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SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL
PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCEEmergency assistance to SomaliaReport of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report has been prepared **in accordance** with General Assembly resolution **45/229** of 21 December 1990, entitled "Emergency assistance to Somalia", in which the Assembly, **inter alia**, appealed to all States and competent intergovernmental and non-governmental **organizations to contribute** generously and urgently **to meet** the needs identified by the United Nations inter-agency mission that visited Somalia from 25 February to 12 March **1989**; requested the Secretary-General to continue to coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system to help Somalia in its emergency and rehabilitation programme; and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the resolution.

II. BACKGROUND

2. The Extraordinary Interim Emergency Programme, launched in February 1990 in response to an appeal by the Government of Somalia, was terminated on 31 August 1990. A total of 7,000 tons of food and non-food aid was delivered to the targeted 140,000 refugees and vulnerable groups in north-western Somalia. Owing to logistical and security problems, the delivery of food was slightly over half the planned target of 2,800 tons per month. Thus, the impact of that special relief programme was mixed. The international community of donors, including the United Nations and its agencies, grew increasingly concerned about the plight of refugees and Somali groups as armed resistance to the regime of President **Mohammed Siad Barré** intensified during the last quarter of 1990.

3. By early December 1990, the security situation had worsened to such an extent that the Secretary-General ordered **the** evacuation of all dependants and non-essential United Nations personnel **from** Somalia. By the middle of January 1991, all foreign diplomatic missions and international **organizations**, including the International Committee **of** the Red Cross (**ICRC**), had been evacuated **from** Mogadishu. The violent **clashes** that led to the overthrow of Mr. Siad **Barré** and the ensuing inter-clan fighting caused the displacement of approximately one third of the Somali population of 7 million.

4. The United Nations system representatives, following their evacuation from Somalia, formed a task force under the leadership of the Special Coordinator for Special **Emergency** Relief Operations **to monitor** and report on developments in Somalia, while attempting to coordinate emergency assistance efforts. Following the establishment of a provisional **government** in Mogadishu, the task force undertook a one-day assessment mission on 20 February to look into the actual security situation and requirements, hold informal discussions with the authorities and meet with Somali local staff **to** organize a regular exchange of communications.

5. During the mission, the provisional government in **Mogadishu** made an appeal to the United Nations, bilateral donors and non-governmental **organizations** for urgently **needed** food, **medical** supplies, water, fuel and **transportation** equipment. The provisional government pledged to extend to the United Nations staff adequate office and housing accommodation, complete with security protection. **It** also consented to the United Nations condition that emergency operations would have to benefit all **Somalis** in need, regardless of **their location in the north (Berbera/Hergeisa)**, the centre (Mogadishu) or the southern part of the country (Kismayo).

6. In April 1991, a number of high-level meetings and consultations took place at United Nations Headquarters to review the situation in Somalia as reported by the **mission** and updated by the task *force*. Following these consultations, the Secretary-General decided to authorize the re-establishment of a limited United Nations presence in Somalia in order to carry out emergency humanitarian relief activities as soon as circumstances permitted.

7. To this end, a security **assessment** mission took place between 7 and 11 May 1991. It visited seven major towns in the three main regions of the country. The mission's findings confirmed the traumatic and appalling state of affairs of the country: fragmented and shaky administrative authorities controlling different regions or subregions of **Somalia**, instable and volatile security conditions, war injuries, food shortages, epidemics and lack of shelter and basic public services, such as water, sanitation, electricity and transportation. According to the mission's report, vulnerable groups, such as children and women, the internally displaced and destitute returnees, require the most urgent attention. The whole of Somalia needs a wide range of humanitarian assistance. In the north, the most pressing needs are food, de-mining of **Hergeisa and** surrounding areas, shelter, especially for **returnees**, reactivation of the health services, restoration of the water supply, **veterinary services** and quick-maturing sorghum seeds. In the centre, food, fuel and communication equipment head the list of urgent requirements. The same is true also for the south where the destruction of basic health and hygiene facilities threatens the spread of epidemics.

8. Among **the most** vulnerable groups in Somalia are the refugees and returnees. Prior to the outbreak of major hostilities, the United Nations system was assisting 450,000 Ethiopian refugees in southern Somalia. Of these, around 100,000 had opted for repatriation to Ethiopia and the rest for local integration in Somalia. In addition, about 50,000 refugees *were* registered in the north for repatriation to Ethiopia. Furthermore, some 370,000 Somali **refugees** who had fled to Ethiopia following the 1988 ^{civil} conflicts in north-western Somalia were again caught up in a civil war which threatened their safety. There is no reliable information as yet as to what happened to all of these refugees and returnees. Data on their whereabouts and status *are* being collected as a basis for drawing up appropriate **programmes** of emergency relief and rehabilitation assistance.

9. A United Nations inter-agency needs assessment mission visited the north and centre of Somalia from 26 June to 4 July 1991. In its preliminary report, the mission identified the following areas for emergency **intervention**:

(a) Health and nutrition:

- (i) Food for therapeutic feeding of undernourished children, war wounded and pregnant **women**;
- (ii) Antibiotics and other essential drugs;
- (iii) Surgical and medical equipment;
- (iv) X-ray equipment and films;
- (v) Syringes**, blood transfusion and laboratory equipment¹
- (vi) Ambulances, generators and fuel.

(b) Water and sanitation:

- (i) Repair and rehabilitation of the water-supply system to residents, and displaced persons ;
- (ii) Re-establishment of waste collection and disposal **systems**;
- (iii) Re-establishment of pest and disease vector control system.

(c) Emergency food aid:

- (i) Food for 430,000 Somali returnees for six months **from the date of** their return to Somalia, in addition to household utensils and building **materials**;
- (ii) Emergency food assistance for 2 million displaced and other vulnerable people for four months, estimated at 156,000 tons.

(d) Agriculture and livestock production:

- (i) Rehabilitation and revitalization of the production of seeds and agricultural equipment;
- (ii) Emergency relief programme for rehabilitation of range management, grazing reserves, serum and vaccine, laboratories, **etc.**;

(e) Telecommunications:

Restoration of telecommunication links at the regional and district as well as the international level.

(f) Civil aviation:

(i) Rehabilitation of damaged airports and flight communication equipment J

(ii) Re-establishment of airport rescue and fire-fighting facilities.

(g) Internal transport, monitoring and distribution of emergency relief supplies:

(i) Acquisition and repair of transport equipment;

(ii) Procurement of fuel and lubricants, office and communication
● quOpn;ent, etc;

(iii) Subcontracting of emergency monitoring personnel for transportation and distribution.

10. The preliminary inter-agency mission report is being fleshed out with the required details to form the basis for a **consolidated** appeal to be addressed to **the international community** for launching a programme of emergency relief assistance to Somalia.

11. In the meantime, a resumed United Nations presence in the form of limited ● **emergency relief staff** has now been established, as at 11 August 1991, in **Berbera and Boroma** in the north of the country, and in Mogadishu in the centre. A presence will be established at **Kismayo** in the south as soon as security conditions permit.

III. ACTION TAKEN TO EXTEND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

A. Responses received from Member States

12. By a note dated 4 March 1991, the Secretary-General requested Member States to provide information on the nature and extent of emergency assistance provided to Somalia in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/229. The responses received are summarised below.

1. Germany

13. In 1990, the Federal Government channelled DM 3 million of humanitarian aid funds to Somalia, as well as 5,000 tons of food aid (value DM 8.2 million),

14. From January to March 1991, DM 300,000 were channelled to Somalia via ICRC, as well as food aid of 3,770 tons (value DM 1.65 million),

2. Greece

15. The **Government of Greece** has decided to make a contribution to the **emergency relief assistance** for Somalia in the amount of 2,000 tons of wheat.

3. Italy

16. The Government of Italy has **decided to constitute** a locally administered fund of Lit 1 billion (approximately **\$US 775,000**), which has already been used to purchase three radios and 116 tons of **food aid**, medicines and fuel in Nairobi, and to finance 16 flights for the distribution of these items.

17. Italy purchased Lit 850 million worth of essential drugs (approximately **\$US 659,000**), of which 9.6 tons have already been distributed and a further 15.8 tons will **be sent** in the near future.

18. A contribution was made of Lit 3 billion (approximately **\$US 2,326,000**) for the establishment and management of an **emergency medical** unit (this intervention will be started as soon as the improvement of the security conditions will allow it),

19. A contribution was made to the Office of **the** United Nations High Commissioner for **Refugees (UNHCR)** of Lit 500 million (approximately **\$US 387,500**) for humanitarian assistance interventions in favour of Somali refugees in Kenya. ,

20. Italy also formulated a second locally administered fund of Lit 2 billion (approximately **\$US 1,550,000**) to continue with the purchase of first-aid necessities and their transportation to the Chisimaio, **Mogadishu**, Berbera and **Bosaso** areas (about 270 tons of foodstuffs and **medicines** have already been purchased with these funds and are about to be shipped),

4. Liechtenstein

21. The Liechtenstein **Government decided** on 6 May 1991, to make a contribution of **SwF 20,000** to **UNHCR** for the assistance programme in Ethiopia and Somalia.

5. Norway

22. The Norwegian Government has, since mid-January 1991, contributed approximately **NKr 5 million** to various emergency operations. The assistance has been channelled through Norwegian and international relief organisations.

23. The following **list is a breakdown of the assistance from Norway:**

		NKr
17 January	Médecins sans Frontières (medical equipment)	500,000
25 February	808 villages (45 tons of food)	550,000
5 March	Norwegian Red Cross (food and medical equipment)	3,000,000
11 April	Norwegian Church Aid's assistance to Somalian refugees in Ethiopia	275,400
16 April	808 villages (food, storage facilities and hospital beds)	500,000

24. In addition, the Norwegian **Government** has **committed** the amount of **NKr 1.8 million** to Save the Children and the Norwegian People's Relief Association for emergency relief in Somalia. The assistance of the Norwegian **Government** will thus, in the near future, amount to approximately **NKr 6.6 million**.

6. Sweden

25. The **Swedish Government** has, since December 1990, **contributed** an amount of **SKr 12,583,000** in emergency assistance to Somalia. Of this total, **SKr 10 million** have been provided through the United Children's Fund (UNICEF), 500,000 through **Médecins sans Frontières** and **2,083,000** through Swedish non-governmental **organizations**.

26. In addition, the Swedish **Government** decided in April 1991 to allocate **SKr 60 million** to the World Food Programme (WFP) for emergency **assistance to Africa**, of which **SKr 40 million** are **destined** for the Horn of **Africa**. At the same time **SKr 60 million** were allocated to **UNHCR for emergency** assistance to **Africa**. Of this total **SKr 4 million** are **earmarked** for relief efforts among **Sudanese** and Somali refugees in Ethiopia,

7. Turkey

27. Upon the request of the Turkish Embassy in Mogadishu regarding the drought and epidemic in Somalia, on 9 September 1987 the Turkish Red Crescent sent 16 **boxes** of medicine and medical supplies, weighing 1,157 kg.

28. On the appeal of the Somalia Red Crescent and Somalia Ministry of Health for medicine and medical supplies to be used in the treatment of women and children who were wounded as a result of the conflict in the north-east region of Somalia, two boxes of medicine and medical supplies, weighing 79 kg. each, were sent on 12 August 1988.

29. In response to the heavy flood in Somalia and the consequent increase in transportation costs, the Turkish Red Crescent sent a check for the amount of SwF 100,000 to the Somalia Red Crescent on 20 June 1999.

30. Before this assistance, \$US 1 million was contributed as food aid in 1985 as part of the technical assistance programme that was established to provide aid to Sahelian countries affected by drought in 1984. For Somalia, \$US 300,000 was appropriated. Although \$US 100,000 of this appropriation was used to send three Turkish engineers to the Berbera Cement Factory for a one-year tour of duty, these engineers had to return after three months because of the turmoil in the country.

31. Within the framework of the funds allocated to their country, Somali officials requested the realization of the "Windmill and Food Processing Equipment" project that is aimed at supplying water for irrigation purposes. At a later stage, they requested the extension of the project so as to encompass electrical energy, which has brought the financial requirement for the project of approximately \$US 7 million to \$US 8 million. Therefore, the Somali authorities have been requested to find additional resources from the Islamic Development Bank.

32. Since the existing total contribution would not be sufficient for this project, alternative projects such as setting up a fishery department are being considered. Within the framework of group educational programmes organized by the Turkish Foreign Technical Assistance Programme in the fall of 1990, three Somali experts attended the water and soil development programme, two experts attended the food processing and dairy technology project and one expert attended the project planning and management programme.

B. Action taken by the United Nations system

33. By a letter dated 4 March 1991, the Secretary-General requested entities of the United Nations system to provide information on activities undertaken in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/229. The responses received are summarized below.

1. World Food Programme

34. During 1990, there were food shortages affecting 600,000 Ethiopian refugees in Somalia, of whom 460,000 were in camps in the south and 140,000 in the north. Under project 4167, approved in December 1988, the World Food Programme (WFP) provided 39,450 tons of food commodities at a total cost of

\$US 11 million. The project **included special** provisions intended to encourage **voluntary repatriation** or integration into Somali **society of the refugees.**

35. On the **assumption** that voluntary repatriation would proceed **as planned,** WFP approved a second phase of the project on 1 June 1990 which **was** intended to **cover** most of the food **needs of an** estimated average number of 162,000 Ethiopian refugees for one **year,** beginning 1 January 1991. **The new phase** involved 29,125 **tons of food commodities** at a total **cost of \$US 10.8 million** to WFP. However, deterioration of the **security situation** in December 1990 **resulted in the evacuation of United Nations staff** on 2 January 1991 and thus **prevented the start of the new phase.**

36. In the meantime, WFP **has called forward** approximately 13,000 **tons of food commodities** under project 4167, which are **expected** to arrive in Somalia in July 1991, in order to meet the emergency food needs of **the population most** seriously **affected by the civil** strife. In the immediate term, WFP **has** purchased 1,800 **tons of rice from Thailand,** of which 600 **tons** are earmarked for distribution in the north through non-governmental organizations such as **Médicins sans Frontières, Caritas, Save the Children Fund** and 1,200 **tons** for the south, which will be distributed by ICRC in **collaboration** with the Somali Red Crescent **Society.**

2. United Nations Children's Fund

37. As the security situation in Somalia deteriorated, delivery of **emergency services** had become extremely **difficult.** None the **less,** UNICEF continued **its** support to the vulnerable groups in the north until January 1991 when a general evacuation of United **Nations** international personnel forced a temporary **suspension of activities.** During **this period,** UNICEF strengthened its activities by recruiting three **consultants, a public health specialist, a nutritionist and an educationist.** In **addition,** UNICEF had **carried out** a general evaluation of the project progress to date **as part of its mid-term review** in August **1990.** Interventions included the strengthening of maternal and child health **services,** particularly immunization, nutrition surveillance and monitoring and the expansion of water **supply** and sanitation activities.

38. During the period September-December 1990, **UNICEF** airlifted **from** Mogadiscio four **tons of essential drugs, cold chain equipment, fuel and medical supplies** to support the **maternal- and child-health network.** **This** assistance enabled the Ministry of Health to **organize three rounds** of immunization campaigns during which 35,000 children under one year of age (83 per cent of the eligible target population) were **immunized.** During these campaigns, women of child-bearing age in **Borama received** tetanus-toxoid shots. UNICEF further rehabilitated the only maternal-child health centre in **Berbera** and helped the **Ministry** to hire three additional health personnel to treat an increasing number of children suffering from diarrhoea, resulting from contaminated water.

39. UNICEF promoted self-help action in Boroma by assisting the Ministry of Health and an indigenous non-governmental organization to re-establish a dry-waste garbage collection system. In cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), UNICEF also provided 15 collapsible water tanks and helped the Joaal community of displaced people build two latrine/bath houses.

40. In addition to the above, UNICEF assisted in upgrading the technical skills of personnel belonging to the Ministry of Health and the Refugee Health Unit to enable them to conduct nutrition surveys and growth monitoring of 15,000 children in Boroma.

41. Unfortunately, most of the above achievements were lost as a result of the civil strife in the country. Since March 1991, UNICEF operations in Berbera were implemented in close cooperation with CARITAS (Italy), and carried out by a short-term public health nurse and a hydrologist. In view of this arrangement, a one-week vaccination campaign and a feasibility study to rehabilitate the local water-supply system were conducted in Berbera. UNICEF has also re-opened its sub-office in Boroma, manned by local personnel, established an emergency support unit in Djibouti and continued its emergency assistance to Somalia from Nairobi. In addition, 20 tons of medical kits, supplementary food, shelter material, oral rehydration salts and related supplies have been airfreighted for distribution to the vulnerable groups in Berbera.

3. United Nations Development Programme

42. The Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Somalia also serves as the United Nations Special Coordinator for Emergency Relief Operations, responsible for the coordination of all United Nations relief efforts. He is assisted in this work by a United Nations Emergency Unit, staffed by UNDP staff members and financed to date by IPF (indicative planning figure) funds and by special donations from the Governments of Canada and the United States of America.

43. Overall coordination of United Nations relief has involved a range of activities, such as facilitating quick assessments of the needs of persons affected by the civil conflict, convening liaison meetings with donor representatives, and operating the United Nations aircraft serving the relief efforts of the Government, the United Nations, donors and non-governmental organizations. From February through August 1990, the Special Coordinator coordinated the Extraordinary Interim Emergency Programme in northern Somalia. This special programme of the Secretary-General was created in conjunction with UNHCR and WFP to provide food and non-food aid to refugees when security and other constraints had made the regular operations of these agencies in northern Somalia impossible.

44. Severe security problems led to the suspension of all United Nations operations in Somalia in January 1991. Subsequently, these activities were resumed in August 1991.

4. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

45. At the request of the Secretary-General, UNHCR participated in the March 1989 Inter-agency Mission on emergency assistance to displaced persons in the affected regions of northern Somalia. As this population falls Outside the mandate of UNHCR, UNHCR has no specific activity to report. However, favourable conditions now exist for the voluntary return of Somali refugees who have been living since 1988 in the refugee camps located in eastern Ethiopia. UNHCR is in the process of finalizing an emergency assistance programme to assist in the re-integration of this large population.

46. This movement back to Somalia has already started. As the refugees have repeatedly expressed their wish to return, the prospect of a durable solution for this large group of refugees in Ethiopia appears within reach. However, for this to become a reality, the inception of a rehabilitation and a re-integration programme is urgently required to assist these needy persons. Failure to do so would only perpetuate a costly care and maintenance programme.

47. UNHCR is fully committed to assist in the implementation of a re-integration programme and it is in this context that a UNHCR and CARE New York Assessment Team is presently in north-west Somalia. In view of the magnitude of the needs, the rehabilitation programme will require the involvement of a large number of United Nations and voluntary agencies. Without prejudging the conclusions of an inter-agency assessment of needs, UNHCR will be actively involved in the establishment of a logistics system and distribution of re-integration packages to returnees in north-west Somalia.

5. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

48. The Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) continues to monitor the country's food production and cereal import needs, though only limited information has been forthcoming in recent months following the outbreak of civil war. The findings of the System are communicated to the international donor community through regular monthly reports. From September 1990 to date, no additional food emergency assistance has been approved by FAO.

49. RAO had intended to field a food and agriculture evaluation mission to ascertain conditions and set the stage for an eventual food security assistance programme, including a disaster preparedness component. The mission has now been transformed into an emergency needs assessment, it will form part of a United Nations inter-agency mission and will go to Somalia as soon as security conditions permit.

50. A project funded by the Technical Cooperation Programme of FAO for the provision of seeds for cereals, pulses and vegetables to flood-affected farmers along the **Shebelle** was approved on 23 August 1990, but was suspended owing to **civil** unrest. It is intended to execute the **emergency** operation when the security situation returns to normal.

6. International Fund for Agricultural Development

51. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (**IFAD**) has committed **\$US** 41.57 million from its own resources to the co-financing of five projects in **Somalia**. In addition, through the Belgian Survival Fund (BSF), a commitment of **\$US** 6.5 million was made to finance two projects. The financing of a third project has been secured from BSF resources with a grant of **\$US** 5.02 million.

52. Among the more recent project is the North-West Regional **Agricultural** Development Project, phase II, scheduled to close in June 1991, for which **.FAD** provided special drawing rights (**SDR**) 7.05 million. The project was co-financed by the International Development Association (IDA) and the European Economic Community (**EEC**) and aims at increasing agricultural production, farm incomes and employment opportunities in the northwest. **Project** objectives were to be achieved through soil and water conservation work, adaptive research, extension and farmer training, the creation of irrigated gardens, provision of farm inputs and strengthening the local institutional capacity. Up to May 1988, project implementation progress was excellent, with soil and water conservation work exceeding appraisal targets by 150 per cent and with most of the human water points constructed,

53. The Bay Region Agricultural Development Project, phase II, was approved by the **IFAD** Executive Board during the December 1989 session. The Loan Agreement was signed on 25 April 1990. Total **project** costs amount to **\$US** 18.47 million. **The** project is financed by **IFAD** through a loan of **\$US** 11.37 and a grant of **\$US** 0.33 million and co-financed by the Islamic Development Bank through a loan of **\$US** 4.74 million for the construction of new roads, and from the Government of Somalia, through budgetary allocation in local currency equivalent to **\$US** 2.14 million.

54. The **project** seeks to improve directly the production capacity and standard of living of about 25,500 farm families (180,000 people), whose average per capita income of **\$US** 130 is less than half the national per capita income of **\$US** 290 (1987). Only farmers with 5 hectares or less would be concerned by the project, priority being given to those with less than 2 hectares. The agricultural component (research, extension and credit) would directly benefit 12,000 **farmers**, with emphasis on two-hectare farms (**75** per cent of beneficiaries) with yearly incomes of **\$US** 1,490 representing only 25 per cent of beneficiaries. The road and water supply components would directly benefit **13,500** farmers, so that the total number of direct beneficiaries is 25,500. In addition, the livestock health component would benefit about 60,000 farm families (420,000 people, or 60 per cent of the project areas population). As women contribute a major share of the **labour** in

crop and livestock production and are considered as farmers in their own right, they would be a **significant** portion of the beneficiaries. 3,000 (25 per cent women would be influenced by extension activities and would be given **access to credit** and inputs). Applied research would cover nutrition and food **processing** technology to reduce the burden women bear in food preparation. A **special credit** revolving fund would be extended to help spread the use of new tools among **women's** groups and to help them **undertake** income-generating **activities**. The project includes a camel-milk-processing pilot **scheme** to make use of the surplus camel fluid milk currently discarded during the flush season. The grant of **\$US 0.22** million will finance this pilot scheme.

Belgian Survival Fund Grants

55. For the Mahadday Weyne Integrated Development Project, phase I, a BSF grant of **BF 100** million was provided under a joint **IFAD/WHO/UNICEF/UNDP programme, with IFAD** as the lead agency. Designed as an integrated pilot rural development project based on a low-cost basic-needs approach with a high degree of **community participation**, the project aims at benefiting 5,000 small settled subsistence farmers and nomadic pastoralists through improved food production, health **conditions** and water supply in the Mahadday Weyne district.

56. The **project** was launched in September 1990. In addition to the establishment of a Project Management Unit, with **interactive** planning and implementation **procedures** between the project and the **respective** in-line **Ministries**, both at the central and regional/district **levels**, project achievements **include**: (a) completion of five-deep and 25-shallow wells serving 21,000 people and their **livestock**; (b) rehabilitation of eight canals to irrigate 400 hectares and with village canal committees organized for **maintenance**; (c) rehabilitation of a Health Centre servicing 14,000 **people**; and (d) the delivery of a literacy programme for women.

57. Based on the above results, a second phase project to be financed by a BSF grant of **\$US 5.0** million has been approved by the Belgian government.

56. For the **Wanle** Weyne Integrated Development Project a BSF grant of **BF 185** million was provided. Designed along the **same** lines as the Mahadday Weyne **Project**, phase I, **this** project will benefit 20,000 settled **farmers** and **nomadic** people in the **district** of Wanle Weyne. The project is progressing **satisfactorily**, with water supply facilities under active implementation.

Other projects in the pipeline

59. As a result of the General Identification Mission mounted in December 1989, in addition to the Bay Region Agricultural Development Project, phase II the following project ideas have been retained in the pipeline: an artisanal fisheries project and a credit project.

60. Another project **not** identified **as such** by the **General** Identification Mission, but which could fit in the agricultural credit project, is the Smallholder Rice Production **Project** in the Lower Juba Valley. The project rationale **is** that **rice** consumption in Somalia **is** increasing **rapidly**; current **production of** 10,000 tons per year **covers** only 14 per cent of the total demand of 70,000 **tons** annually. The **Mogambo** and **Fanole areas** in Lower Juba Valley have an **under-utilized** potential for rice production. **Of** the 10,000 government-owned hectares for which water **is** available for **irrigation**, only 4,000 hectares are under rice cultivation. The **proposed** project would settle about 3,000 small tenants on 6,000 hectares that are not cultivated at present and provide them with **short-** and medium-term credit for seasonal inputs and agricultural equipment for land cultivation and harvesting.

7. World Bank

61. **Given** the security situation in Somalia, the World Bank has not extended assistance to Somalia since the outbreak of hostilities in December 1990. Furthermore, the absence of a **de facto** government and the failure **of** the country to meet **its** debt obligations to IDA have made it impossible to consider new **operations** or to continue disbursements from previous commitments.

62. However, the Bank **stands** ready to extend possible reconstruction assistance to Somalia if and when the security situation permits, and if the Somali Government requests such assistance and resumes its debt servicing to IDA.