that US\$15,000 be allocated to this end, provided that a formal written endorsement of the potential beneficiaries is received by the Office of the Chairman not later than 31 August 1998.

Project proposal No. 40 - Plant and Animal Disease Control Project in the San Martin Region in Peru

192. The proposal was submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture of Peru.

193. According to the text of the proposal, the objective of the project is to develop a plant and animal disease control program in the San Martin region in Peru. In particular the project would benefit some 5,000 farmers and 1,500 cattle breeders.

194. The total cost of the project, to be implemented in one year, is US\$167,248. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$89,916.

195. The Committee considered that this proposal corresponded to a national project that is not eligible for funding and therefore recommended that the project should not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project proposal No. 41 - Study of the "El Niño" Phenomenon in South Eastern Pacific Countries

196. The proposal was submitted by the National Council for Science and Technology from Peru.

197. According to the text of the proposal, the general objective of the project is to determine ocean-atmosphere patterns which would permit to develop regional forecast models.

198. The Committee considered that even though the proposal made reference to the participation of institutions from Ecuador and Chile, it was not possible to ascertain the cooperative element of the project, as required by guideline A(f), which states that for nationally executed projects to be eligible, the cooperative component of the project has to be established through the identification and declared interest of and explicit participation by other developing countries as potential beneficiaries of the project, as appropriate. In particular, the declared beneficiaries of the project are all Peruvian institutions.

199. The Committee concluded that this proposal does not comply with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF and should therefore not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project proposal No. 42 - A Proposal for Establishing a Regional Small and Medium Size Industries Center in Jordan

200. The proposal was submitted by the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Jordan.

201. According to the text of the proposal, the overall objective of the project is to establish a regional small and medium industry center that would provide support to improve the survival rate of enterprises, improve growth and increase the rate of startup of new enterprises.

202. The Committee considered that the proposal as formulated and as presented corresponds to a national project that is not eligible for financing. In particular, the proposal contains no

cooperative component since there is no identification of other countries as potential beneficiaries nor any indication of interest or participation.

203. The Committee therefore recommended that this proposal should not avail from the financing of PGTF.

Project proposal No. 43 - *Development of a Kit for the Diagnosis of the Chagas Disease*

204. The proposal was jointly submitted by the University of Los Andes from Venezuela, the Ministry of Health of Brazil, and the University of Yucatan from Mexico, through the Government of Venezuela.

205. According to the text of the proposal, the objective of the project is to develop a kit for the diagnosis of the Chagas disease, which would be highly specific and usable with no sophisticated equipment so as to provide direct assistance to the population.

206. The cost of the project, to be carried out over a 13-month period, is estimated at US\$740,000. The contribution requested from PGTF is US\$170,000.

207. The Committee considered that this proposal complies with the guidelines for utilization of PGTF and is thus eligible for financing. In particular, the Committee recommended that the PGTF contribution be used to support the feasibility study included in the project and recommended that US\$35,000 be allocated to this end.

Summary of project proposals recommended for adoption

208. In summary, the Committee recommended that the following twenty one (21) project proposals avail from the financing of PGTF and resources allocated to this end amount to US\$1,235,000. A breakdown of this total is as follows:

<i>Project</i>	<i>Allocation (US\$)</i>
(1) <i>Solar power in rural areas</i>	25,000
(2) <i>Programme for the academic development and strengthening of marine sciences</i>	15,000
(3) <i>Network of advisory centres for small and medium-sized enterprises in Mercosur</i>	25,000
(4) <i>Monitoring of natural resources of Mekong catchment in eastern Myanmar: an approach towards sustainable development of the Mekong River Basin</i>	30,000
(5) <i>Emergency Control Measures of the Moroccan Locust and other Insect Pests</i>	50,000
(6) <i>Training of Rice Breeding Experts for the Effective Use of Rice Genetic Resources in the Developing Countries</i>	100,000
(7) <i>Programme for Women and Youth in the Sahel region</i>	30,000
(8) <i>Building Technical Competence in the Area of Conformity Assessment in the Latin American Region</i>	50,000
(9) <i>The Training, Consultation, Awareness and Capacity Building for Small Hydro Power in Developing Countries</i>	150,000
(10) <i>International Youth Leadership Training for Promotion of South-South Cooperation</i>	20,000
(11) <i>Master Plan for the Sustainable Development of Transportation and related Infrastructure in South America</i>	50,000
(12) <i>The Harmonisation of Agricultural Policies of the COMESA Member States with a View to having a Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)</i>	60,000
(13) <i>Technology Linkage Through Sharing and Cooperation among Developing Countries</i>	100,000
(14) <i>Subregional Intellectual Property System</i>	50,000
(15) <i>Regional Remote Sensing Activities</i>	50,000
(16) <i>A Trading/Industrial Cooperation Scheme to Promote Intra-Industry Trade in ASEAN</i>	100,000
(17) <i>Establishment of a Statistical Service Unit and Access of World Bank Live Data Base</i>	80,000
(18) <i>Macro-economic and sectoral cooperation programme</i>	100,000
(19) <i>Strengthening of the competitive characteristics of micro, small and medium-size enterprises as an employment-generating factor, using the technical and economic cooperation mechanism between Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa</i>	100,000
(20) <i>Design of a regional project to strengthen strategies to reduce drug demand in Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela</i>	15,000
(21) <i>Development of a Kit for the Diagnosis of the Chagas Disease</i>	35,000
<i>Total</i>	1,235,000

209. The Chairman of the Committee was entrusted with the task of monitoring the fulfilment

of the conditions attached to the projects recommended for approval, so as to report accordingly to the Twenty-second Annual Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 scheduled to be held in New York on 25 September 1998.

210. According to the information provided by UNDP, total available resources for funding new project proposals in 1998 amount to approximately US\$1,294,000. This amount includes the interest expected to be earned from 1 May to 31 December 1998. A detailed breakdown of the financial status of PGTF is provided in Annex II.

IV. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROVED PROJECTS

211. The Committee examined the status of implementation of the projects adopted by IFCC-VI held in Havana in September 1987, by the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 held in New York in September 1988, by IFCC-VII held in Kuala Lumpur in July-August 1989, by the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Sixteenth Annual Meetings of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 held respectively in New York in September 1989, October 1990, September 1991 and October 1992, by IFCC-VII held in Panama City in August-September 1993 and by the Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth and Twenty-First Annual Meetings of Ministers for Foreign Affairs held in New York respectively in September 1994, September 1995, September 1996 and September 1997.

212. The following thirteen (13) progress, terminal and financial reports on projects under implementation were made available to the Committee of Experts:

- (1) *Final budget revision for project INT/94/K02 (GSTP)*
- (2) *Final statement of expenditure submitted by CPC Consultora Internacional for project INT/95/K02*
- (3) *Statement of expenditure submitted by SELA for project INT/89/K12*
- (4) *Statements of expenditure submitted by the Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77 for projects INT/89/K13, INT/93/K02 and INT/93/K03*
- (5) *Statement of expenditure submitted by the Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77 for project INT/95/K03*
- (6) *Terminal report and statement of expenditure submitted by the Government of Brazil for project INT/93/K05*
- (7) *Copy of cash receipt voucher in payment of refund of interest on PGTF funds for project INT/94/K06 submitted by the Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-aligned and other Developing Countries*
- (8) *Terminal report and statement of expenditure submitted by Sahel DEFIS for project INT/94/K05*
- (9) *Progress report and statement of expenditure submitted by the National Centre for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) for project INT/96/K02*
- (10) *Progress report and statement of expenditure submitted by the Committee for Standardization of DPR Korea for project INT/96/K03*

- (11) *Progress report submitted by the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation of Brazil for project INT/96/K04*
- (12) *Progress report submitted by the Foundation for Social Peace of Niger for project INT/96/K06*
- (13) *Progress report and statement of expenditure submitted by the African Agency for Biotechnology for projects INT/92/K06 and INT/93/K01*

213. According to the status of their implementation, approved projects can be grouped into several categories:

- (a) Projects completed;
- (b) Projects under implementation;
- (c) Projects under preparation still to be implemented;
- (d) Projects not implemented and allocated funds reverted to PGTF;
- (e) Projects under query.

A. Projects completed

214. Three projects were completed since the previous meeting of the Committee of Experts, bringing the total of completed projects to thirty-two (32), as follows:

(1) *Group of 77 Information Bulletin*

215. Submitter: Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77
Subcontractor: Inter Press Service (IPS)
PGTF input: US\$109,520
Duration: Four years
Approval: IFCC-VI (Havana, 7-12 September 1987) and IFCC-VII (Kuala Lumpur, 31 July-5 August 1989) for one-year extension
Number: INT/88/K01/C/95/99
Completion: 31 December 1990.

(2) *Feasibility study on development of developing countries' consultancy and engineering capacities*

216. Submitter: International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries (ICPE)/International Association of State Trading Organizations of Developing Countries (ASTRO)
Subcontractor: Not required
PGTF input: US\$70,000
Approval: IFCC-VI (Havana, 7-12 September 1987)
Number: INT/88/K03/A/95/99

Completion: Feasibility report circulated to Member States on 2 November 1989.

(3) ***Action Committee of G-77 for Cooperation in Consultancy, Construction and Engineering among Developing Countries***

217. Submitter: Action Committee for Cooperation in Consultancy, Construction and Engineering (Havana, Cuba)
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$38,500
Duration: Six months
Approval: IFCC-VI (Havana, 7-12 September 1987)
Number: INT/88/K04/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report circulated to Member States on 16 June 1993.

(4) ***Feasibility study on information system on technologies and projects (ISTP)***

218. Submitter: Centre for International Cooperation and Development (CICD) of Yugoslavia
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$45,450
Duration: Six months
Approval: 12th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 28-30 September 1988)
Number: INT/89/K01/A/95/99
Completion: Feasibility report circulated to Member States on 24 October 1990.

(5) ***South-North Development Monitor (SUNS)***

219. Submitter: South Commission
Subcontractor: Third World Network (TWN)
PGTF input: \$120,000
Duration: One year
Approval: 13th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 28 September 1989)
Number: INT/89/K13/A/95/99
Completion: 31 January 1992.

(6) ***Assistance to the Fifth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund***

220. Submitter: Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77
Subcontractor: Not required
PGTF input: US\$25,000
Duration: One week
Approval: IFCC-VII (Kuala Lumpur, 31 July-5 August 1989)
Number: INT/89/K14/A/95/99
Completion: 19 August 1993

(7) ***Regional symposium on the economic and social impact of money derived from illicit drug trafficking in the development of Latin America and the Caribbean***

221. Submitter: Center for the Study of International Relations and Development (CERID) of Bolivia.
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: \$78,000
Duration: Five and a half months
Approval: 14th Annual Ministerial Meeting (3 October 1990)
Number: INT/90/K04/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report submitted on 13 August 1991.

(8) ***Technical, secretariat and other support to the Global System on Trade Preferences among developing countries (GSTP), and technical assistance to countries participating in the GSTP***

222. Submitter: Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77
Subcontractor: UNCTAD
PGTF input: US\$350,000
Duration: Sixteenth months
Approval: 13th Annual Ministerial Meetings (New York, 28 September 1989)
Number: INT/90/K07/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report distributed to Member States on 16 June 1993

(9) ***Technical Cooperation among Member States of SELA in the Field of Artificial insemination and embryo transplant***

223. Submitter: Latin American Economic System (SELA) in Venezuela
Subcontractor: Not required
PGTF input: US\$83,700
Duration: Two years and four months
Approval: 12th Annual Ministerial Meeting (28-30 September 1988)
Number: INT/89/K03/A/95/99
Completion: Final report submitted on 12 February 1993.

(10) ***Export promotion and cooperation in favor of less developed countries within the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI)***

224. Submitter: Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) in Uruguay
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$120,000
Duration: Twelve months
Approval: IFCC-VII (Kuala Lumpur, 31 July-5 August 1989)
Number: INT/89/K05/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report submitted on 7 April 1993.

(11) ***Establishment of a Maghreb Unit in the National Center for Information and Economic Documentation (CNIDE) of Algeria***

225. Submitter: Government of Algeria
Subcontractor: CNIDE
PGTF input: US\$65,450
Duration: One year
Approval: IFCC-VII (Kuala Lumpur, 31 July-5 August 1989)
Number: INT/89/K06/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report submitted on 17 August 1993.

(12) ***Intensifying the utilization of operations research techniques in the management of agriculture development projects in ASEAN countries***

226. Submitter: Department of Agriculture of Malaysia
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$110,000
Duration: Two years
Approval: 14th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 3 October 1990)
Number: INT/90/K05/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report submitted on 17 August 1993

(13) ***Provision of consultancy services by CARICAD***

227. Submitter: Caribbean Center for Development Administration (CARICAD) of Barbados
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: \$45,000
Duration: Two years
Approval: 13th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 28 September 1989)
Number: INT/89/K10/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report forwarded on 25 March 1994.

(14) ***Recovery, preservation and dissemination of printed historical documentation of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries in the Americas, existing in signatory countries of the Andres Bello Convention***

228. Submitter: Autonomous Institute of the National Library of Venezuela
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$94,500
Duration: Three years
Approval: 14th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 3 October 1990)
Number: INT/90/K02/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report submitted on 15 December 1993

(15) ***Economic Integration in the Southern Cone Common Market***

229. Submitter: Government of Argentina
Subcontractor: Centro de Investigaciones para la Tranformación (CENIT)
PGTF input: US\$88,000
Duration: One year
Approval: 16th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1 October 1992)
Number: INT/92/K01/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report submitted on 6 April 1994

(16) ***Cooperation among developing countries' consultancy and engineering design organizations for better access and position in international consultancy and engineering market***

230. Submitter: International Center for Public Enterprises of Developing Countries (ICPE)/International Association of State Trading Organizations of Developing Countries (ASTRO), in former Yugoslavia (Slovenia)
Subcontractor: Not required
PGTF input: \$90,000
Duration: Eighteen months
Approval: IFCC-VII (Kuala Lumpur, 31 July-5 August 1989)
Number: INT/89/K04/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report submitted on 4 January 1996

(17) ***Integrated management of the associated resources to the mangrove areas in the Pacific coast of Central America***

231. Submitter: National University of Costa Rica
Subcontractor: Foundation of Science, Art and Culture of the National University of Costa Rica (FUNA)
PGTF input: US\$84,800
Duration: Two years

Approval: 14th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 3 October 1990)

Number: INT/90/K01/A/95/99

Completion: Final Report submitted on 9 December 1994

(18) *In-depth review of the actions taken by the international community in favor of the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries and a basis for a new strategy to overcome these needs and problems in the future*

232. Submitter: Center for the Study of International Relations and Development (CERID) of Bolivia

Subcontractor: Same as above

PGTF input: US\$95,000

Duration: Nine months

Approval: 14th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 3 October 1990)

Number: INT/90/K03/A/95/99

Completion: Final Report submitted on 4 December 1995

(19) *Organic rice farming system*

233. Submitter: Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI)

Subcontractor: Same as above

PGTF input: US\$85,000

Duration: Two years

Approval: 14th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 3 October 1990)

Number: INT/90/K06/A/95/99

Completion: Final Report submitted on 16 September 1997

(20) *Establishment of the Regional Business and Trade Information Network for Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CCI) of Developing Countries Members of the Group of 77*

234. Submitter: Steering Committee of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CCI) of Developing Countries Members of the Group of 77

Subcontractors: Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Mines of Cameroon; The Chamber of Commerce of Bogota; and the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry

PGTF input: US\$150,000

Duration: Two years

Approval: 15th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1 October 1991)

Number: INT/91/K01/95/99

Completion: Final Reports submitted respectively by the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry on 29 May 1994, by the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Mines of Cameroon on 28 March 1994, and by the Bogota Chamber of Commerce on 15 June 1994

(21) ***Raul Prebisch: Completed Works, 1919-1948, Comparative Experiences of Monetary Policies of Developing Countries, Vols. III and IV***

235. Submitter: Raul Prebisch Foundation
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$60,700
Duration: 3 months
Approval: 16th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1 October 1992)
Number: INT/92/K02/A/95/99
Completion: Complete sets consisting of four volumes distributed in 1994 to the Permanent Missions of the Group of 77 in New York.

(22) ***Technical, Secretariat and Other Support to the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP), and Technical Assistance to Countries Participating in the GSTP***

236. Submitter: Group of 77 in Geneva
Subcontractor: UNCTAD
PGTF input: US\$250,000
Duration: One year
Approval: 16th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1 October 1992)
Number: INT/92/K03/A/90/99
Completion: Final Report submitted on 6 May 1994

(23) ***The development and use of a computer simulation model for supply, demand and prices of agricultural commodities in ASEAN countries***

237. Submitter: Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Indonesia
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$81,600
Duration: One year
Approval: 16th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1 October 1992)
Number: INT/92/K04/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report submitted on 7 April 1994

(24) ***Information Support to the Group of 77 Chapters - South-North Development Monitor (SUNS)***

238. Submitter: Third World Network, Penang, Malaysia
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$59,881
Duration: One year
Approval: IFCC-VIII (Panama City, 30 August-3 September 1993)
Number: INT/93/K03
Completion: Final Report submitted on 10 December 1995

(25) ***ECDC/TCDC Information Support to Group of 77 Chapters (Journal of the Group of 77)***

239. Submitter: Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77
Subcontractor: Inter Press Service (IPS)
PGTF input: US\$51,120
Duration: Two years
Approval: 16th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1 October 1992) and IFCC-VIII (Panama City, 30 August-3 September 1993)
Number: INT/93/K02
Completion: Final Report submitted on 20 December 1995

(26) ***Technical Assistance to the Members of the Group of 77 participating in the Second Round of Negotiations within the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP) and Seeking Membership in the GSTP, as well as Related Technical, Secretariat and Other Support to the GSTP***

240. Submitter: Chairperson of the Group of 77 in Geneva
Subcontractor: UNCTAD
PGTF input: US\$72,363
Duration: 1 year
Approval: Eighteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 30 September 1994)
Number: INT/94/K02/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report submitted on 18 June 1997. An unspent balance of US\$3,229 reverted to the PGTF.

(27) ***Productive internationalization in Mercosur: Foreign direct investment and regional transnational corporations***

241. Submitter: CPC Consultora Internacional Ltd. through the Government of Uruguay.
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$140,000

Number: INT/95/K02/A/95/99

Duration: Twelve (12) months

Approval: Nineteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 30 September 1995)

Completion: Final Report submitted on 23 December 1997.

(28) ***Regional programme for cooperation and coordination on plant germ plasm***

242. Submitter: Latin American Economic System (SELA) in Venezuela

Subcontractor: Not required

PGTF input: US\$58,000

Duration: Two years

Approval: 13th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 28 September 1989)

Number: INT/89/K12/A/95/99

Completion: Final Report submitted on 29 May 1998.

(29) ***Feasibility study for establishing a raw materials research and development center information system***

243. Submitter: Government of Nigeria

Subcontractor: Raw Materials Research and Development Council of Nigeria

PGTF input: US\$100,000

Duration: 12 months

Approval: 13th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 28 September 1989)

Number: INT/89/K09/95/99

Completion: Feasibility Report submitted on 18 June 1996

(30) ***Employment and Income Generation in West and Central Africa***

244. Submitter: Sahel Defis through the Government of Benin.

Subcontractor: Same as above

PGTF input: US\$30,000.

Duration: 2 years.

Approval: Eighteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 30 September 1994).

Number: INT/94/K05/A/95/99

Completion: Final Report submitted on 16 February 1998.

(31) ***Guidelines and tools for a common industrial policy for Mercosur***

245. Submitter: Government of Brazil
Subcontractor: Fundacao Centro de Estudos do Comercio Exterior (FUNCEX) of Brazil
PGTF input: US\$120,000
Duration: 8 months
Number: INT/93/K05/A/95/99
Approval: IFCC-VIII (Panama City, 30 August-3 September 1993)
Completion: Final Report submitted on 15 September 1997

(32) ***Establishment of TIN Management Center to Coordinate the Global Establishment of the Network with a Project Coordination Committee***

246. Submitter: The Steering Committee Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the Group of 77 (CCIs)
Subcontractor: Private Sector Development Programme, UNDP
PGTF input: US\$60,000
Duration: 1 year
Approval: Eighteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 30 September 1994)
Number: INT/94/K03/A/95/99
Completion: Final Report submitted on 6 August 1997.

B. Projects under implementation

247. Fifteen (15) approved projects were being implemented as of the date of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts. Fifteen (15) projects were under implementation during the period between the twelfth and thirteenth meetings of the Committee, one started being implemented during this period, and one project was placed under query, as follows:

(1) ***Support to the Committee of Experts of the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund***

248. Submitter: Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77
Subcontractor: Not required
PGTF input: US\$214,800
Duration: Five years
Approval: 14th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 3 October 1990)
Number: INT/90/K08/A/95/99
Date of signature of relevant documents: Project document was signed by G-77 and UNDP respectively on 18 March and 4 April 1991.
Status of submission of financial report: G-77 has submitted its financial statements.

249. Actual expenses for four members who attended the Eighth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF in June 1993 were US\$15,746.

250. On 8 March 1994, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested UNDP to disburse, to the Office of the Chairman, the amount of US\$20,480 to finance the participation of six experts attending the Special Meeting of PGTF on 4-8 April 1994. Actual expenses for six members who attended the Ninth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF in April 1994 were US\$20,032.

251. From 1995 to 1997 the field offices of UNDP disbursed directly the funds needed to finance the participation of experts for the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth meeting of the Committee. According to the information provided by UNDP, total funds disbursements for this period reported from the relevant UNDP field offices amount to US\$49,921.

252. The Eleventh Meeting of the Committee of Experts took note that project INT/90/K08 aimed at providing support to the Committee of Experts had been extended for the year 1996. It further recommended that since around half of the allocated resources remained unspent, the project be extended for another five years. This recommendation was endorsed by the Twentieth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 held in New York on 27 September 1996.

253. The report of the Twelfth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF held on 6-8 August 1997 stated in paragraph 154 of its report that "in the light of the results of the past two years in terms of expeditiousness and cost, the Committee strongly recommended that the Office of the Chairman should resume implementation of this project as in previous years, in lieu of the country offices of UNDP."

254. Pursuant to this recommendation, the Office of the Chairman made arrangements in October 1997 to open a separate bank account for holding funds advanced from PGTF to cover project expenditures so as to enhance transparency, simplicity of implementation, and facility of properly reporting on progress and utilization of project funds.

255. On 21 November 1997 and 21 April 1998, the Office of the Chairman requested UNDP to advance respectively the sums of \$4,090 and \$20,480 in order to finance the participation of the experts attending the Thirteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF.

256. The Office of the Chairman is planning to re-issue and translate the guidelines for utilization of PGTF in all the official languages of the Group of 77 on the occasion of the forthcoming ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 in September 1998. The cost of printing and translating the brochure will be charged to this project which contains a budget provision for such expenditure.

(2) *African Agency for Biotechnology (Phase I)*

257. Submitter: Government of Algeria
Subcontractor: Secretariat of State for Scientific Research of Algeria (SERSA)
PGTF input: US\$150,000
Duration: One year
Approval: 16th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1 October 1992)
Number: INT/92/K06/A/95/99
Date of signature of relevant documents: Project document was signed by G-77 and UNDP respectively on 16 and 20 April 1993. Sub-contract agreement between the Chairman of the Group of 77 and the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of Algeria to the United Nations (on behalf of the Secretariat of State for Scientific Research of Algeria) is dated 3 May 1993.
Status of submission of financial report: No expenditure reports have been submitted.
258. On the basis of a request of 7 May 1993, UNDP disbursed US\$150,000 to the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations for SERSA.
259. On 30 November 1994, the Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations to submit the outstanding reports for the project. SERSA submitted a progress report on the project in May 1995, regarding phases I and II of the project.
260. The Committee of Experts of PGTF recommended that the Chairman of the Group of 77 request the executing organization to submit the outstanding financial reports before 31 December 1995.
261. The Government of Algeria informed on 24 November 1995 that it will submit in 1996 the outstanding progress and financial reports on this project. On 22 May 1996, the Government of Algeria informed that these reports will be forwarded during the second half of 1996.
262. On 23 May 1997, the Chairman of the Group of 77 made a new request through the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations for the submission of the outstanding reports.
263. On 21 July 1997, the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations transmitted a progress report on the implementation of this project with a financial statement of expenditure.
264. The Twelfth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF held on 6-8 August 1997 noted with concern that four years after the disbursement of funds for Phase I of the project, the African Agency for Biotechnology had not become operational. In view of the foregoing, the Committee requested in paragraph 163 of its report that the sub-contractor submit a work plan to make the African Agency for Biotechnology operational. The Committee further decided to examine the matter at its session in 1998 and make appropriate recommendations.

265. On 13 August 1997, the Office of the Chairman requested the sub-contractor through the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations to submit a work plan to make the agency operational.

266. On 17 December 1997 and 7 January 1998, the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations forwarded respectively copies of the Declaration adopted by the Council of Governors of the African Agency for Biotechnology held on 10-12 October 1997 and the work plan of the Agency for the period 1998-1999, and of a report on the utilization of funds provided by PGTF to the agency.

267. The Committee noted with concern that in spite of all efforts made, arrangements for making operational the African Agency for Biotechnology are still at an early stage of implementation. While the appointment of the Director General and other officers and the preparation of a work plan are an encouraging indication of some activity, the extremely long delay in making this agency operational resulted in an opportunity cost for the PGTF contribution to this project.

268. The Committee was informed by the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations that prior to its transfer to an Algerian bank in April 1997, the PGTF contribution was deposited in a non-interest bearing account. According to UNDP regulations (No. 30503, page 25), interest earned on project bank accounts shall be refunded annually. In this connection, the Committee recommended that the Office of the Chairman request the Agency to report on whether there have been any interest earnings on funds deposited in Algeria since April 1997, with a view to take appropriate action.

(3) *African Agency for Biotechnology (Phase II)*

269. Submitter: Government of Algeria

Subcontractor: Ministry of Universities and Scientific Research of Algeria (MDURSA)

PGTF input: US\$150,000

Duration: One year

Approval: IFCC-VIII (Panama City, 30 August-3 September 1993)

Number: INT/93/K01/A/95/99

Date of signature of relevant documents: Project document was signed by G-77 and UNDP respectively on 12 and 14 January 1994. Sub-contract agreement between the Chairman of the Group of 77 and the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations (on behalf of the Ministry of Universities and Scientific Research of the Government of Algeria) is dated 15 December 1993.

Status of submission of financial report: No expenditure reports have been submitted.

270. On the basis of a request made on 14 February 1994, the UNDP disbursed US\$150,000 on 25 January 1995 to the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations for MDURSA.

271. The Government of Algeria informed on 24 November 1995 that it intended to submit in 1996 the outstanding progress and financial reports on this project. On 22 May 1996, the Government of Algeria informed that these reports will be forwarded during the second half of 1996.

272. On 23 May 1997, the Chairman of the Group of 77 made a new request through the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations for the expeditious submission of the outstanding reports.

273. By letter dated 21 July 1997, the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations transmitted a progress report on the implementation of this project with a financial statement of expenditure.

274. The Twelfth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF held on 6-8 August 1997 noted with concern that two and a half years after the disbursement of funds for Phase II of the project, the African Agency for Biotechnology had not become operational. In view of the foregoing, the Committee requested in paragraph 163 of its report that the sub-contractor submit a work plan to make the African Agency for Biotechnology operational. The Committee further decided to examine the matter at its session in 1998 and make appropriate recommendations.

275. On 17 December 1997 and 7 January 1998, the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations forwarded respectively copies of the Declaration adopted by the Council of Governors of the African Agency for Biotechnology held on 10-12 October 1997 and the work plan of the Agency for the period 1998-1999, and of a report on the utilization of funds provided by PGTF to the agency.

276. The Committee noted with concern that in spite of all efforts made, arrangements for making operational the African Agency for Biotechnology are still at an early stage of implementation. While the appointment of the Director General and other officers and the preparation of a work plan are an encouraging indication of some activity, the extremely long delay in making this agency operational resulted in an opportunity cost for the PGTF contribution to this project.

277. The Committee was informed by the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations that prior to its transfer to an Algerian bank in April 1997, the PGTF contribution was deposited in a non-interest bearing account. According to UNDP regulations (No. 30503, page 25), interest earned on project bank accounts shall be refunded annually. In this connection, the Committee recommended that the Office of the Chairman requests the Agency to report on whether there have been any interest earnings on funds deposited in Algeria since April 1997, with a view to take appropriate action.

(4) *Training on the Use of a Computer Simulation Model for Food Security Analysis in Developing Countries of the NAM*

278. Submitter: Government of Indonesia
Subcontractor: Ministry of Agriculture of Indonesia
PGTF input: US \$70,000
Duration: One year
Approval: Eighteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 30 September 1994)
Number: INT/94/K04/A/95/99
Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document was signed by the G-77 and UNDP on 31 March 1995 and 14 April 1995 respectively. A subcontract agreement between the Office of the Chairman and the Ministry of Agriculture of Indonesia was signed on 21 April 1995.
Status of submission of financial report: The financial statement for the project was submitted by the sub-contractor.
279. The UNDP field office in Jakarta made the disbursement to the sub-contractor.
280. On 23 May 1997, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested through the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations the submission of a progress report and the statement of expenditure. These reports were submitted on 24 May 1997.
281. The Committee recommended that the Office of the Chairman request the sub-contractor to submit the terminal report and financial statement not later than 31 December 1998.

(5) ***Low Cost Housing Technology Programme***

282. Submitter: Government of India
Subcontractor: Centre for Science & Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries
PGTF input: US\$30,000
Duration: 1 year
Approval: Eighteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 30 September 1994)
Number: INT/94/K06/A/95/99
Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document was signed on behalf of the Group of 77 and UNDP on 31 July 1995. A subcontract agreement was signed with the subcontractor on 26 September 1995.
Status of submission of financial report: The sub-contractor informed that no expenditures had been incurred as of June 1997.
283. The UNDP field office in New Delhi made the disbursement to the Centre for Science & Technology of the Non-aligned and other Developing Countries, sub-contractor of the project.
284. On 18 February 1997, the sub-contractor of the project submitted a progress report in accordance with the reporting requirements of PGTF-funded projects. On 23 May 1997, the

Chairman of the Group of 77 acknowledged receipt of the progress report and requested the submission of statement of expenditure for funded provided by PGTF. The sub-contractor replied to this request on 4 June 1997.

285. On 6 May 1998, the sub-contractor forwarded a copy of a cash receipt voucher in payment of refund of interest on PGTF fund for this project.

286. In the light of the information provided by the subcontractor, implementation of this project is facing difficulties and so far no resources have been expended. The Committee recommended that the Office of the Chairman request the subcontractor to provide not later than 31 December 1998 information on steps the subcontractor intends to take with a view to early launching of the project activities for consideration and appropriate recommendation by the Committee at its next meeting.

(6) *Program for the Development of Communications and Cooperation among Latin American and Caribbean Educators (AELAC)*

287. Submitter: Association of Educators of Latin America & the Caribbean (AELAC) through the Government of Cuba

Subcontractor: Same as above

PGTF input: US\$30,000

Duration: 1 year

Approval: Eighteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 30 September 1994)

Number: INT/94/K01/A/95/99

Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document was signed on behalf of the Government of Cuba and UNDP on 4 and 5 March 1996. The sub-contract agreement was signed on 6 May 1996 and the UNDP field office in Havana made the disbursement to the sub-contractor.

Status of submission of financial statement: The sub-contractor informed that 81 per cent of the funds disbursed have been spent as of July 1997.

288. On 19 May 1997, the Resident Representative of UNDP in Cuba advised the Director of the Special Unit for TCDC that the sub-contractor had submitted for consideration a request for revisions in the project budget for 1997. In a reply letter dated 2 June 1997, the Director of the Special Unit for TCDC referred this request to the attention of the Committee of Experts of PGTF.

289. On 23 May 1997, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the subcontractor to submit a progress report and statement of expenditure for the project, which were submitted on 24 July 1997 with a request for an increase in the PGTF allocation to the project.

290. Pursuant to the recommendation of the Committee of Experts at its Twelfth Meeting held on 6-8 August 1997, by letter dated 5 December 1997 the Chairman of the Group of 77 informed

the sub-contractor of the project that "requests for funding from PGTF should be formally submitted for consideration by the Committee of Experts within the established deadlines (before 31 March of each year), and not as part of a report on implementation of an ongoing project" and further that "a project proposal on a subject already benefitting from PGTF support should comply with guideline B(f) for utilization of PGTF resources, which states that 'no follow-up project would be considered until the previous one is implemented.'"

291. Since no further information on the status of implementation of the project has been received by the Office of the Chairman, the Committee recommended that the Office of the Chairman inform the subcontractor that this project could not be considered as completed until a terminal report and a financial statement are submitted.

(7) *Entrepreneurial Strengthening of Industrial and Artisan Cooperatives in Central America*

292. Submitter: International Cooperative Alliance, a non-governmental organisation, through its American Regional Bureau headquartered in San José, Costa Rica

Subcontractor: Same as above

PGTF input: US\$65,000

Number: INT/96/K01/A/95/99

Duration: One (1) year

Approval: Twentieth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 27 September 1996)

Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document, a copy of which was forwarded to the Office of the Chairman, was signed on behalf of the Government of Costa Rica on 1 January 1997 and by UNDP on 6 March 1997. A sub-contract agreement between the Government of Costa Rica and the Special Unit for TCDC was signed on 3 December 1996.

293. On 1 May 1997, the Special Unit for TCDC of UNDP requested the UNDP Resident Representative in Costa Rica to make an initial disbursement of US\$32,500.

294. The Committee recommended that the Office of the Chairman request the subcontractor to submit a progress report and the financial statement for the project.

(8) ***Caribbean Regional Technical Support Programme to Promote the Equalization of Training and Employment Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities***

295. Submitter: National Centre for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) of Trinidad and Tobago, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago.
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$90,000
Number: INT/96/K02/A/95/99
Duration: Two (2) years
Approval: Twentieth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 27 September 1996)
Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document, a copy of which was forwarded to the Office of the Chairman, was signed on behalf of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago on 31 January 1997 and by UNDP on 21 February 1997. The Sub-contract agreement was signed in March 1997 by the Ministry of Social Development of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the National Centre for Persons with Disabilities.
Status of submission of financial report: The sub-contractor has submitted a financial statement.

296. On 9 April 1997, the Special Unit for TCDC of UNDP requested the UNDP Resident Representative in Trinidad and Tobago to make an initial disbursement of US\$45,000..

297. A copy of a progress report covering the period April-October 1997 was received by the Office of the Chairman on 19 January 1998 together with a statement of expenditure and a request for the disbursement of the second tranche of \$45,000.

(9) ***Training of Personnel in the Field of Standardization and Meteorology for the Conformity Assessment among Developing Countries***

298. Submitter: Committee for Standardization of Democratic People's Republic of Korea through its Ministry for Foreign Affairs.
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$76,500
Number: INT/96/K03/A/95/99
Duration: One (1) year
Approval: Twentieth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 27 September 1996)
Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document, a copy of which was forwarded to the Office of the Chairman, was signed by the President of the Committee for Standardization of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 27 February 1997 and by UNDP on 17 March 1997. A sub-contract agreement was signed between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Committee for Standardization of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in May 1997.

Status of submission of financial report: The sub-contractor has submitted a financial statement.

299. On 7 May 1997, the Special Unit for TCDC of UNDP requested the UNDP Office-in-Charge in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to make an initial disbursement of US\$38,250. This disbursement was already made.

300. Copies of a progress report and an expenditure statement were received by the Office of the Chairman on 26 March 1998.

(10) ***Program for Cooperation in Training and Development of Technologies to Support Primary Health Care in African Countries with Portuguese Official Language***

301. Submitter: Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ) through the Government of Brazil.

Subcontractor: Same as above

PGTF input: US\$59,300

Number: INT/96/K04/A/95/99

Duration: One (1) year

Approval: Twentieth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 27 September 1996)

Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document, a copy of which was forwarded to the Office of the Chairman, was signed on behalf of the Government of Brazil on 17 June 1997 and by UNDP on 24 June 1997. The sub-contract agreement concluded between the Government of Brazil and the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation was signed on 24 March 1997.

Status of submission of financial report: No financial statement has been submitted by the sub-contractor.

302. Disbursement of a first tranche of US\$29,650 was made through the UNDP Resident Representative in Brazil. While a progress report was submitted on 9 June 1998, an expenditure statement is being awaited.

303. The Committee recommended that the Office of the Chairman request the subcontractor to submit the outstanding financial statement.

(11) ***Rural Education and Agricultural Extension Facility for the Nomads of the Sahel and Sahara Regions***

304. Submitter: Foundation for Social Peace of Niger, with endorsement of the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

Subcontractor: Same as above

PGTF input: US\$85,000

Number: INT/96/K06/A/95/99

Duration: One (1) year

Approval: Twentieth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 27 September 1996)

Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document was signed by the Organization of the Islamic Conference on 16 December 1996 and by UNDP on 18 February 1997. The sub-contract agreement concluded between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Foundation for Social Peace was signed on 1 March 1997.

Status of submission of financial report: The sub-contractor has submitted a financial statement.

305. An initial disbursement of US\$45,000 was made through the UNDP Resident Representative in Niger in May 1997.

306. A financial statement of expenditures for the first tranche was submitted to UNDP by the Organization of the Islamic Conference on 17 June 1997.

307. On 24 June 1997, the Special Unit for TCDC of UNDP requested the UNDP Resident Representative in Niger to make the second tranche of US\$40,000.

308. A copy of a progress report was received by the Office of the Chairman on 9 September 1997.

(12) ***Feasibility study for a subregional center for agricultural machinery in the CEPGL subregion***

309. Submitter: Communaute Economique des Pays des Grands Lacs (CEPGL)

Subcontractor: Same as above

PGTF input: US\$43,000

Number: INT/93/K07/A/95/99

Duration: 81 days

Approval: IFCC-VIII (Panama City, 30 August-3 September 1993)

Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document was signed by the G-77 and UNDP on 31 October 1994. The sub-contract agreement concluded between the Government of Rwanda and CEPGL is dated 17 December 1996.

Status of submission of financial report: No expenditure reports have been submitted by the sub-contractor.

310. On 4 June 1997, the Director of the Special Unit for TCDC requested the Resident Representative of UNDP in Rwanda to make a payment of USD\$43,000 to the sub-contractor.

311. The Committee recommended that the Office of the Chairman request the subcontractor to submit the feasibility report and the financial statement for the project.

(13) ***Optimization of the process for obtaining crude PMSG for animal reproduction***

312. Submitter: Biological Pharmaceutical Laboratories (LABIOFAM) through the Government of Cuba
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$165,000
Number: INT/95/K01/A/95/99
Duration: Two (2) years
Approval: Nineteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 29 September 1995)
Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document was signed on behalf of the Government of Cuba on 24 May 1996 and by UNDP on 25 June 1996. The sub-contract agreement concluded between the Government of Cuba and the Biological Pharmaceutical Laboratories is dated 24 June 1996.
Status of submission of financial report: No expenditure reports have been submitted by the sub-contractor.
313. On 23 September 1996, the Director of the Special Unit for TCDC requested the Resident Representative of UNDP in Cuba to make a payment of US\$105,000 to the sub-contractor.
314. A progress report on the project activities was submitted on 24 July 1997.
315. On 5 December 1997, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the sub-contractor to submit the outstanding financial statement for the first tranche of funds disbursed from PGTF. The Chairman of the Group of 77 also informed that disbursement of the second tranche would be subject to the submission of such financial statement. No financial statement has been received from the sub-contractor.
316. The Committee recommended that the Office of the Chairman send a second notice to the subcontractor requesting the submission of the outstanding financial report.
- (14) ***ECDC/TCDC Information Support to Group of 77 Chapters (Phase III) - Journal of the Group of 77***
317. Submitter: Inter Press Service (IPS) Third World News Agency through the Government of Costa Rica as Chairman of the Group of 77 for 1996
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$51,120
Number: INT/95/K03/A/95/99
Duration: Two (2) years
Approval: Nineteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 29 September 1995)
Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document was signed on 15 April 1996 by the Chairman of the Group of 77 also on behalf of the Government of Costa Rica and on 22 April 1996 by UNDP. The sub-contract agreement concluded between the

Government of Costa Rica as Chairman of the Group of 77 for 1996 and Inter Press Service is dated 19 August 1996.

Status of submission of financial report: The sub-contractor has submitted a financial statement.

318. Disbursement of the funds allocated for the first year of the project (1996) was requested from UNDP in September 1996 as follows: \$20,760 to IPS and \$4,800 to the Group of 77.

319. A financial statement on project activities undertaken during 1996 was submitted by the subcontractor on 25 June 1997 and by the Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77 on 5 June 1998.

320. In 1996 a total of nine issues were published out of a quota of twelve provided for in the project for the first year. In 1997 five additional issues were published and in 1998 one issue has been published to date. Therefore, nine more issues remain to be published to fulfill the output of the project which is 24 issues in total. It is expected that the project will be completed in early 1999.

321. A request for disbursement of funds for the second tranche will be made to UNDP in the near future.

(15) ***South-South Transfer of Experiences in Sustainable Agricultural Development***

322. Submitter: Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) based in Guyana.

Subcontractor: Same as above

PGTF input: US\$84,000

Number: INT/96/K05/A/95/99

Duration: One (1) year

Approval: Twentieth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 27 September 1996)

Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document, a copy of which was forwarded to the Office of the Chairman, was signed by UNDP on 4 August 1997 and by the Government of Guyana on 12 August 1997. The sub-contract agreement concluded between the Government of Guyana and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) is dated 14 January 1997.

Status of submission of financial report: No financial statement has been submitted by the sub-contractor.

323. On 18 November 1997, the Special Unit for TCDC of UNDP requested the Resident Representative of UNDP in Guyana to make a payment of a first tranche of USD\$ 66,000 to the sub-contractor.

324. The Committee recommended that the Office of the Chairman request the subcontractor to submit a progress report and a financial statement for the project.

C. Projects under preparation still to be implemented

325. The four projects approved by the Twenty-first Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 in September 1997 were under preparation as of the date of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts.

(1) ***A study on the impact of enhancing environmental standards on international trade of South Asian countries***

326. Submitter: Research and Information System (RIS) for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries in India.
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$24,850
Number: INT/97/K01
Duration: Two (2) years
Approval: Twenty-first Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 26 September 1997)

327. On 24 October 1997, the Chairman of the Group of 77 informed the sub-contractor that the project proposal it had submitted for funding from PGTF had been approved and that the Group of 77 had authorized an allocation of US\$24,850 from PGTF for this project.

328. The project document has been finalized and was signed by UNDP. It has been forwarded to the Government of India for signature. The subcontract agreement, to be signed by the Government of India and the subcontractor, is under preparation.

(2) ***Biological Control of Pests and Weeds for Sustainable Agriculture and Bio-diversity***

329. Submitter: Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries in India.
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$25,000
Number: INT/97/K02
Duration: Three (3) years
Approval: Twenty-first Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 26 September 1997)

330. On 24 October 1997, the Chairman of the Group of 77 informed the sub-contractor that the project proposal it had submitted for funding from PGTF had been approved and that the Group of 77 had authorized an allocation of US\$25,000 from PGTF for this project.

331. The project document has been finalized and was signed by UNDP. It has been forwarded to the Government of India for signature. The subcontract agreement, to be signed by the Government of India and the subcontractor, is under preparation.

(3) ***Integrated Planning and New Technologies for Sustainable Development***

332. Submitter: Caribbean Council for Science and Technology in Trinidad and Tobago.
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$37,560
Number: INT/97/K03
Duration: Three days (tentative)
Approval: Twenty-first Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 26 September 1997)

333. On 24 October 1997, the Chairman of the Group of 77 informed the sub-contractor that the project proposal it had submitted for funding from PGTF had been approved and that the Group of 77 had authorized an allocation of US\$37,560 from PGTF for this project.

334. The subcontractor informed the Office of the Chairman that both the project document and subcontract agreement were under preparation with a view to an early submission for approval and signature.

(4) ***Positioning of a Gender Program in Cooperatives in the Andean Region***

335. Submitter: International Cooperative Alliance, Office of the Americas in Costa Rica.
Subcontractor: Same as above
PGTF input: US\$61,500
Number: INT/97/K04
Duration: One (1) years
Approval: Twenty-first Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 (New York, 26 September 1997)
Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document was signed by Government of Costa Rica on 12 March 1998 and by UNDP on 27 April 1998.

336. On 24 October 1997, the Chairman of the Group of 77 informed the sub-contractor that the project proposal it had submitted for funding from PGTF had been approved and that the Group of 77 had authorized an allocation of US\$61,500 from PGTF for this project.

337. A sub-contract agreement is to be concluded between the Government of Costa Rica and the International Cooperative Alliance, Office of the Americas as subcontractor of the project.

D. Projects not implemented and allocated funds reverted to PGTF

(1) ***Interregional Trade Financing Facility***

338. Submitter: UNCTAD
PGTF input: US\$40,000
Approval: IFCC-VI (Havana, 7-12 September 1987)
Number: INT/88/K02/A/95/99

339. The approved amount was reverted to PGTF in 1989 in accordance with the recommendation of the Third Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF (Kuala Lumpur, 27-29 July 1989). The Committee of Experts made such a recommendation following information received that UNCTAD had been mandated in June 1989 by the Trade and Development Board to undertake a project having the same characteristics as the one approved for funding by PGTF, and provide the necessary financing.

(2) *Facilitating the implementation of the Multisectoral Information Network (MSIN)*

340. Submitter: Technological Information Pilot System (TIPS)/Inter Press Service (IPS)
PGTF input: US\$15,000
Approval: IFCC-VI (Havana, 7-12 September 1987)
Number: INT/88/K05/A/95/99

341. The approved amount was reverted to PGTF in 1990 after the Fifth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF (New York, 5-7 July 1990) considered that there were no clear prospects for the implementation of this project three years after its approval.

342. IFCC-VI recommended in para. 72(1) of its report that: (a) the project document related to the feasibility report offered to be prepared by TIPS/IPS should be submitted for the consideration of the panel of experts on the MSIN pilot project scheduled to be convened in the first half of 1988; and (b) the disbursement of the approved funds would be released after the meeting of the panel of experts on MSIN had expressed its views on the project document.

343. The meeting of the panel of experts on MSIN which was to have considered the project document related to the feasibility report, has not been convened given that the required number of 15 countries needed to launch the project could not be reached. The Committee of Experts of PGTF considered that this project proposal may be resubmitted at an appropriate time.

(3) *Action Committee on Inter-enterprise Cooperation*

344. Submitter: International Center for Public Enterprises (ICPE)/Research Center for Cooperation with Developing Countries (RCCDC) of Yugoslavia
PGTF input: US\$35,000
Approval: 12th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 28-30 September 1988)
Number: INT/89/K02/A/95/99

345. In accordance with the decision of IFCC-VI contained in paragraph 72(5) of its Report, the Action Committee would receive the matching amount of US\$35,000 from PGTF only after it has received a matching contribution of the same amount from its member countries.

346. In accordance with the decision of the 14th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1-2 October 1990), the approved amount for this project would be reverted to PGTF if the matching contribution of US\$ 35,000 from the Action Committee was not received by 31 December 1991. The approved amount was reverted to PGTF in 1992 as no matching contribution was received by the established deadline.

(4) *Monetary Cooperation Fund of the Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries*

347. Submitter: Government of Madagascar
PGTF input: US\$30,000
Duration: To be determined
Approval: 13th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 28 September 1989)
Number: INT/89/K08/A/95/99

348. The Seventh Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF (New York, 29-30 June 1992) recommended that the allocated funds to this project would revert to PGTF if the Government of Madagascar did not identify the name of the executing organization by the next regular session of the Committee of Experts.

349. On 9 June 1993, the Permanent Mission of Madagascar to the United Nations communicated the name of the executing organization, stating that the proposed institution needed US\$150,000 to carry out the feasibility study.

350. In this connection, the Eighth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF (New York, 28-30 June 1993) considered that the terms of the project and the allocation of funds for this project had already been approved by the Fourteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 held in New York in 1989 and that, therefore, it was not within the Committee's competence to amend such a decision and the project should be implemented within the approved terms of reference and budget.

351. The Committee considered that if this project was not implemented by the next regular session of the Committee in 1994, the allocated funds should be reverted to PGTF. Since the

project was not launched by the established deadline, the funds allocated to this project were reverted to PGTF.

(5) *Upgrading of veterinary field health services through development of an animal disease information center*

352. Submitter: Government of Malaysia

PGTF input: US\$140,000

Duration: 18 months

Approval: 14th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1-2 October 1990)

Number: INT/90/K09/A/95/99

Date of signature of relevant documents: Project document signed by UNDP and G-77 on 21 November 1991. Sub-contract agreement between the Group of 77 and the Government of Malaysia has to be drawn up.

353. According to information received from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations in a copy of a letter dated 21 April 1992 addressed to the Director of the Special Unit for TCDC of UNDP, the project has not been implemented due to the decision of UNDP not to approve its request for financial support in the amount of US\$186,500.

354. The request of the Government of Malaysia to UNDP was made on the basis of information provided by the Deputy-Director of the Special Unit for TCDC to the Fifth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF (New York, 5-7 July 1990), that the Special Unit for TCDC would be prepared to consider a request from the Government of Malaysia for providing catalytical financial support.

355. The Eighth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF (New York, 28-30 June 1993) took note of the decision by UNDP not to provide catalytical financial support to this project and recommended that other sources of financing for the project be found by the sponsors of the project.

356. By letter dated 14 March 1994, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the executing organization to provide information on other sources of funding for the project.

357. By letter dated 29 April 1994, the Chairman of the Group of 77 communicated to the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations that the ninth meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF on 4-8 April 1994, recommended that the allocated funds of US\$140,000 should be reverted to PGTF if the project implementation did not start by 31 December 1994. Since the project was not launched by the established deadline, the funds allocated to this project were reverted to PGTF.

(6) *Development of Agriculture Database for ASEAN*

358. Submitter: Government of Malaysia

PGTF input: US\$94,000

Duration: Two years

Approval: 16th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1 October 1992)

Number: INT/93/K04/A/95/99

359. By letter dated 22 October 1992, the Chairman of the Group of 77 informed the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations that the request for project funding had been approved.

360. The project document and sub-contract agreement, which are required to start the implementation of the project, have not been prepared in view that the Government of Malaysia has yet to take appropriate steps toward their preparation.

361. By letter dated 14 March 1994, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the executing organization to expedite the submission of the project document.

362. At its ninth meeting, the Committee of Experts recommended that the allocated funds should be reverted to PGTF if the project implementation did not start by 31 December 1994.

363. By letter dated 29 April 1994, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations to expedite the elaboration and submission of the draft project document.

364. The Committee was informed that a draft project document was sent to the Office of the Chairman in June 1994. No further action was taken by any party and the implementation of the project has not been launched.

365. Given that the implementation of the project did not start by the established deadline, the Committee noted that the funds were reverted to PGTF, in accordance with the recommendation and decision of the Eighteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77.

(7) *The Caribbean into the Twenty-first Century*

366. Submitter: The Nation Organization of Barbados/Eastern Caribbean Research Center (ECRC) of Saint Lucia

PGTF input: US\$50,000

Duration: Four days

Approval: 13th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 28 September 1989)

Number: INT/89/K11/A/95/99

Date of signature of relevant documents: Project document was signed by G-77 and UNDP respectively on 11 and 13 December 1990. Sub-contract agreement between the Group of 77 and the Government of Saint Lucia on ECRC's behalf is dated 12 December 1990.

367. ECRC submitted a written terminal report dated 3 May 1991. By letter dated 14 April 1992, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations (who signed the sub-contract on behalf of ECRC) to submit the outstanding audio and video reports of the project as well as a cumulative statement of expenditure of funds provided by PGTF for the implementation of the project.

368. The Seventh Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF (New York, 29-30 June 1992), recommended that an extension be given to ECRC to deliver the reports by 31 December 1992. The Chairman of the Group of 77 communicated this decision to the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations in a letter dated 26 October 1992. A follow-up letter dated 19 May 1993 was sent to the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia requesting the outstanding reports.

369. The Eighth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF (New York, 29-30 June 1993) expressed its concern that two letters from the Chairman of the Group of 77 had not been acknowledged and recommended that the Chairman of the Group of 77 reiterate his request for the outstanding reports. This was done by the Chairman of the Group of 77 in a letter addressed to the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations dated 25 February 1994.

370. Neither the video report nor the financial statement of expenditure have been submitted by ECRC.

371. By letters dated 29 April 1994 and 13 January 1995, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations to submit the outstanding reports for the project. Despite these letters and follow-up telephone calls both by the Office of the Chairman and UNDP, the audio and video reports and the financial statement of expenditure have not been submitted by the ECRC.

372. Consequently, the appropriate steps will have to be taken to recover the funds disbursed as per the recommendation of the PGTF and the decision of the Eighteenth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77.

373. By letter dated 13 October 1995, the Chairman of the Group of 77 informed the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations that the project was placed under query and requested that the necessary arrangements be made to reimburse the amount of US\$50,000 to PGTF.

374. By letter dated 11 March 1996, the Prime Minister of Saint Lucia, West Indies, informed UNDP that the Government of Saint Lucia will refund the monies paid for the execution of the above project.

375. UNDP has made available to the Office of the Chairman copies of correspondence exchanged between UNDP and the Government of Saint Lucia which state that the full amount allocated from PGTF to this project has been refunded.

(8) *Public Enterprises Rationalization Project*

376. Submitter: Government of Saint Lucia

PGTF input: US\$60,800

Duration: Six months

Approval: 15th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1 October 1991)

Number: INT/91/K02/A/95/99

Date of signature of relevant documents: Project document was signed by G-77 and UNDP respectively on 13 and 21 November 1991. Sub-contract agreement between the Chairman of the Group of 77 and the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations (on behalf of the Government of Saint Lucia) is dated 4 December 1991.

377. By letter dated 15 April 1992, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the Government of Saint Lucia to submit a progress report. This request was reiterated in a letter from the Chairman of the Group of 77 dated 19 May 1993.

378. The Eighth Meeting of the Committee of Experts (New York, 28-30 June 1993) took note that no progress report had yet been submitted by the sub-contractor and recommended that the Chairman of the Group of 77 request the outstanding reports on the status of implementation of this project.

379. The Chairman of the Group of 77 reiterated his request for a progress report in a letter addressed to the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations dated 14 March 1994.

380. By letters dated 29 April 1994 and 13 January 1995, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations to submit the outstanding reports for the project. Despite these letters and follow-up telephone calls both by the Office of the Chairman and UNDP, the progress report and financial statement have not been submitted by GOSL.

381. Consequently, appropriate steps were initiated to recover the funds disbursed as per recommendation of the PGTF, and the decision of the Eighteenth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77.

382. By letter dated 13 October 1995, the Chairman of the Group of 77 informed the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations that the project was placed under query and requested that the necessary arrangements be made to reimburse the amount of US\$60,800 to PGTF.

383. By letter dated 11 March 1996, the Prime Minister of Saint Lucia, West Indies, informed UNDP that the Government of Saint Lucia will refund the monies paid for the execution of the above project.

384. UNDP has made available to the Office of the Chairman copies of correspondence exchanged between UNDP and the Government of Saint Lucia which state that the full amount allocated from PGTF to this project has been refunded.

(9) *Study of Production and Distribution of Pasture Seeds and Legumes to Smallholder Dairy Farmers*

385. Submitter: Southern African Development Community (SADC), Gaborone, Botswana
PGTF input: US\$90,000
Number: INT/92/K07
Duration: 16 months
Approval: 16th Annual Ministerial Meeting (New York, 1 October 1992)
Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document was signed by the G-77 and UNDP on 26 August 1993.

386. By letter dated 14 March 1994, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the executing organization to expedite the submission of the draft sub-contract agreement which has been under review by SADC since July 1993.

387. SADC replied in a letter dated 17 March 1994 that the sub-contract agreement was receiving urgent attention and that they would revert on the subject again soon.

388. By letter dated 29 April 1994, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the Secretariat of SADC to expedite urgently the submission of the draft Sub-contract Agreement.

389. The draft Sub-contract Agreement was submitted to the Office of the Chairman with its attachment letter dated 25 May 1994.

390. By letter dated 2 November 1994, the Chairman of the Group of 77 sent a revised original of the Sub-contract Agreement to the Permanent Mission of Botswana to the United Nations for signature and transmission to SADC for appropriate action.

391. The Sub-contract Agreement was not returned duly signed to the Office of the Chairman.

392. Given that the project document was signed in August 1993 and it was not possible to sign the sub-contract agreement and start the implementation of the project, the Committee of Experts was concerned on whether this project could be implemented at all.

393. In this regard, the Eleventh Meeting of the Committee of Experts recommended that a final notice be sent by the Office of the Chairman to the sub-contractor indicating that if the project implementation had not started by 31 December 1996, the allocated funds should be reverted to PGTF as required by guideline F(c) for utilization of PGTF.

394. In light of this, the Chairman of the Group of 77 sent a letter to the sub-contractor on 5 September 1996 urging it to start the implementation of the project by 31 December 1996. No information was ever received by the Office of the Chairman from either the sub-contractor or UNDP regarding the status of implementation of this project.

395. Since no further development took place before the deadline, the Twelfth Meeting of the Committee of Experts recommended cancellation of the project and reversion of the funds to PGTF. This recommendation was approved by the Twenty-first Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 held on 26 September 1997.

E. Projects under query

(1) *Feasibility study for establishing a Central American hydrographic cooperation programme*

396. Submitter: Government of Panama

Subcontractor: Instituto Geografico Nacional Tommy Guardia from Panama

PGTF input: US\$38,500

Approval: IFCC-VIII (Panama City, 30 August-3 September 1993)

Number: INT/93/K06

Duration: 4 months

Date of signature of relevant documents: The project document was signed by the G-77 and UNDP on 26 September and 27 September 1994 respectively. A subcontract agreement between the Government of Panama and the "Instituto Geografico Nacional Tommy Guardia" was signed in November 1994.

397. Disbursement of US\$38,500 was made by the UNDP to the subcontractor on 29 December 1994. The disbursement was confirmed by the UNDP Resident Representative on 24 March 1995 in response to a query from the Special Unit for TCDC of UNDP.

398. On 8 May 1996, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested the Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations to submit the outstanding final report and financial statement of expenditure.

399. On 8 August 1996, the Special Unit for TCDC requested the Resident Representative of UNDP in Panama to contact the sub-contracting agency with a view to expediting the submission of the outstanding reports.

400. On 12 May 1997 the Special Unit for TCDC requested the UNDP Resident Representative in Panama to provide information on the progress of the project and to accordingly report to the Unit.

401. On 23 May 1997, the Chairman of the Group of 77 made an urgent appeal through the Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations for the submission of the outstanding reports.

402. In a fax dated 26 May 1997, the UNDP Resident Representative in Panama informed the Director of the Special Unit for TCDC that the project had not been implemented by the sub-contracting agency and that the latter had given to understand that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama had advised the Special Unit for TCDC accordingly.

403. In a letter addressed to the Resident Representative of UNDP in Panama dated 6 June 1997, the Director of the Special Unit for TCDC of UNDP expressed surprise to learn of this development. The communication stated that the Special Unit for TCDC had not received the letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama on this matter and requested clarification as to whether the project had been postponed or that the resources already disbursed would be refunded to the PGTF.

404. On 26 June 1997, the Officer-in-Charge of UNDP in Panama forwarded to the Special Unit for TCDC copies of two communications addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama which stated the reasons for the non-implementation of the project. The Office-in-Charge of UNDP stated that the Government of Panama had agreed to refund to PGTF the resources already disbursed.

405. The Twelfth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of PGTF held on 6-8 August 1997 recommended that "UNDP should take the necessary steps so as to ensure that the funds disbursed be reimbursed to the PGTF not later than 31 December 1997."

406. By letter dated 5 December 1997 addressed to the Director of the Special Unit for TCDC, the Chairman of the Group of 77 requested UNDP to follow up the matter with the Government of Panama with a view to securing refund of the PGTF resources already disbursed and to keep the Office of the Chairman fully informed of developments.

407. On 12 January 1998, the Officer-in-Charge of the Special Unit for TCDC informed the Chairman of the Group of 77 that the matter had been brought to the attention of the Resident Representative of UNDP in Panama and that the Office of the Chairman would be kept posted of developments.

408. Since no further information has been received by the Office of the Chairman on this matter, the Committee recommended that this project be placed under query and recommended that, in addition to the action taken by the UNDP, the Office of the Chairman request the Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations to take appropriate action with a view to refunding the disbursed funds.

V. OTHER MATTERS

409. The Committee agreed that the deadline for the submission of project proposals by Member States for consideration at its next regular session will be 30 April 1999, in accordance with the revised guidelines for utilization of PGTF. It is understood that the date of submission of proposals is the date when they are officially received by the Office of the Chairman. At this session, the Committee will also consider the project proposals referred to in para. 29 of this report.

410. Considering the increasing importance of information technology and informatics, and the impact that developments in this field will have on the competitive edge of developing countries, the Committee hopes that the Ministers of the Group of 77 would give due consideration to this aspect of the Caracas Programme of Action without prejudice to the other priority sectors of the CPA.

Survey of the impact of PGTF

411. The Committee recommended at its twelfth meeting to carry out a survey of the impact and benefits of the projects funded by the PGTF with a view to supporting the promotion of the Fund. So far, the Office of the Chairman has received information on 16 of the 32 PGTF supported projects that have been completed. Further reports are expected so as to be able to prepare a comprehensive assessment of the impact of PGTF since its operationalization in 1996. A brief summary for each completed project is provided below:

(1-2) Group of 77 Information Bulletin; and ECDC/TCDC Information support to the Group of 77 Chapters

412. Number: INT/88/K01 and INT/93/K02
PGTF input (US\$): 109,520 and 51,120 respectively
Other inputs (US\$): 68,400 and 45,600 respectively
Date of implementation: 1988-1991 and 1993-1994 respectively
Impact: Established an important communication link between the various G-77 chapters. It also helped to disseminate the views of the G-77 to a wider audience.

(3) ***Export promotion and cooperation in favor of less developed countries within the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI)***

413. Number: INT/89/K05
PGTF input (US\$): 120,000
Other inputs (US\$): 107,971
Date of implementation: 1991-1992
Impact: Additional exports of US\$3 million through support to 80 small and medium size enterprises and implementation of 33 export promotion activities, benefitting directly and indirectly over 4,200 workers.

(4) ***Regional program for cooperation and concerted action in the area of plant germ plasm***

414. Number: INT/89/K12
PGTF input (US\$): 58,000
Other inputs (US\$): 309,200
Date of implementation: 1991-1997
Impact: Publication of a book on biodiversity containing all the findings and innovative elements related to the germ plasm issue.

(5-6) ***South-North Development Monitor (SUNS); and Information Support to the Group of 77 Chapters (SUNS)***

415. Number: INT/89/K13 and INT/93/K03
PGTF input (US\$): 120,000 and 59,881 respectively
Other inputs (US\$): 164,000 and 158,517 respectively
Date of implementation: 1991-1992 and 1994-1995 respectively
Impact: Supported publication of SUNS during 24 months (over 400 issues). SUNS has since been made available by fax to the G-77 missions in New York.

(7) ***In-depth review of the actions taken by the international community in favor of the particular needs and problems of the land-locked developing countries and a basis for new strategy to overcome these needs and problems in the future***

416. Number: INT/90/K03
PGTF input (US\$): 95,000
Other inputs (US\$): 23,800
Date of implementation: 1991-1995
Impact: Inventory of a large number of studies and projects served as a basis for recommending a coordinated action. In particular it is recommended that a high level office be created with a view to coordinating joint efforts of the land-locked countries at the international level, in particular those related to international trade.

(8) ***Regional symposium on the economic and social impact of money derived from illicit drug trafficking in the development of Latin America and the Caribbean***

417. Number: INT/90/K04
PGTF input (US\$): 78,000
Other inputs (US\$): 103,000
Date of implementation: 1991
Impact: Publication of a book containing the conclusions of the symposium which aimed mainly at an integrated approach to the problem including both producing and consumer countries, with solutions ranging from eradication to crop substitution.

(9-10) ***Technical, secretariat and other support to the GSTP, and technical assistance to countries participating in the GSTP; and Technical assistance to the members of the G-77 participating in the Second Round of negotiations within the GSTP and seeking membership in the GSTP, as well as related technical, secretariat and other support to the GSTP***

418. Number: INT/90/K07 and INT/94/K02
PGTF input (US\$): 350,000 and 72,363 respectively
Other inputs (US\$): Nil
Date of implementation: 1991-1993 and 1995-1997 respectively
Impact: First round led to launching of the agreement, with 43 member countries and negotiations on 1,700 tariff lines. Second round enabled accession of 8 additional member countries and a sub-regional grouping, with consolidated list of concessions covering 700 tariff lines.

(11) ***Establishment of the Regional Bureau and Trade Information Network for Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCI) of Developing Countries Members of the Group of 77***

419. Number: INT/91/K01
PGTF input (US\$): 150,000
Other inputs (US\$): 270,000
Date of implementation: 1991-1994
Impact: Sixty chambers of commerce participated in the pilot project. They were assisted in formulating a plan of action for their respective centers. In addition, Web pages were created for this pilot group.

(12) ***Economic Integration in the Southern Cone Common Market***

420. Number: INT/92/K01
PGTF input (US\$): 88,000
Other inputs (US\$): Nil
Date of implementation: 1992-1994
Impact: Greatly facilitated the negotiations of the sub-regional integration scheme that led to the emergence of a customs union known as Mercosur. The studies were widely

circulated in the region and a large number of experts, academics and policy makers benefitted from them.

(13) ***Development and use of a computer simulation model for supply, demand and prices of agricultural commodities in ASEAN countries***

421. Number: INT/92/K04
PGTF input (US\$): 81,600
Other inputs (US\$): Nil
Date of implementation: 1993-1994
Impact: Improved the skills of the participants in forecasting trends in export agricultural commodities. Some of the participants were able to set-up national training programs on computer simulation models.

(14) ***Guidelines and tools of a common industrial policy for Mercosur***

422. Number: INT/93/K05
PGTF input (US\$): 120,000
Other inputs (US\$): 36,000
Date of implementation: 1994-1997
Impact: Provided important inputs for the analysis of the costs and benefits of the implementation of common industrial policies among Mercosur member countries. It also proposed guidelines for the harmonization of the industrial policies among Mercosur countries.

(15) ***Employment and income generation in West and Central Africa***

423. Number: INT/94/K05
PGTF input (US\$): 30,000
Other inputs (US\$): 67,000
Date of implementation: 1995-1998
Impact: 11 projects were launched in Benin, Burkina Faso and Togo providing income for 5,000 people and protecting natural resources.

(16) ***Productive Internationalization MERCOSUR: Foreign direct investment (FDI) and regional transnational corporations***

424. Number: INT/95/K02
PGTF input (US\$): 140,000
Other inputs (US\$): 42,200
Date of implementation: 1996-1997
Impact: The study provided a clear and objective understanding of the role that FDI is playing in the integration process of the region. Extracts from the study were reproduced

as discussion papers in technical and policy level meetings in the Mercosur. However, its actual impact on FDI policies needs further clarification.

Ghazi Jomaa

Edward Obeng Kufuor

Ahmad Kamal

Eduardo Praselj (Chairman)

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STATEMENT OF PGTF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

Opening balance of unexpended resources as per financial statement of 1/1/97		\$6,461,520.64
Add: Contributions from Governments	\$(109,500.00) ¹	
Interest Income	\$444,212.24	
		<u>\$334,712.24</u>
Total resources		\$6,796,232.88
Less: Project disbursements recorded in 1997:		
INT/89/K11 - The Caribbean into 21 st Century	\$(50,000.00)	
INT/90/K08 - PGTF, Phase II	\$17,199.70	
INT/91/K02 - Publ. Enterprises Rationalization Project	\$(60,000.00)	
INT/93/K07 - Feasibility Study (CEPGL)	\$43,000.00	
INT/94/K01 - Program Dev Com.	\$18,590.70	
INT/96/K01 - Entrepreneurial Strengthening	\$53,641.66	
INT/96/K02 - Caribbean Regional	\$45,000.00	
INT/96/K03 - Training in Standardization	\$38,250.00	
INT/96/K04 - Health Policies in Primary Care	\$29,650.00	
INT/96/K06 - Rural Education	<u>\$85,000.00</u>	
	\$220,332.06	
UNDP Support Costs	\$(520.90) ²	
		\$219,811.16
Closing balance of unexpended resources as per financial statement 31/12/97		<u>\$6,576,421.72</u>

¹The net negative contributions of \$(109,500) consists of contributions of \$500 received in 1997 and the correction of \$110,000 recovered from the Government of Saint Lucia for projects INT/89/K11 and INT/91/K02. The \$110,000 was recorded as contributions in 1996 as opposed to reduction in expenditure.

²This represents an adjustment to the UNDP support costs overstated in 1996. Please note that the UNDP support costs of \$2,203.32 for 1997 will be recorded in 1998.

STATUS OF PGTF FUNDED PROJECTS:
APPROVED OBLIGATED, AND AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR PROGRAMMING
AS OF 30 APRIL 1998

Closing Balance of unexpended resources	
as per financial statement 31/12/97	\$6,576,421.72
Add: Interest Income (from 1 Jan-30 Apr 1998)	<u>\$149,351.00¹</u>
Total resources	\$6,725,772.72

Less:

Operating Funds receivable from Governments	
as of 31/12/97	
INT/89/K13 - SUNS	\$200.00
INT/90/K08 - PGTF, Phase II	\$43,356.60
INT/91/K02 - Public Enterprises Rationalization Proj.	\$5,000.00
INT/93/K02 - ECDC/TCDC Information, Ph. II	\$9,600.00
INT/93/K03 - SUNS, Phase II	\$3,240.00
INT/94/K01 - Program Dev. Com.	\$5,099.61
INT/95/K01 - Optimization of Proc. To obtain PMSG	\$105,000.00
INT/95/K03 - ECDC/TCDC Info Support Ph III (1 tr)	<u>\$4,800.00</u>
Sub-Total	\$176,296.21

Written authorizations sent to UNDP country offices & UNDP Treasury in headquarters to disburse funds in 1998:

INT/90/K08 - PGTF, Phase II	\$20,480.00
INT/94/K03 - TIN II	\$60,000.00
INT/96/K02 - Caribbean Regional	\$40,500.00
INT/96/K03 - Training in Standardization	<u>\$30,600.00</u>
Sub-total	\$151,580.00

Reserved resources (Fund's capital)	\$5,000,000.00 ²
Sub-total	\$5,327,876.21

¹Estimated.

²Deposited in long-term high-yield bonds.

Remaining funds		\$1,397,896.51
Less: Obligated/Earmarked funds		
<u>Obligated³</u>		
Budget of approved projects (balance as of 1991 and onwards:		
INT/90/K08 - PGTF, Phase II	\$67,540.40	
INT/95/K01 - Optimization of Crude PMSG (2 nd tr.)	\$60,000.00	
INT/95/K03 - ECDC/TCDC Info. Support to G-77 (Ph III)	\$25,560.00	
INT/96/K01 - Entrepreneurial Strengthening	\$32,500.00	
INT/96/K02 - Caribbean Regional	\$4,500.00 ⁴	
INT/96/K03 - Training in Standardization	\$7,650.00 ⁵	
INT/96/K04 - Health Policies in Primary Care	\$29,650.00	
INT/96/K05 - South-South Transfer	\$18,000.00	
INT/97/K04 - Settlement of gender programme	<u>\$61,500.00</u>	
		\$306,900.40
<u>Earmarked funds approved⁶</u>		
INT/97/K01 - Impact of environmental standards	\$24,850.00	
INT/97/K02 - Biological control of pests and weeds	\$25,000.00	
INT/97/K03 - Integrated planning and new technologies	\$37,560.00	
Total earmarked funds		\$87,410.00
Total Obligated/Earmarked Funds		\$394,310.40
Available for new projects		\$1,003,586.10 ⁷

³Commitments based on signed project documents/subcontract documents.

⁴Obligatory retention of 10 percent (10%)

⁵ Obligatory retention of 10 percent (10%)

⁶Approved proposals where the project documents are under preparation.

⁷Does not include interest earnings from 1 May to 31 December 1998, estimated at \$291,000.