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INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES: SUMMARY AND
ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE
CHARTER. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

West African Territories

FRENCH WEST AFRICA^{1/}

^{1/} In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1332 (XIII) this summary is also submitted to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

NOTE: The following symbols are used:

Three dots (...)		data not available
Dash	(-)	magnitude nil or negligible
Slash	1948/1949	crop or financial year
Hyphen	1948-1949	annual average

GENERAL INFORMATION

French West Africa has a total area of 4,634,000 sq. kilometres.

It includes eight territories: Senegal (197,161 sq. kilometres), Mauritania (1,085,805 sq. kilometres), Sudan (1,204,021 sq. kilometres), Guinea^{2/} (245,857 sq. kilometres), Ivory Coast (322,463 sq. kilometres), Upper Volta (274,122 sq. kilometres), Niger (1,188,794 sq. kilometres) and Dahomey (115,762 sq. kilometres). The capital of the group of territories is Dakar.

POPULATION

The improvement of health conditions in formerly unhealthy areas, the development of preventive medicine and health education and the general improvement in living conditions have resulted in an increase in the natural rate of population growth.

The estimated death and birth rates are 20-30 and 40-50 per thousand respectively. The population rose from 15,955,000 in 1945 to 18,755,000 in 1956, an increase of 17.5 per cent.

Distribution of population by territories
(thousand inhabitants)

	<u>1948</u>		<u>1951</u>		<u>1956</u>	
	<u>Africans</u>	<u>Non-Africans</u>	<u>Africans</u>	<u>Non-Africans</u>	<u>Africans</u>	<u>Non-Africans</u>
Senegal	1,992	27.5	2,060	33.1	2,181	48.6
Sudan	3,164	5.8	3,341	6.7	3,636	7.4
Mauritania	518	0.5	566	0.8	614	1.6
Guinea	2,180	6.8	2,254	6.9	2,498	9.5
Ivory Coast	2,066	9.6	2,159	10.5	2,471	11.6
Upper Volta	3,070	2.0	3,106	2.3	3,322	3.7
Dahomey	1,505	2.4	1,532	2.2	1,612	2.8
Niger	<u>2,029</u>	<u>1.2</u>	<u>2,126</u>	<u>1.5</u>	<u>2,333</u>	<u>3.0</u>
Total	16,524	55.8	17,144	64.0	18,667	88.2

^{2/} The independence of the Republic of Guinea was proclaimed on 2 October 1958.

ECCNOMIC CONDITIONS

It has been estimated on the basis of a survey that the national income rose from approximately 160,000 million in 1947 to 271,000 million in 1953 (constant 1953 francs CFA).^{3/} The figures include an estimate of the production of the subsistence economy, which is an important sector of economic activity.

The national income figures also provide an indication of the changes in the volume of locally consumed products. Food products as a whole (agriculture and livestock combined) increased by nearly 43 per cent - from 75,480 million in 1947 to 107,690 million in 1953 (1953 francs CFA). The total gross product was 325,000 million francs CFA in 1956 as against 220,000 million in 1951, a 48 per cent increase in nominal value in five years. Allowing for the rise in prices, the real increase in resources was 27 per cent over the five-year period, an annual rate of increase of 5 per cent.

The foreign trade statistics for the past ten years record a very substantial increase in both the volume and value of trade. There have been changes in the structure of foreign trade and in the nature of economic activities.

In the case of imports, there has been an increase in capital goods (cement, iron and steel products, electrical equipment), petroleum products and consumer goods, the increase in the last category being due to the increased purchasing power of the population.

In the case of exports, there has been a general and considerable increase in the volume and value of traditional agricultural exports, with a tendency towards the export of processed instead of raw products.

As the prosperity of the Federation^{4/} mainly depends on agricultural production, which represents 90 per cent of the value of exports, the economic progress of French West Africa is closely related to the success of its

^{3/} One franc CFA equals two French francs: 100 francs CFA was equivalent to \$US0.5714 from 1949 to 1957.

^{4/} The term "Federation" is used in this document to refer to the group of eight French West African territories.

agriculture. In ten years cocoa and groundnut exports have almost doubled, coffee exports have almost trebled, and banana exports have increased fifteen-fold. The efforts of producers have been supported by action on the part of the authorities, who have directed and given financial assistance to the development of the rural economy.

In 1946, the mineral production of French West Africa amounted to some ten thousand tons, the value at current prices being 200 million francs CFA. Ten years later, the volume of mineral production was 1,400,000 tons, over one hundred times the 1946 level, and its value FOB was approximately 2,000 million francs CFA, ten times the 1946 level. However, despite this relative progress, while mineral products accounted for over 50 per cent of the volume of exports in 1956, they still accounted for only 3 per cent of their value and 0.6 per cent of the national revenue.

Side by side with the expansion of mineral and agricultural production, the industrial sector has also expanded significantly since 1952, contributing to the change in the appearance of the large towns in the group of territories.

Many industries have been set up, covering a wide range of industrial activities: oil-works (groundnut, palm, palm kernels, karite) and soap-works, food-processing industries (industrial bakeries, starch works, chocolate factories, breweries), textile industries (cotton yarn and cloth, sisal), timber industries (veneer and plywood), chemical industries (distilleries, perfume plants) and construction industries. These industries are still on a small scale. Their importance is however greater than would appear from the foreign trade statistics, as the products of these numerous undertakings are for the most part entirely consumed locally.

The consumption of electric energy has kept pace with the development of industries and has expanded substantially. Installed power rose from 10,645 kw. in 1946 to 79,000 kw. in 1956 and the output of electricity from 22.8 million to 145.5 million kwh.

Considerable sums have been invested in the development of the various means of transport.

Since the establishment of the Economic and Social Development Investment Fund (FIDES) by the act of 30 April 1946 to finance capital development plans,

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French West Africa has been able to carry into effect a large-scale public investment policy which has been accompanied by an increasingly large volume of private investment. Approximately two thirds of the public funds invested has been provided by metropolitan France and the remainder has come from local sources. Including investments under the general and local budgets, the road fund, the special accounts and the Rural Equipment and Economic and Social Development Fund (Fonds d'équipement rural et de développement économique et social - FERDES), it is estimated that public funds invested since 1947 have totalled over 155,000 million francs CFA, to which must be added about 80,000 million in private investments.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The production of export crops having declined appreciably during the war, exports decreased and were smaller in 1945 than in 1938. The restoration of the Federation's economy depended primarily on the development of agriculture. It was necessary to increase food supplies by expanding food crops and to develop the production of export crops.

With regard to the first objective, the expansion of food supplies, attention has been directed towards certain food crops, in particular root crops, and the extension of rice growing. Specialized stations have been set up in the various territories using funds provided under the plan and programmes have been prepared with a view to bringing more land under cultivation. Measures have also been taken to mechanize farming.

As regards the development of export crops, programmes have been prepared with a view to the expansion of production, the introduction of better methods of cultivation and the improvement of the quality of produce through proper processing. Since 1954, administrative measures have also been taken to protect producers against price fluctuations and to guarantee the marketing of produce. A price support policy was adopted in 1954 for certain products (groundnuts) and stabilization funds were set up for other products (coffee, cocoa, cotton, karite) in 1955.

The implementation of this agricultural development policy has been made possible by the continuing efforts of the technical services and the funds

received under the modernization plan (23,266 million metropolitan francs in payment appropriations up to 31 December 1955) as a result of which the scientific and technical infrastructure essential to the achievement of the aims of the programme has been provided.

Specialized agencies, agricultural research centres, institutes and semi-public corporations have been set up to stimulate production and increase productivity. The Overseas Technical and Scientific Research Office (ORSTOM) maintains a number of establishments in French West Africa (the teaching and tropical research institute at Adiopodoumé in the Ivory Coast, the geophysical centre at M'Bour in Senegal, the agricultural research centres at Bambay in Senegal, Koba in Guinea and Bingerville on the Ivory Coast). The specialized research institutes include institutes concerned with oils and oilseeds (IRHO), tropical and citrus fruits, cotton and other fibres (IRCT) and rubber (IRCA). Two large independent undertakings, the Niger Office, which cultivates 28,500 hectares of rice and 4,700 hectares of cotton, and the Compagnie générale des oléagineux tropicaux with a concession of 14,000 hectares for groundnuts, use rational mechanized farming and soil conservation methods and settle indigenous farmers on the land.

	<u>Principal food crops</u> (average estimates)			
	<u>Area</u> (thousands of hectares)		<u>Production</u> (thousands of tons)	
	1947	1955	1947	1955
Rice	500	800	450	600
Millet and sorghum	4,000	4,900	2,000	2,400
Maize	400	750	250	440
Manioc, yams, sweet potatoes	400	925	1,000	4,570
Beans, <u>niébés</u> field peas	400	505	100	120

Principal agricultural export products
 (average estimates)

	<u>Area</u>		<u>Production</u>	
	(thousands of hectares)		(thousands of tons)	
	1947/48	1954/55	1947/48	1954/55
Groundnuts	940	1,317	724	794
Bananas	2.43	5.9	33 ^{a/}	104 ^{a/}
Coffee ^{b/}	120	297	43	131
Cocoa	123	205	27.1	71.4
Palm oil	-	-	0.7	14.4
Palm kernels	-	-	40	84.8

^{a/} Exports.

^{b/} Ivory Coast only.

Livestock

It is not easy to determine the importance of livestock in the economy of French West Africa. As the territory is extremely large and three-quarters of the livestock is in the hands of nomads, it is difficult to take censuses and the statistics accordingly relate only to that part of production which can be checked. Stockfarming is however of undoubted importance. Two-thirds of the Federation's utilizable land is given over to pastoral activities and some territories, such as Mauritania, Niger and a large part of Sudan derive their main resources from their livestock.

During the last ten years the number of livestock has steadily increased and livestock products have been improved.

These results are mainly due to the activities of the livestock technical services. Livestock stations and experimental farms have been set up and have made use of selective methods to encourage the propagation of the most productive and strongest local breeds.

FIDES has provided substantial funds for the livestock industry (9,694 million metropolitan francs up to 31 December 1955) which have been used to carry out a number of important projects in the health field and in pasture improvement.

In the health field, immunization and treatment centres have been set up. A federal laboratory, responsible for developing research and the production

of serums and vaccines, was opened in January 1953. Mobile teams have been organized to survey the bush areas and make preventive immunizations. Protective measures against animal diseases are being strengthened year by year.

Many agricultural water supply projects have been carried out to improve pastures and open up new grazing areas for cattle.

	<u>Livestock</u> (in thousand head)		
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1955</u>
Cattle	4,691	7,014	10,000
Sheep and goats	13,430	16,521	20,000
Pigs	264	270	340
Horses	186	229	296
Asses	415	584	903
Camels	203	353	553

Meat production - inspected slaughterings

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1955</u>
Cattle	103,871	231,133	281,000
Sheep and goats	343,561	612,712	753,000
Pigs	14,383	17,424	29,000

FORESTRY

There are vast forested areas in French West Africa and many products are obtained from its highly varied forests, which extend from the poor thorn savannah of the pre-Sahara regions in the north to the dense forest of the Ivory Coast in the south.

The production of timber for export is concentrated in the lower Ivory Coast, where 35,000 sq. kilometres are at present open for exploitation. In the other territories, even those which possess dense forests, timber is cut only to meet local needs. The aim of the forestry development programme which is being carried out under the ten-year plan is to provide the country with improved timber stands capable of satisfying the country's needs in timber, firewood and lumber. A special effort has been made to enrich the dense forest in the Ivory Coast with valuable species of trees, and to establish new plantations. Forestry research units, the most important being at Abidjan

(Ivory Coast), have been set up to carry out this plan to increase the value of the tropical forests.

Forest resources
(thousands of hectares)

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1954/1955</u>
Area under concession	2,400	3,050	3,400
Area under exploitation	290	440	503
Enriched area in dense forest	6.3	12.6	20
Planted savannah area	1.8	4.1	5.8

Exploitation of timber in the Ivory Coast
(cubic metres)

	<u>Average 1950/1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Production of logs	223,000	264,000	324,000
Exports of logs	144,000	169,000	208,500
Lumber sawn in the territory	89,000	95,000	115,500
Production of sawn timber	47,000	53,700	65,900

FISHERIES

Fishing is for the most part carried on on a small scale by indigenous fishermen. Despite the fact that the coastal waters are well stocked with fish, the annual catch does not exceed 70,000 tons. Senegal, with an annual production of 40,000 tons and about 25,000 fishermen, is the largest producer and consumer of fish in the Federation, followed by Guinea, the Ivory Coast and Mauritania.

In addition to sea fishing, river and lake fishing is also carried on, the annual catch being estimated at 70,000 tons, of which the Sudan accounts for 50,000 tons. The total non-industrial catch is thus approximately 140,000 tons a year.

Industrial fishing (trawling and tunny fishing) has expanded rapidly since 1954 and seems likely to assume great importance. The number of trawlers increased from seventeen in 1954 to thirty-five in 1956.

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A comprehensive programme was initiated by the sea fisheries conference at Dakar in 1948 with a view to providing the Federation with the facilities necessary to develop small-scale and industrial fishing. Its aims included the provision of port facilities in the principal fishing centres, the establishment of shore installations to supply the fishing fleets and store the catch and the modernization of the small-scale fishing industry. The funds provided for the implementation of the programme were used to establish cold storage facilities at Dakar, which were placed in operation in 1954, to equip small ice plants in Senegal and to improve indigenous fishing methods in Senegal by installing motors in indigenous fishing boats in 1952 and 1953.

	<u>Industrial fishing</u> (tons)		
	<u>1954/1955</u>	<u>1955/1956</u>	<u>1956/1957</u>
Trawling	765	3,194	5,012
Tunny fishing	506	1,790	7,126

MINING

In 1947 the mineral resources exploited were limited in extent. Production was confined to a few hundred kilogrammes of gold produced by the traditional small-scale methods, barely 60,000 carats of diamonds and a few thousand tons of ilmenite.

The beginning of production on an industrial scale, accompanied by the export of minerals in bulk, is the outstanding feature in the development of mining production over the past ten years.

The Federation has become a large producer of diamonds, ilmenite, calcium phosphate and alumina. Industrial production really began, however, with the almost simultaneous exploitation of the bauxite deposits on the Los Islands, near Conakry, and the Conakry iron deposit. These two undertakings, which began operations at the end of 1952, use mechanical equipment on a large scale and have many modern installations (transport, crushing, dumping, housing for the staff).

In 1956, the value of mineral production was approximately 2,100 million francs CFA, ten times more than in 1947. The Bureau minier de la

France d'outre-mer, a State company, has invested capital in some mining undertakings.

	<u>Mineral production</u>			
	<u>(thousand tons)</u>			
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Iron ore	-	-	398.6	853.0
Bauxite	-	99.4	326.5	451.5
Phosphates	0.8	66.1	98.2	73.5
Ilmenite	13.0	4.5	5.8	19.7
Cassiterite and wolfram	7.0	156.6	152.9	80.6
Zircon and rutile	0.06	0.03	0.09	0.5
Diamonds (thousands of carats)	62.3	136.1	179.9	389.6
Gold (kg. - controlled enterprises)	61.8	46.2	50.5	13.4

	<u>Estimated value of mineral production</u>			
	<u>(millions of francs CFA)</u>			
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Iron ore	-	-	485.5	712.0
Bauxite	-	64.5	450.0	480.9
Phosphates	-	91.2	126.9	224.2
Titaniferous ores	48.1	14.5	11.2	82.8
Cassiterite and wolfram	-	59.2	40.3	19.3
Diamonds	12.5	245.0	340.0	525.0
Gold	126.6	6.6	3.7	3.2

POWER

An electric power production programme was initiated in 1947 as part of the capital outlay programme. Its main features were the establishment of electric power stations in the largest towns, an increase in the production capacity of certain plants to meet the growth in urban population and the strengthening and expansion of the transport and distribution networks.

At the same time a vast programme of studies was undertaken to find new sources of energy and, in some particularly fortunate territories such as Guinea and the Ivory Coast, to prepare the blueprints for hydroelectric power stations. This electrical modernization and equipment plan has been going forward rapidly during the last ten years.

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Installed power has risen from 10,645 kw in 1946 to 79,100 kw in 1956, and output from 22.8 million kwh to 145.5 million kwh in the same period. Most of the power is produced by thermal stations; in 1956, hydro-electric stations accounted for only 10,400 kw of the 79,100 kw of installed power. The number of subscribers is still small, not more than 60,000 for the entire Federation in 1956.

INDUSTRY

The desirability of industrialization in French West Africa has always been recognized by the public authorities. Nevertheless there are serious obstacles to industrial expansion: the shortage of skilled manpower, the very high cost of raw materials because of the distances involved and, above all, the shortage of cheap sources of energy, which makes the Federation dependent upon external sources for the production of thermal power.

The establishment of new undertakings is left to private initiative, subject only to compliance with the existing regulations concerning public safety and health. Nevertheless, the administration has taken effective steps to promote increased production. Its action has taken the form of financial assistance for the establishment of new enterprises or the extension of existing industries. It has also arranged for the setting up and operation of pilot plants designed to demonstrate the opportunities open to private enterprise in certain specific new industries.

Lastly, at the end of 1954 and the beginning of 1955, in order to facilitate the operation of existing enterprises and promote new industrial development, the Grand Conseil adopted measures to reduce taxes on locally processed commodities.

The types of industrial activity are extremely varied: food products, textiles, skins and hides, timber, chemical products and cement. Most of the products, apart from those produced by the oil refineries and soapworks, are for local consumption. There is no metallurgical industry at present, although plans for the establishment of a hydroelectric combine in the Konkouré Valley (Guinea), where aluminium will be produced on the spot, are very advanced.

Industrial production

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Groundnut oil (tons)	88,200	100,950	125,220
Palm oil	4,765	...	16,060
Soap	10,170	...	12,972
Beer (hectolitres)	88,000	106,000	205,000
Fish preserves	144	...	186
Cotton yarn and cloth (tonnage treated)	480	...	2,313
Shoes (thousand pairs)	625	985	1,208
Cement (tons)	80,000	61,000	145,500
Cigarettes (tonnage produced)	350	...	1,000
Sawn timber (cubic metres)	58,500	...	80,050

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Transport

The transport industry is an essential element in the economic and social life of French West Africa, where the distances are tremendous.

During the last ten years important infrastructure projects have been carried out with FIDES credits with a view to developing the various means of communication: roads, railways, maritime ports, aerodromes, inland waterways.

The main emphasis has been on improving the road network. Given the inadequate inland waterways and the limitations of the railway system, which covers the Territory very incompletely, roads have become the most important means of communication. Road works valued at 30,000 million francs CFA have been carried out on 6,000 km of roads, mainly the major highways, as part of the ten-year programme. In 1948, 23,500 km out of approximately 75,000 km of roads and tracks were permanent roads but only 115 km were asphalted. At the end of 1955 the road network had not greatly increased in length but permanent roads accounted for more than 30,000 km, of which approximately 1,700 km were asphalted.

With regard to the railways, the construction of the Mossi line has extended the network from 3,754 km in 1948 to 4,093 km in 1956; in addition the modernization of equipment and particularly the dieselization of the locomotives has made possible considerable administrative savings and consequently a marked decrease in fares.

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During the same period port facilities have been enlarged and improved, thanks to the projects carried out at the principal ports - Dakar, Conakry, Cotonou - and the establishment of ports at Abidjan (1,425 metres of quay) and Sassandra, with the result that there has been a noticeable increase in the volume of freight handled.

Work on improving inland waterways has also been continued, since water transport is more economical than other forms of transport. A works programme undertaken in 1946 includes the installation of river ports on the Senegal and the Niger.

Lastly, in the field of air transport, the improved infrastructure has led to the considerable development of air links and increased contact with countries outside the group, with a consequent increase in passenger and goods traffic.

Road Traffic

New vehicles in circulation

	<u>1946</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
	2,976	5,206	9,537

Consumption of motor fuels (in cubic metres)

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1956</u>
Petrol	105,935	162,410	251,777
Fuel oil	<u>34,800</u>	<u>51,886</u>	<u>83,001</u>
Total	140,735	214,296	334,778

Railways

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Number of passengers (millions)	3,469	6,166	5,500
Passenger-kilometres (millions)	313	496	460
Volume freight (1,000 tons)	1,208	1,408	1,400
Volume of traffic (million ton- kilometres)	345	464	583

	<u>Sea transport^{a/}</u>		
	<u>1946</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Number of vessels entered	1,607	5,051	6,238
Outgoing passengers	37,026	50,258	45,406
Incoming passengers	55,283	52,356	48,389
Freight handled (thousands of tons)			
Loaded	705	2,716	3,788
Unloaded	927	2,575	3,101

^{a/} Movement of shipping at the principal ports: Dakar, Conakry, Abidjan, Cotonou; as the port at Abidjan was not opened until 1950, the 1946 figures relate to the wharfs at Port Bouet and Grand Bassam.

Air transport

Development of commercial traffic at major aerodromes
(Dakar, Abidjan, Bamako, Conakry, Niamey)

	<u>1951</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Aircraft movements (arrivals and departures)	12,108	13,912	16,911
Number of passengers ^{a/}			
Arriving	41,847	68,025	112,883
Departing	41,447	70,399	114,213
Air freight (tons)			
Arriving	1,601	2,801	3,953
Departing	1,211	2,997	4,798
Airmail ^{a/}			
Arriving and departing	500	857	1,123

^{a/} Local traffic, excluding transit traffic.

Communications

Until 1956 postal, telegraph and telephone services were operated by the federal Postal and Telecommunications Department as a single service under the direct authority of the federal Government. Since the reorganization and decentralization of the overseas postal and telecommunications administration, under the Decree of 3 December 1956, this service has been made a local postal department, an industrial and commercial public agency for the group of territories, with corporate status and financial autonomy.

The progress achieved in the matter of telecommunications is illustrated in the following statistical tables:

	<u>Post offices</u>		
	(Postal traffic)		
	<u>1946</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1956</u>
Main offices	234	259	278
Branch offices	55	58	169
	<u>Telegraph and telephone offices</u>		
	<u>1946</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1956</u>
Telegraph offices	352	377	428
Telephone offices	161	193	372
Main telephone subscribers	4,500	7,994	13,960
	<u>Telegraph traffic</u>		
	<u>1946</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1956</u>
Domestic telegrams	1,358	2,095	1,988
International telegrams	-	328	411

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	<u>Telephone traffic</u>		
	<u>1946</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1956</u>
Urban calls (millions)	7,112	9,400	15,622
Inter-urban calls (millions)	202	650	1,512
International calls (units)	-	6,700	26,700

PUBLIC FINANCE

In French West Africa the public authorities administer the following budgets: the State budget, the general budget for French West Africa (which became the budget for the group of Territories at the end of 1957), and the territorial and communal budgets.

In addition, the special accounts and funds - FIDES, FERDES, the coffee and cocoa accounts, and the road fund - are classified as public budgets in French West Africa.

The railways, which have been a State enterprise since 1946, and the ports at Dakar, Conakry and Abidjan are dealt with in budgets annexed to the general budget, while the secondary ports are included in the territorial budgets.

As a result of the new standard nomenclature established by the decree of 30 August 1952 operating expenditure is now shown separately from expenditure on equipment and capital outlay in each budget.

The main feature of budgetary development in the federation is the ever-growing participation of the metropolitan country in the territories' expenses. Since 1948 France has been responsible for the salaries of senior administrative and judicial personnel (governors, administrators, magistrates), as also for military expenditure and the gendarmerie. Through FIDES, it bears the major share of economic and social capital expenditure. In addition, since the Decree of 3 December 1956, promulgated in application of the loi cadre defining State services in the territories, France has assumed responsibility for the cost of several services previously financed by the territories. At present, funds for the public administration are largely derived from metropolitan sources.

1. Principal public funds
 (thousand million francs CFA)

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
(a) Local funds	21.2	37.4	49.8
including:			
Indirect taxes	13.3	23.2	31.8
Direct taxes	5.2	10.7	12.3
(b) Metropolitan funds:			
State budget (payments made)	7.6	16.5	21.5
FIDES (payment appropriations, calendar year)	7.8	10.0	10.6
<u>Caisse centrale de la FOM</u> (advances and participation in State, joint and private companies)	1.5	2.0	3.6
Appropriations, <u>office du Niger</u>	<u>0.6</u>	<u>0.6</u>	<u>0.7</u>
Total metropolitan funds	17.5	29.1	36.4
Total funds	38.7	66.5	86.2

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2. Principal public expenditure
 (thousand million francs CFA)

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
(a) Expenditure from local funds,	19.7	38.6	46.4
including:			
Operations	12.7	23.3	33.6
Maintenance work	2.0	2.9	3.6
Capital outlay and major public works	3.9	4.7	3.1
Special accounts (coffee, cocoa, road funds, FERDES)	0.3	1.8	2.4
(b) Expenditure from metropolitan funds,	17.1	28.6	35.0
including:			
Operation and pensions	7.0	15.3	20.0
Capital outlay	0.6	1.2	1.5
FIDES: CAIFOM	<u>7.8</u>	<u>10.0</u>	<u>10.6</u>
Total expenditure	36.8	67.2	81.4

Development financing

FIDES

An act of 30 April 1946 outlined the plans for capital outlay in the territories and established FIDES, or the Fonds d'investissement et de developpement economique et social to finance it.

These plans are comprehensive projects covering the various public budgets and involving the use of metropolitan and local funds alike. When the projects in the capital outlay programme concern both France and the territory, France assumes responsibility for the whole cost. When the projects concern the territory alone, they are financed partly by a grant-in-aid by France and partly by a territorial contribution derived either from the territory's regular or extraordinary funds or from long-term low-interest advances by France. The metropolitan contribution was originally 55 per cent but it has risen successively to 75 per cent and then 90 per cent of the total cost.

The plans are designed to serve as instruments for co-ordination and to cover a number of years. The preparation of each four-year plan makes it possible to apply an integrated policy in respect of capital outlay and to control the way in which it is carried out.

Through their elected assemblies, which are statutorily called upon to discuss projects that are of direct concern to the territories, and through their representatives in the Executive Committee of FIDES the federation and its component territories participate closely in the preparation of the plans and the projects included in them.

Two programmes were completed during the period 1947-1957. The distribution of appropriations between the major categories of expenditure - infrastructure, production, social expenditure - differed in the two plans. Whereas expenditure on the infrastructure accounted for 60 per cent in the first plan, in the second plan emphasis has been placed on production, infrastructure projects being retained only in so far as they have a direct effect on production. The main objective is to concentrate exclusively on capital outlay that will generate new resources.

	<u>First plan (1949 Programme)</u>	<u>Second plan (1953 Programme)</u>
Production	24 per cent	35 per cent
Infrastructure	60 "	46 "
Social expenditure	16 "	19 "

The magnitude of the appropriations made available to French West Africa by FIDES from its initiation up to 1956 is illustrated in the following table, which shows the payments actually made under the overseas section and the general section per calendar year, in thousand millions of francs CFA.

<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>Total</u>
0.2	2.0	4.5	7.8	11.6	14.2	10.0	9.1	9.9	10.6	79.9

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Caisse centrale de la France d'outre-mer

In order to supplement the activities undertaken within the framework of the plans for public capital outlay in the territories, the Caisse centrale de la France d'outre-mer has granted considerable financial assistance to various public or private agencies whose activities are in keeping with the objectives of the plan. It has been authorized to assist subsidiary public authorities, to subscribe the whole or part of the capital of State-owned or joint companies considered necessary for carrying out the plans and to make loans for capital outlay to private undertakings.

On 31 December 1956 the total credits made available by the Caisse centrale amounted to 5,692.7 million francs CFA for public bodies and agencies, 4,681.6 million francs CFA in the form of subscriptions to the capital of and advances to State-owned and joint companies, and 6,246 million francs CFA in loans to private companies, representing a total of 16,620 million francs CFA.

Loans and advances by the Caisse centrale
(millions of francs CFA)

<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>Total</u>
807.5	670.0	1,420	1,810	2,874.3	1,980.7	1,378.7	2,109.3	3,569.5	16,620

FERDES

FERDES (Fond d'équipement rural et de développement économique et social) was established in 1949; it is an institution peculiar to French West Africa where it has made it possible to mobilize various resources exclusively for the benefit of village communities.

Whereas FIDES was established to promote the development of major sectors of the economy, FERDES was designed to transform the rural economic and social picture through a number of small projects. These projects have been financed exclusively from the budget of the federation and the budgets of the territories, plus the contribution, in cash or in kind, of the community concerned, each of the parties contributing one-third.

FERDES' success with the African people was assured from the outset. The following table gives details of the programmes approved from 1949 to 1956.

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FERDES Programmes from 1949 to 1956
 (millions of francs C.F.A.)

<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
139.9	223.2	347.3	313.6	752.6	726.0	782.0	560.0

Public Investment

The aggregate of investment in public funds in French West Africa from 1947 to 1956 was estimated at over 155,000 million francs CFA. Since 1949 the rate of investment in public funds has amounted to 19,000 million francs CFA annually. FIDES credits authorized from the overseas and general sections amounted to an average of 10,000 million francs CFA annually from 1949 to 1956. During the same period the Caisse centrale furnished approximately 2,000 million francs CFA from its own funds, the State budget approximately 1,000 million annually and local funds an average of 5,400 million annually.

Total public investment from 1947 to 1956
 (thousand millions of francs CFA)

(a) Metropolitan funds:	
FIDES (appropriations utilized)	79.9
State budget (net expenditure in French West Africa)	9.5
<u>Caisse centrale de la France d'outre-mer</u>	17.1
Office du Niger - metropolitan appropriations	4.5
Total of metropolitan funds	111.0
(b) Local funds:	
General territorial budgets (capital expenditure)	32.4
Coffee fund (expenditure)	2.0
Cocoa fund (expenditure)	1.9
Road fund (expenditure)	4.2
FERDES (authorized programmes)	3.8
Total of local funds	44.3

An average of 72 per cent of investment in public funds comes from metropolitan sources.

BANKING AND CREDIT

Bank of issue and deposit banks

The bank of issue was formerly the Banque de l'Afrique Occidentale Française; since 1955 that function has been performed by a new public institution, the Institut d'émission d'AOF-Togo.

On 31 December 1956 there were five deposit banks comprising seventy-one cashiers' windows. Bank deposits in 1956 amounted to a total of 18,500 million francs CFA for the private sector and 1,300 million for the public sector.

Medium-term and long-term loans

Medium-term and long-term loans are granted by private, public and semi-public institutions.

The Caisse centrale de la France d'outre-mer is of course the chief institution granting medium-term and long-term loans to private enterprises whose activities form part of the development plan. Under the law of 30 April 1946 the Caisse centrale is authorized to carry out or guarantee any financial operations which enable them to contribute to the execution of the plan.

Such direct action by the Caisse centrale is continued and supplemented by social loans and by the activities of State and semi-public companies recently set up under its aegis. Four institutions have been established: the Banque du Bénin, the Crédit de la Côte d'Ivoire and the Crédit de la Guinée in 1955 and the Crédit du Sénégal in 1956. Three similar institutions are to be set up in Sudan, the Niger and the Haute-Volta in 1958. They are intended to grant loans in accordance with the conditions of production and in particular to help small industries which lack capital, such as farming, handicrafts and small businesses. They will also manage the agricultural loan funds.

Agricultural loans

The agricultural loan funds, which resumed their activities in 1947, have at their disposal advances made by the federal Government against the grant for agricultural loans for French West Africa. This grant is a special extra-budgetary account provided by the taxes paid to the Institut d'émission on credit circulation and by subsidies from the federal Government. The total amount advanced to the agricultural loan funds from the grant from 1947 to 1955 was over 1,000 million francs CFA. Steps have been taken to increase the efficiency of agricultural credit by making it more easily available to farmers by means of decentralization. Certain provident societies have thus become the agents of the agricultural loan funds.

Private investment

Some 28,000 million francs CFA has been provided by the capital market in ten years, i.e. 2,800 million per annum for only those companies whose head offices are in the federation. If account is taken of the other companies which carry on activities in French West Africa and of private businesses, the total of gross investment in the business sector from 1949 to 1956 may be estimated at 9,000 million francs CFA per annum, 1,700 million of which was obtained from loans and purchases of shares by the Caisse centrale de la France d'outre-mer.

EXTERNAL TRADE

An examination of the statistics for external trade for the years 1946 to 1956 shows the progress that has been made and the changes that have occurred in movements of trade in the federation.

Taking 1949 as 100, the index figure for the volume of exports rose from 103 in 1950 to 160 in 1956 and that of imports from 117 to 174 during the same period.

In addition to this considerable increase in trade there have been certain changes in distribution.

Imports of certain capital goods (cement, metallurgical products and electrical equipment) and of vehicles and petroleum products are increasing. On the other hand, there has been a decrease in imports of solid mineral fuels as a result of the introduction of diesel engines on the railways. There is a marked increase in imports of consumer goods, especially foodstuffs.

Where exports are concerned, there has been a considerable development of certain export crops, including coffee, cocoa and bananas, both as regards tonnage and value. Exports to foreign countries have increased. For example, up to 1950 all the coffee was taken by the franc area; in 1956 20 per cent was exported, in particular to the United States. Lastly, mineral products appear under the heading of exports. If the figures are weighted, mineral products represent over 50 per cent of export tonnage but still only 3 per cent in value. A large proportion of these minerals, representing 70 per cent of the export value of mineral products in 1956, is exported.

The customs regime comprises two categories of duties: import and export taxes levied on all goods for purposes of revenue, and customs duties properly so-called, designed to protect French products from foreign competition. The

customs duties apply to foreign goods, only the rate being fixed in accordance with various commercial treaties. Under the regulations governing foreign trade and exchange, imports are also subject to a licence certified by the Office des changes. For a number of exempted products coming from countries which are members of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) an import licence is no longer required and has been replaced by a simple "import certificate".

A new customs tariff went into force in 1950, simultaneously with the first measures freeing trade with the OEEC countries.

Special trade

	<u>Quantity</u> (millions of metric tons)				<u>Value</u> (thousand millions of francs CFA)			
	<u>1946</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Imports	396	1,330	1,254	1,546	6.0	61.2	35.2	66.7
Exports	465	946	1,850	2,725	4.1	40.2	46.8	60.0

Principal imports
(millions of francs CFA)

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Cotton cloth and blankets	3,443	7,222	7,182
Lorries, cars, tractors	594	2,559	4,071
Machinery and apparatus	...	3,584	4,346
Metal tools and products	433	3,158	3,989
Iron and steel	193	1,930	2,732
Electrical equipment	...	1,799	2,186
Petroleum products	281	2,588	3,404
Sugar	427	2,700	2,994
Rice	358	2,668	2,213
Wheat flour	225	1,738	1,140
Alcoholic liquors, excluding beer	525	1,767	1,303
Cement	144	1,017	847

Principal exports
(millions of francs CFA)

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Green coffee	1,121.3	10,014.0	16,775.0
Cocoa	366.8	7,881.0	8,405.0
Shelled groundnuts	2,040.9	7,810.0	11,549.0
Groundnut oil	1,162.8	8,127.0	8,437.0
Palm kernels	336.9	2,349.0	1,868.0
Fresh bananas	445.9	1,427.0	1,643.0
Mineral products (iron, bauxite)	-	928.0	1,208.0
Diamonds	7.0	321.0	307.0
Timber	94.3	924.0	1,268.0

Direction of trade

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Imports from (percentage of value)			
France	51.5	68.4	66.2
French Union	<u>7.5</u>	<u>10.6</u>	<u>6.9</u>
Total franc area	59.0	79.0	73.1
Sterling area	7.2	6.9	5.7
Dollar area	22.2	5.7	7.0
Other currencies	11.6	8.4	14.2
Exports to:			
France	73.2	69.8	65.9
French Union	<u>19.3</u>	<u>10.9</u>	<u>10.5</u>
Total franc area	92.5	80.7	76.4
Sterling area	4.2	4.7	4.7
Dollar area	0.9	3.3	9.4
Other currencies	2.4	11.3	9.5

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Race relations

The 1946 Constitution laid down as a general principle that racial discrimination was prohibited and in article 82 that the personal status of the indigenous inhabitants may in no case constitute a ground for refusing or restricting the rights and liberties pertaining to the status of French citizens. In accordance with that principle, the indigenous criminal courts were abolished by the Decree of 30 April 1946 and the French Penal Code was made applicable to all the inhabitants of the Federation. This principle of non-discrimination is also embodied in the terms of employment of officials serving overseas, as defined by the Act of 30 June 1950, which lays down in particular that the pay and allowances of personnel serving in the overseas territories must in no circumstances be fixed on the basis of differences of race, personal status, place of origin or place of recruitment. One of the purposes of the Act of 23 June 1956, known as the loi-cadre, is to facilitate the promotion of officials of local origin to all levels of the service; 66 per cent of the posts in the State service are reserved for them and there is no limit to the number that may be employed in the territorial services.

Evolution of the family and status of women

Traditional social structures tend to change rapidly on contact with Western civilization. Individuals increasingly seek to detach themselves from the community under the influence of various factors such as material progress and the growth of contacts and trade. This evolution of the family group, which has been noticeable since the war, occurs chiefly in the urban industrial areas. It is particularly striking where the status of women is concerned. In the towns and in the prosperous bush areas women are gradually freeing themselves from their original legally inferior status. For example, in the Ivory Coast large coffee and cocoa plantations are managed by African women. Women through their work are occupying an increasingly important place in African society.

Social work has therefore concentrated particularly on the status of women in the large centres. It is endeavoured to give them a family and social training which will enable them to adapt themselves to the new social conditions. This is one of the essential tasks of the social services and centres established in the various territories. Thanks to those activities, modern African families, usually monogamous, are coming into being in the large industrial centres.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS

There has been rapid progress in labour legislation since 1946. The essential aim of labour policy is to provide for the material well-being of the indigenous worker and to provide him with vocational training with a view to increasing his skill, his efficiency and hence his standard of living.

A High Commissioner's Order of 10 June 1946 established an Inspectorate of Labour, the function of which was specified and extended by the 1952 Labour Code. The Inspectorate of Labour and Social Legislation is responsible for all matters affecting the condition of workers, labour relations, employment of workers, movements of labour, and vocational guidance.

An advisory labour commission is attached to the Inspectorate General of Labour at Dakar and to each territorial inspectorate. These commissions consist of an equal number of workers and employers. They are responsible for giving advice, particularly on regulations issued in application of the Labour Code. Territorial labour offices, under the supervision and authority of the Inspector of Labour,

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replaced the employment exchanges in 1953. Finally, tripartite joint committees, attached to the Inspectorate General of Labour and to each of the territorial inspectorates, and responsible for studying questions relating to industrial health and safety, have been in operation since 1953.

The objectives of labour policy were given legislative backing by the Act of 15 December 1952, enacting a Labour Code for the overseas territories. Application of the Code has been proceeding progressively since 1953.

The Code, which applies to all the territories, makes no distinction on grounds of the race, sex, age or status of the person concerned. While it is based on the metropolitan Code, it takes local conditions into account and allows in particular for many payments in kind. The principal provisions, which are generally applied, are the eight-hour day, the weekly period of rest, holidays with pay and the minimum guaranteed wage. The Code also contains strict provisions concerning dismissal. Freedom of association is recognized and workers have the right to strike after the conciliation procedures have been exchanged. Protection is provided to workers in conformity with the rules prescribed by international labour conventions, particularly with regard to women's and children's work. The Code provides in particular for maternity leave. Medical services have been organized in undertakings and workers are partially insured against sickness.

Employment conditions

The Act of 11 April 1946, abolishing compulsory labour in all its forms, eliminated all practices at variance with the principle of absolute freedom of work. The revaluation of wages, the inspection of labour conditions and the improvement of the workers' levels of living have led to the development of a labour market in which supply and demand operate within the framework of collective agreements.

The number of wage-earners was estimated at about 375,000 in 1956. The largest employers were the public service and agriculture, followed by trade, the building industry and transport. The liberal professions as yet account for only a small percentage.

There is no real unemployment problem in the Federation. The slackening of activity in certain sectors has occasionally resulted in unemployment for some categories of workers. However, as most of the workers are relatively unskilled, they have extensive opportunities for re-employment on the local labour market. In cases of prolonged unemployment, the workers can always return to their villages, where the family system still constitutes a strong tie.

Alongside this relatively stable labour force there are migratory workers engaged in seasonal work. These are chiefly agricultural workers who travel to the more developed areas to offer their services during the season when there is little agricultural work in their own areas. The principal movements are those of the navétanes (about 25,000) of Senegal who migrate from the Sudan and North Guinea during the winter season to work on groundnut cultivation in Senegal and the workers (about 50,000 per annum) from the neighbouring regions of the Ivory Coast, especially Upper Volta, who come to take up employment for a few months on agricultural undertakings on the Ivory Coast.

The method of fixing wages differs for minimum wages and wages corresponding to the different categories of skilled work. The classification of workers and the minimum rates for different categories are determined by collective agreements. The minimum wage, that of the ordinary labourer, is set for each region by an order of the head of the Territory. Wages are frequently revised in order to take the rising cost of living into account.

Number and classification of wage-earners

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1957</u>
Public sector:				
Administration, public services	114,032	85,598	107,600	109,607
Private sector:				
Agriculture, animal husbandry	53,318	51,777	64,800	137,434
Forestry	10,304	10,000	8,800	
Mining	11,225	6,030	11,700	6,465
Industry	24,578	25,534	31,000	31,219
Building, public works	55,363	45,000	42,800	55,506
Transport	25,733	13,901	33,300	44,583
Commerce, banking, liberal professions	37,589	43,085	52,000	55,540
Domestic employment (approximate figures)	24,071	29,290	20,500	46,818
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	1,210
Total	<u>356,213</u>	<u>310,215</u>	<u>372,500</u>	<u>377,565</u>

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Minimum wage rates for unskilled labour
 (variable according to territory)

	<u>1949</u> (per day)	<u>1953</u> (per hour) (francs CFA)	<u>1956</u> (per hour)
Wage zones			
Zone No. 1 (towns)	42 - 136.0	10.75 - 27.15	18 - 31
Zone No. 2	31 - 119.2	8.50 - 24.40	15 - 25.25
Lowest zone	27 - 95.2	7.25 - 19.00	10.5 - 19.70

Minimum wage rates fixed by collective agreements
 (varying according to category)

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1953</u> (francs CFA)	<u>1955</u>
Skilled workers in industry (six categories), per month	from 19,800 to 44,100	from 26,200 to 68,370	from 26,200 to 75,465
Junior employees at Dakar, per month	from 3,900 to 18,072	from 6,150 to 25,810	from 6,150 to 29,707
Workers in industries (eight categories), per hour	from 13.5 to 68.5	from 28.10 to 129.00	from 31.00 to 150.00

Workers' and employers' organizations

The development of trade unions, which had come to a standstill during the war, was resumed after 1944. The Decree of 7 August 1944 established trade unions and confirmed freedom of association under conditions more or less identical with those of the metropolitan country. The 1946 Constitution recognizes the right of nationals of overseas territories to enjoy and exercise freedom of association without distinction as to race, language or religion. The progress of industrialization in the towns and the entry into force of the Labour Code promoted considerable progress in the trade union movement and led to a large increase in the number of unions. In 1952, before the Code came into force, there were in French West Africa 251 labour unions in the private sector, with a membership of 62,070; in 1954 there were 507 workers' trade unions with 113,695 members.

The Act of 15 December 1952, enacting the Labour Code, set up the same system, with a few slight changes of form, as in the metropolitan country. There is complete freedom to set up trade unions. /...

The trade unions have become real occupational organizations and are playing an increasingly important part in both the preparation and the implementation of labour legislation.

An Act of 27 April 1956, prohibiting any interference by employers in the trade union activities of wage-earners has increased the freedom of trade unions and provided further protection of trade union rights. The workers' trade unions are for the most part grouped in "territorial unions" affiliated to the three leading unions of metropolitan France: the Confederation générale du travail (CGT), the largest the Confédération générale du travail-force ouvrière (CGT-FO), and the Confédération française des travailleurs chrétiens (CFTC).

Since 1956 there has been an increasingly marked trend on the part of the trade unions to break away from the influence of the metropolitan unions with a view to promoting a specifically African trade union movement.

Number and membership of trade unions

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
Employers' Unions:				
Number	89	100	121	132
Membership	16,000	18,508	20,477	...
Workers' trade unions:				
Public sector:				
Number	140	131 ^{a/}	184 ^{a/}	208 ^{a/}
Membership	21,300	10,707 ^{a/}	17,558 ^{a/}	22,654 ^{a/}
Private sector:				
Number	88	149	250	299
Membership	45,000	60,357	78,458	91,041

a/ Trade union members other than civil servants and their trade unions.

Labour Disputes

Prior to 1952, labour disputes were settled as follows: individual disputes were submitted to the Inspectorate of Labour, which tried to reconcile the conflicting interests. If that failed, the dispute was referred either to the arbitration board or to the court of first instance or to the justice of the peace with extended powers, as appropriate. The Decree of 15 March 1937 provided for the settlement of collective disputes by compulsory conciliation and arbitration. An appeal against the decision could be made to a labour disputes arbitration committee.

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The Act of 1952 made an important innovation in the establishment of labour tribunals to replace the former arbitration boards. They are composed of employers and workers and are under the chairmanship of an overseas magistrate. Administratively, they come under the head of the judiciary.

The labour tribunals adjudicate individual disputes arising in connexion with labour contracts, and are also qualified to give rulings on individual disputes referring to collective agreements. In the case of collective disputes, the Code has instituted a new method of settlement. At the first stage, the dispute is reported to the Inspectorate of Labour, which takes action to settle it. It is then subjected to conciliation procedure and brought before an Advisory Labour Commission which notes either the agreement of the parties, which then becomes mandatory, or their disagreement, as recorded in a statement that conciliation has not been achieved. In the last-named case, the matter is submitted to an expert, who prepares a report in the form of a recommendation, which, in the absence of opposition, acquires mandatory force in a period of five days.

No strike or lock-out may be started before these procedures have been completed and any such action renders offenders liable to penalties which may be imposed by the Higher Arbitration Court.

Statistics of Labour Disputes

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Individual disputes, settled by	3,444	12,566	6,984
Conciliation	3,346	10,805	5,303
Collective disputes including	54	69	69
Strikes	20	57	25
Workers affected	...	69,621	60,667
Working days lost	...	692,380	63,083

Vocational training

The proportion of unskilled workers to the number of workers as a whole is high and in view of the development and industrialization of the Federation, the administration has taken steps to speed up vocational training for the indigenous inhabitants.

Technical education was reorganized by a general order of 12 November 1947 (See "Educational Conditions").

Vocational training is also provided in factories and workshops. The technical departments of the national government and of the local government authorities, the railways, the Office du Niger and certain private firms train apprentices. The provisions of apprenticeship contracts were specified by the Labour Code in 1952, with a view to protecting apprentices.

In addition to the traditional forms of training, in 1949, when the first major capital equipment programme of FIDES was instituted, a new method of accelerated vocational training was considered necessary. A survey made by the Inspectorate of Labour led to the establishment of the first experimental centres for accelerated vocational training and to the establishment of research groups to undertake psychological and technical studies.

A Decree of 27 December 1952 standardized the system for all such centres. Accelerated vocational training operates along two main lines: first, the establishment of urban centres for training skilled workers; second, the encouragement of rural handicrafts and the training of rural craftsmen. The principle features of this method are accelerated training, the active and specific form of the teaching, the use of tests for the selection of candidates and the adaptation of methods of instruction.

The principle achievements so far, in addition to the first experimental centre at Dakar, opened in 1951, are the centres at Conakry in Guinea (1953) at Ouagadougou in Upper Volta (1955) Port-Etienne in Mauritania (1955), and Niamey in the Niger (1956).

Co-operative Societies and Community Development

The Sociétés indigènes de Prévoyance (indigenous provident societies) (SIP) were the first step towards the collective organization of agricultural production. The peasants did not, however, really participate in these societies. The SIP are administrative agencies rather than co-operative societies.

The Act of 10 September 1947, which laid down the regulations for the co-operative movement, set in motion a large-scale co-operative movement, particularly in Senegal and Dahomey. In 1952 there were 241 agricultural co-operatives in the entire Federation, 214 of them in Senegal, with 119 consumers' co-operatives, fifty-eight producers' co-operatives, one craftsmen's co-operative, and one town-planning co-operative.

A general order of 24 August 1953 authorized the establishment of rural producers' mutual societies. A system of elections provided for popular representation in these societies. An assembly elected by the customary community appoints a number of representatives to the administrative board, whose membership also includes technical experts, territorial advisers and officials. These societies, which were intended as an organ to promote and co-ordinate the co-operative movement, have promoted the establishment of a large number of agricultural co-operatives.

The prosecution of efforts in the field of co-operatives, mutual societies and agricultural credit meant that the administrative bodies responsible had to be re-organized. To that end, a General Order of 18 February 1954 set up a Federal Committee on co-operative societies, mutual societies and agricultural credit.

The legislation of 1947 has been redrafted, in the Decree of 2 February 1955 promulgating the Regulations for Co-operative Societies.

Finally, taking into account the close connexion between agricultural credit and the co-operative movement, the Decrees of 2 February 1955 and 13 November 1956 relating to agricultural credit, provided that the local agricultural credit funds could take the form of co-operatives.

STANDARD OF LIVING

Surveys of consumer habits have been made by the sociological section of the Institut français d'Afrique Noire (IFAN) at Dakar and the anthropological mission under the Directorate-General of the Health Service. The surveys are chiefly concerned with the diet of the indigenous inhabitants, but the fragmentary results obtained have not made it possible yet to work out typical family budgets.

The Advisory Labour Commissions have also tried to estimate the needs of the ordinary unskilled worker with a view to fixing the minimum wage in towns.

This research has revealed an improvement in the standards of living of the indigenous inhabitants particularly in the towns. The Africans in the cities eat more wheat bread, canned fish and sugar. They make more use of machines and tools which improve living and working conditions, such as bicycles, sewing machines, agricultural implements, etc. The marked increase in imports of such articles, particularly since 1949, has been due to a large extent to their wider distribution among Africans.

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Changes in prices and wages at Dakar

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Minimum hourly wage (francs CFA)	6.76	25	29.31
Index (base 1946 = 100)	124	460	539
Minimum daily wage (francs CFA)	54.08	184.8	195.2
Index (base 1946 = 100)	124	425	449
Family consumption price index (base 1946 = 100)	124	284	292

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING AND HOUSING

The concentration of commercial, industrial and administrative services has led to a mass movement of populations to the towns. Dakar, which in 1945 had a population of 130,000 inhabitants, had 300,000 by 1956; Abidjan, which in 1945 had a population of 46,000, had 125,000 in 1956. The influx led to an increase in the numbers occupying dwellings and then to an extension of housing developments.

The Government accordingly began by concentrating all its resources on the improvement of urban housing. The first priority in its programme was given to clearing over-crowded, insanitary quarters in the large cities and to promoting the construction of housing within the framework of this general slum-clearance programme.

Attempts to modernize the country areas have chiefly taken the form of improving the traditional dwellings of the indigenous inhabitants, through technical assistance from the administration and the use of new materials.

A Federal Housing Service was established by an Order of 10 March 1952. In the larger towns, the execution of the programme has been entrusted to semi-public building societies with a majority of shares held by the public authorities; where housing needs are smaller, the work has been taken over by public low-cost housing offices having legal personality and financial independence.

The record of achievement for the past ten years is as follows:

Between 1946 and 1956 a total of 4,059,169,230 francs CFA (3,974,971,241 francs CFA between 1954 and 1956) was invested in the provision of basic facilities to improve health conditions in the large towns. A "sanitation project" was carried out in the large towns. It comprised the construction of a permanent

refuse disposal system, drains and sewers, and water and electricity supply systems.

With regard to the construction of housing, two methods have been followed: developments and housing loans.

The development method is adopted by the building societies and low-cost housing offices for the construction of standard housing, in large single units or groups, at a low cost. Between 1946 to 1956 a total of 2,717,190,152 francs CFA was invested in this way, making possible the construction of 7,105 housing units.

Housing loans, which provides assistance to owners of plots of land wishing to build, is also very popular with the Africans. Limited at the outset in 1949, the Crédit immobilier had developed considerably since 1954 and is becoming the principle form of assistance for housing. Between 1 January 1949 and 31 December 1956, 5,033 loans, representing 1,471,872,613 francs CFA, were made.

In the Federation as a whole, 12,138 housing units have been constructed for an investment of 4,189,062,765 francs CFA, excluding the capital invested in the provision of sewers and similar facilities.

The provision of basic facilities, which is a non-self-liquidating expenditure, was financed almost exclusively from public funds (general and local budgets and in particular FIDES). Funds for building were provided chiefly from loans obtained by the building agencies from the Caisse centrale de la France d'outre-mer, the banks, and the reserves of insurance companies.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

A system of family allowances for wage-earners was instituted on 1 January 1956. It includes various cash allowances (housing, prenatal, maternity and family benefits) and benefits in kind. The scheme is financed by contributions from employers and, where necessary, by grants from the local budget.

With regard to sickness, free medical services are available to almost the entire population. Undertakings also provide a special system of health protection to their employees.

Compensation for, and the prevention of, industrial accidents and diseases were regulated by a Decree of 24 February 1957, which makes the Family Allowances Fund, financed by contributions from employers, responsible for administering insurance against such risks.

The need to co-ordinate the activities of many services both public (health, inspection of labour, education) and private (Red Cross Missions), in the field of social assistance led to the organization of a Government Social Service at Dakar and in the various territories of the group: in the Ivory Coast in 1950, in the Sudan in 1953, in Guinea in 1954, in Dahomey in 1955 and in Upper Volta in 1956.

In 1955 the Ivory Coast Social Service, the largest in the Federation, employed five State-qualified social workers, six locally trained social workers, six social assistants, fourteen auxiliary social personnel, a domestic science instructor, and an educator. The record of the service for 1956 is as follows: 13,308 families visited and their cases followed up, 40,574 home visits, 17,523 visits to institutions, eighty-eight cases of assistance granted, at a cost of 3,909,042 francs CFA, together with 141 social investigations concerning delinquent minors.

Social Centres have been set up in the African quarters of the large towns. These centres provide the population of the quarter with a number of educational, social and health services under the direction of a social worker.

PREVENTION OF CRIME AND TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

Penitentiary organization is governed by an Order of 22 October 1947 which deals with personnel, discipline, and health arrangements in prisons.

The principal reforms introduced since that date refer primarily to the treatment of juvenile delinquency, governed by the Decree of 30 November 1928 promulgated in the Federation by an Order of 28 June 1952. With regard to procedure, the examining magistrate avoids sentencing minors to imprisonment if possible. Re-education centres have been set up. There are two in Senegal: that at Corabane, established in 1957 and that at Niaming, opened in 1955 under the direction of an expert in re-education from the Metropolitan country. There

has been a centre at Dakoro, in the Niger since 1952, and one at Sokuba in the Sudan since 1953. In 1955, centres were opened at Rotuma, near Conakry in Guinea, at Dabou near Abidjan in the Ivory Coast, and at Orodera in the cercle of Bobo Dioulasso in Upper Volta.

The probation system has been gradually coming into application since qualified social workers have been available. Convicted persons are put on probation by the court, the decision being subject to review. At Dakar, there is a special social service responsible for supervising offenders on probation and arranging social investigations concerning minors and their family background. Since June 1952, when the system came into effect, 232 minors in Dakar have been put on probation and probation has had to be withdrawn in only forty-eight cases.

Crime statistics

	Number of persons sentenced			
	<u>1948</u>	<u>1953</u>		
		Men	Women	Minors
Principal categories of offence:				
Murder, wilful manslaughter	63	99	9	-
Manslaughter, assault and battery	133	120	10	2
Other crimes	140	209	10	-
Theft and attempted theft	9,089	10,246	123	205
Wilful assault and battery	3,856	5,974	398	71
Other offences	15,656	18,729	761	186

PUBLIC HEALTH

Administrative Organization

At the federal level the Public Health Department was formerly administered by a Directorate-General at Dakar. At the territorial level there were local directorates responsible to the Director-General.

In application of the reforms instituted by the loi-cadre of 23 June 1956, responsibility for the Health Service in each territory is now vested in a Minister of Health to whom the local directorate of the health service is subordinate. In order to preserve the technical unity of the health services, a joint service responsible for the control of the principal endemic diseases has been maintained at the federal level to co-ordinate public health activities of the territories and to furnish technical assistance to the territorial ministers of health.

The general medical assistance services are subordinate to the directorates of health and provide non-mobile facilities for individual medical treatment. The facilities include general and secondary hospitals at Dakar and in the principal towns and medical centres in the medical districts.

A considerable effort has been made to modernize and expand the hospital services. The network of non-mobile health facilities has been strengthened especially since 1951, with the assistance of funds provided by FIDES and has been supplied with modern material and equipment. In addition to the medical assistance service there is a mobile organization, the General Mobile Health and Preventive Service (SGHMP), which is responsible for mass preventive medical treatment and the control of the major tropical endemic diseases. The service, which was set up in 1944, has a central directorate, research laboratories and special area units. Each area unit is directed by a medical officer and has mobile teams for the detection, treatment and control of diseases, hospitalization centres and bush treatment centres. The area units deal with trypanosomiasis, leprosy, malaria, treponematosiis and filariasis and also take part in smallpox and yellow fever control operations. The territorial Governments place special emphasis on the mobile health and preventive services which produce good results at minimum cost.

A number of establishments, which are not part of the medical services proper, are engaged in medical scientific research and the treatment of diseases (The Tropical Ophthalmology Institute of French West Africa, the Pasteur Institute at Dakar, the

Federal Blood Transfusion Centre). In addition an African food and nutrition research organization, ORANA, was set up in 1945 and reorganized in 1953.

Numerous measures have been taken in the field of sanitation. The sanitation services in the large towns were reorganized in 1954 and many secondary towns now also have sanitation services which extend their operations to rural areas. Sewage and water supply systems have been built in nearly all the large towns and a programme of new sanitation projects to be carried out in the secondary towns has been proposed.

Control of the principal endemic diseases

Malaria continues to be the most important cause of morbidity. Large-scale efforts have been made to control malaria since 1952 by means of sanitation projects and anti-larval measures using residual insecticides. These measures are supplemented by chemical prophylactic treatment using synthetic anti-malarial drugs. Although the number of cases among the indigenous population has not been substantially reduced, the mortality rate is declining sharply.

Trypanosomiasis, which formerly made large areas uninhabitable, is being brought under control by means of continuing detection campaigns and preventive treatment using lomidine. The infection rates i.e., the rates of new cases detected to the number of individuals examined, fell from 1.82 in 1939 to 0.19 in 1951 and 0.09 in 1955.

The anti-sleeping-sickness campaign is closely associated with the campaign to control leprosy by mass treatment and detection. Modern drugs, in particular, sulpha drugs, are being used with satisfactory results.

Anti-smallpox measures are based primarily on vaccination using a smallpox vaccine or more usually a combined smallpox and yellow fever vaccine. These measures are closely linked to measures to control yellow fever. The number of vaccinations increased from 3,715,000 in 1946 to 5,461,902 in 1956. However, smallpox epidemics still occur on a small scale.

Yellow fever has been virtually eliminated as a result of the systematic campaigns carried out since 1944. The number of vaccinations (single or combined) increased from 2,407,000 in 1946 to 4,218,000 in 1956. No case of yellow fever has been reported since 1953.

Active measures are being taken to control the treponematoses (syphilis and yaws) using penicillin with procaine. Anti-filariasis campaigns were initiated in 1955 with the assistance of FIDES.

In view of the increase of tuberculosis in the urban centres a twofold programme was initiated providing for study of the tuberculin test and the BCG vaccination of the school-age population, priority being given to urban centres when infection was likely. The number of BCG vaccinations increased from 56,000 in 1949 to 97,300 in 1955 and 140,000 in 1956.

Maternal and child welfare

In the field of maternal and child welfare there has been a substantial increase in prenatal and infant consultations. In 1949 171,000 expectant mothers, 507,000 infants under one year and 447,000 children between one and four years were examined. In 1956, 307,646 expectant mothers, 815,206 infants under one year and 1,011,811 children between one and four years were examined.

Training of medical personnel

The last class of pharmacists graduated from the African School of Medicine and Pharmacology at Dakar in July 1952 and the last class of African physicians in July 1953. Since 1950 medical and pharmaceutical students have attended the Dakar Preparatory School of Medicine and Pharmacology where they received the same training as students in France. They go to France to complete their training and qualify for the State diploma.

Midwives are trained at Dakar and may qualify for the State diploma in France.

Male and female nurses are trained at a State school established in 1951 which is open to Africans and is qualified to train students for the State diplomas on the same basis as schools in metropolitan France. Indigenous male nurses are trained at local nursing schools, one of which, at Bobo Dioulasso, specializes in training male nurses for the mobile health service.

Budgetary Expenditure
(Millions of francs CFA)

<u>1949</u> Estimates	<u>1953</u> Commitments	<u>1956</u> Original and collective budget
2,117	4,433	5,300

Capital Expenditure (FIDES)
(Millions of francs CFA)

	<u>1946/1953</u>	<u>1953/1956</u>
First plan (actual expenditure)	1,817	
Second plan (commitments)		1,209 (to 20 February 1956)

Medical and health staff

	<u>1948</u>		<u>1953</u>		<u>1956</u>	
	<u>Public</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>Private</u>
Physicians						
State qualification, foreign qualification	57	...	205	53	252	52
Local qualification	343	...	383	2	320	-
Pharmacists						
State qualification	1	-	21	73	20	81
Local qualification	33	-	28	1	23	-
Dental Surgeons						
State qualification	6	-	14	23	18	22
Local qualification	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midwives						
State qualification	-	-	48	9	83	4
Local qualification	335	-	359	1	392	-
Male and Female Nurses						
State qualification	41	-	233	6	145	24
Local qualification	2,730	-	3,952	48	4,250	106
Technical personnel of the Public Health Service	297	-	575	-	505	-

	<u>Institutions</u>					
	<u>1947</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>Number of beds</u>		
		<u>1953</u>		<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
General Medical institutions						
Hospitals	27	35	13	3,672	4,999	5,460
Medical centres	152	195	300	2,815	2,836	13,724
Private institutions	22	28	82
Specialized institutions						
Maternity hospitals	192	225	204	2,508	3,845	4,409
Hospitals for contagious diseases	2	6	5	26	99	381
Leprosy	39	36	66	2,923	2,745	4,584
Tuberculosis	...	4	12	...	74	672
Trypanosomiasis	75	75	76	8,964	4,100	2,521
Mental hospitals	9	21	5	56	109	413

EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

The effort to make educational facilities more widely available has continued despite the difficulties created by geographical and demographic conditions and the economic resources available. Because of the great area and varied character of the territories and the low population density, the cost of education is unusually high for areas where economic resources are generally small.

The educational programme has concentrated on the fullest possible expansion of primary education through the establishment of schools and school groups in order to raise the average educational level of the population; the provision of civic and social education for adults to supplement primary education; the expansion of technical education in order to train the skilled workers and technicians needed for the industrial development of Africa south of the Sahara; the training of leaders through secondary and higher education.

The language of instruction is French but local dialects may be used in teaching adults. No distinction is made between ethnic groups and all establishments are open to any African. The curricula are the same as in France, but the textbooks are adapted to African conditions. Education in all public, primary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education is free. Scholarships and maintenance grants are awarded to students in secondary schools and in institutions of higher education. Primary education is compulsory in areas where school places are available for all the children.

The enrolment rate, i.e. the number of children attending school as a percentage of the total number of school-age children, has nearly tripled in the last ten years. In 1947, out of 2,400,000 children of school age, the number of children attending public and private schools at all levels was 127,600, a rate of 5.3 per cent. In 1957, 376,500 of the 2,820,000 children of school age were attending schools, a rate of 13.4 per cent. Special attention has been paid to primary education. The number of primary schools increased from 915 in 1948 to 2,339 in 1957 and the number of classes from 3,884 in 1951 to 7,772 in 1957.

Administrative organization

Until 1956 the education service comprised a directorate-general at Dakar, organized as a metropolitan académie. The eight territories were grouped in academic inspectorates under an inspecteur d'académie who was responsible, under the governor, for education at all levels in his area.

In application of the loi cadre of 23 June 1956, the basic education service has been organized on a territorial basis and placed under a minister of education. Under an order of 26 December 1957, a joint service for the group of territories was established within the Académie of French West Africa to co-ordinate the territorial educational, cultural and research services. The joint service is directed by the rector of the Académie. Measures proposed by the territorial authorities with a view to adapting curricula to local conditions are subject to the rector's approval. He is assisted, at the headquarters of the Académie, by a research council and an académic council and staff, and, in each of the territories, by an inspecteur d'académie who is head of the territorial education service. The latter is appointed, in agreement with the rector, by the head of the territory in council of government on the proposal of the territorial minister of education.

Organization of the school system

At the primary level, the primary schools provide a six-year course leading to the certificate of primary education.

Secondary education is provided in lycées, classical collèges and shortened courses with modern collèges. The lycées and classical collèges teach classical

and modern subjects and prepare pupils for both parts of the baccalaureat. The shortened-course modern collèges prepare pupils for the lower secondary certificate (brevet du premier cycle) (fourth year). The curricula and the final examination, the baccalaureat, are the same as in France. The teachers must be agrégés or university graduates.

Vocational training is provided in institutions at three levels. At the first level are the apprenticeship centres which provide pupils who have completed the primary school course with training leading to a proficiency certificate (certificat d'aptitude professionnelle - CAP) qualifying them as skilled workers. "Manual training sections" providing elementary vocational training are open to pupils of the middle course. At the next level the technical colleges, which take pupils at the secondary school entrance level, offer courses leading to the industrial certificate (brevet industriel - BEI) and professional certificate (brevet professionnel).

Lastly, the higher technical schools offer a course of general instruction with emphasis on mathematics and science leading to the technical baccalaureat.

The higher educational system, which was initiated in 1950 with the establishment at Dakar of an Institute of Higher Studies associated with the Universities of Paris and Bordeaux, comprised a law school, a science school, a school of letters and a school of medicine. A decree of 24 February 1957 abolished the Institute and established the University of Dakar, which comprises faculties of law, letters, science, and a national school of medicine and pharmaceuticals. Its regulations are the same as those of comparable institutions in France and the teachers are qualified to teach in French universities.

Expenditure
(Millions of francs CFA)

		<u>1949</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Total expenditure, under federal and territorial budgets		1,887	3,955	6,153.5
Capital expenditure (FIDES)	First plan 1946-1953 ^{a/}		Second plan 1953-1956 ^{b/}	
Public schools	3,063.5		1,511 (30 June 1956)	
Private schools	<u>352.5</u>		<u>371.5 (30 June 1955)</u>	
Total	<u>3,416.0</u>		<u>1,882.5</u>	

a/ Actual expenditures.

b/ Commitments.

/...

	<u>Schools</u>					
	<u>1948</u>		<u>1953</u>		<u>1956</u>	
	<u>Public</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>Private</u>
Primary	752	163	1,129	433	1,631	708
Secondary and teacher- training	41	-	49	21	49	26
Vocational and technical	14	-	20	3	92	36
Higher education	-	-	4	-	4	-

	<u>Pupils</u>					
	<u>1948</u>		<u>1953</u>		<u>1956</u>	
	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>
Primary						
Public	17,126	15,211	135,073	34,072	187,600	58,700
Private	20,547	8,308	53,559	17,143	82,600	27,900
Total	<u>37,673</u>	<u>23,519</u>	<u>188,632</u>	<u>51,215</u>	<u>270,200</u>	<u>86,600</u>
Secondary and teacher- training						
Public	3,547	1,165	6,786	1,601	8,976	2,484
Private	-	-	1,427	904	2,314	1,174
Total	<u>3,547</u>	<u>1,165</u>	<u>8,213</u>	<u>2,505</u>	<u>11,290</u>	<u>3,658</u>
Vocational and technical						
Public	1,631	-	2,232	292	4,637	905
Private	-	-	162	-	507	905
Total	<u>1,631</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,394</u>	<u>292</u>	<u>5,144</u>	<u>1,810</u>
Higher Education	317	56	493	87

	<u>Scholarships</u>					
	<u>1948</u>		<u>1951</u>		<u>1957</u>	
	<u>(in France)</u>		<u>(in France)</u>		<u>(in France)</u>	
Secondary	720	354	3,852	276	8,072	304
Vocational	120	120	691	228	1,666	182
Higher	164	164	204	171	931	695

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS AND MASS COMMUNICATIONS

Cultural Institutions

There are many public and private libraries. The most important is still the library of the Institut Francais d'Afrique noire, which in 1957 had a collection of 33,000 volumes, 2,500 periodicals and 1,500 maps. In addition, Dakar has approximately ten specialized libraries. Most of the chief towns and the urban centres have libraries with collections of 2,000 to 10,000 volumes.

The "cultural centres" established since 1953 with a view to facilitating the training of indigenous leaders are proving increasingly successful. There were twenty-eight cultural centres at the beginning of 1954, ninety-eight in 1955, and 157 in 1956. Between 1953 and 1956, 259 million francs CFA were appropriated under the general budget for the establishment of cultural centres which have been opened in many of the postes, cercles and chief towns of the various territories.

Mass Communications

Public information is provided by the federal and territorial information services and through the Press and the broadcasting service.

The Federal Information Office has press and photographic sections and a film library. It participates in the operation of the local broadcasting services and is responsible for providing the public with information by means of broadcasting, the cinema, and the organization of lectures. Its activities are supplemented by those of the territorial information services.

The circulation of newspapers and periodicals is essentially local, because of the great area of the Federation, the lack of rapid means of transport and the absence of a large reading public outside the major urban centres. The territorial newspapers are generally concentrated in the territorial capitals. Apart from two daily newspapers and three weekly periodicals, the largest of which has a circulation of 18,000, the newspapers and periodicals have circulations of not more than 1,500. All these publications are in French.

With regard to broadcasting, an effort has been made, especially since 1952, to expand the existing facilities and to establish new stations. The federal station at Dakar broadcasts daily programmes in French and in local languages. The facilities of the Abidjan station (Ivory Coast) has also been expanded and the number of hours of broadcasting has been increased. Since 1952 Radio Abidjan has transmitted more than 125 hours a month. New transmitting stations were opened at Cotonou (Dahomey) in 1952, Conakry (Guinea) in 1954 and Saint-Louis (Senegal) in 1956.
