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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

The French delegation has the honour to submit for the attention of delegates of the Latin American countries extracts from a note recently communicated by the French Government to the Secretary-General of the United Nations concerning training courses which could be organized in France for technicians from the under-developed countries holding United Nations fellowships.

The French delegation draws the attention of the delegations of these countries to the fact that the indications contained in the present document do not constitute an exhaustive list of the possibilities which France is in a position to offer within the general' programme of technical assistance. It gives only a preliminary series of plans which are absolutely ready and could be put into operation at once.

Havana, 2 June 1949

* This document has been reproduced in New York from the original issued at Havana.

The following information on the possibilities offered by France in the field of training courses for technicians from the under-developed countries has been classified under the various headings figuring in the United Nations Memorandum of 18 February 1949.

A) and B) - Power production: technique of planning, construction, maintenance and operation of electric steam and hydraulic power stations:

Hydraulic technique includes the study of power, irrigation, land drainage and flood control and, where required, inland water transport.

1. Electricity: France can provide technicians from under-developed countries with means of training in:

- the construction of steam power stations;
- the construction of hydraulic power stations;
- the construction of electric power transport and distribution transport systems;
- planning, with a view to ensuring future supplies adequate for increasing consumption;
- the drafting of legislation and administrative regulations, which in all countries are the essential complement of technical measures for the production and distribution of electric power.

Holders of United Nations fellowships should apply to the Direction de l'Electricité, a department of the Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce (30 Avenue Marceau, Paris, 8eme), which is the authority responsible for all services dealing with the production, transport and distribution of

electric power throughout France (Electricité de France, Compagnie Nationale du Rhone, Société nationale des Chemins de Fer Français, Charbonnage de France).

The Direction de l'Electricité is in a position to give holders of United Nations fellowships the benefit of France's experience, particularly as regards making use of potential hydroelectric power. Technicians can be trained in the preparation of schemes and in the practical application of hydroelectric development plans (documentation on the course of rivers, the sounding of lakes in mountain regions, the gauging of water courses, etc.)

The theoretical side of the technical training of fellowship holders could be usefully complemented by training courses at the Hydraulic laboratories at Toulouse, Grenoble and Paris, and in various electro-technical laboratories. The Direction de l'Electricité will direct fellowship holders to the laboratories where they will be able to derive the most benefit from their period of training.

2. Hydraulic technique: The Central Hydraulic Laboratory of Maisone-Alfort (Seine), a private establishment but State-subsidized, does important research on such matters as methods of building harbour installations, straightening navigable waterways, etc. This establishment is ready to organize training for foreign technicians.

C) Transport: technique of plan drafting, and of the extension, maintenance and utilization of road,

/rail, water and

rail, water and air transport:

The Ministère des Travaux Publics would be prepared to accept foreign technicians holding United Nations fellowships for the subjects and in the conditions indicated below:

1. Technique of the construction, maintenance and planning of road networks and public works:

Works which might be of interest for foreign technicians studying this subject to visit are:

- Motor highways (exit from Marseilles, Lyon)
- Reconstruction of important bridges over the Loire and the Rhone;
- Modern road surfacing works as recently done in Saone-et-Loire.

2. Technique of harbour reconstruction, improvement of harbour entries, harbour equipment and management.

Study of the reconstruction of a large french port such as Marseilles or Le Havre would be included, as well as a visit to the clearance work at Nantes harbour, which was blocked by ships sunk in the channel at the time of the German retreat.

Trainees in this type of work would have to apply to M. Grelot, Inspecteur Général des Ponts et Chaussées, 28 Rue des Saints-Pères, Paris (7eme) who would arrange for a period of introductory instruction and would then direct them to the specialized technical services.

The introductory period would include a

/short course

short course at the special research and test laboratories of the Ministry of Public Works.

3. Rail transport technique

In this field, trainees might study in particular the electrification, rebuilding, installation and operation of modern marshalling yards.

The engine testing works at Vitry (Seine) would also be of interest.

For this branch of training, fellowship holders would have to apply to M. Dugas, Ingenieur en Chef, Chef des Services Techniques de la Direction General de la S.N.C.F., 88 Rue Saint-Lazare, Paris (8eme) who would direct trainees to the particular branch they wished to study.

Communications: Technique of plan drafting, and the development, maintenance and operation of telephone, telegraph and radio services.

Training courses could be organized for foreign technicians through the Administration des Postes, Telegraphes et Telegrammes in the following subjects:

1. Telegraph system - Operation - Installations - Maintenance of Telegraph systems - Telegraph exchanges - Manufacture of telegraphic material.

2. Telephone system - Operation - Urban automatic telephone system - Rural automatic telephone system - Interurban automatic telephone - Manufacture of automatic telephone material - Maintenance of installations.

3. Long distance communication

Current - Underground cables - Relay points -

/coaxial cables

coaxial cables.

4. Radiotelegraph and radiotelephone connections - Operation - Stations - Manufacture and maintenance of material.

5. Telecommunications study and research service (acoustics, exchanges, telegraph, transmission, multiple radio cables, hyperfrequency...)

The technical services of the French Radio and Television Service would similarly be ready to welcome trainees in their particular subjects, in the same conditions.

E) Industrial methods and techniques employed in the use of agricultural, mineral and forest resources

1) The Institut National Agronomique could accept foreign technicians, two at a time, for three to six month periods of training, or for the 1949-1950 school year, in the following laboratories:

a) Zootechnical Laboratory: study of the feeding of domestic animals - French and other breeds - methods of reproduction and selection - artificial insemination.

b) Genetics Laboratory: pure and applied genetics - improvement of plants for large-scale cultivation.

c) Physical Chemistry Laboratory: study of vitamins and the mineral elements in food for livestock, by physical methods.

The laboratories indicated in paragraphs a) and b) could organize training courses in different parts of

/France, in order

France, in order to give trainees practical experience.

2. For agriculture, forestry technique and livestock raising in tropical regions, the following courses could be organized immediately.

A. Hydraulic systems, irrigation: The Niger Office could take trainees (accommodation provided) at its centre at Segou (Sudan) to study rice and cotton irrigation. The best time would be from June to December. The courses could be completed by visits to the installations in the Senegal and the Niger Valley.

B. Industrial techniques employed in the utilization of agricultural and forest resources.

The Niger Office could organize study courses also between June and December, on methods of land clearance and rice cultivation.

The Quinquina experimental station at Dschang (Cameroon) could take one trainee, preferably between May and December, providing accommodation at Dschang.

The Institute for research on palm oils and oil-giving plants, (Square Petrarque, Paris) could take three trainees between October and March to study the chemistry of oil-giving matter and industrial techniques for its treatment. The training courses would be completed by visits to factories.

The Forestry Technique Section of the Ministry for Overseas France, at its establishments at Paris and Nogent-sur-Marne, studies the physical, mechanical and technological properties of timber, forest botany and the technique of the conservation, planning and exploitation

of tropical forests. Training courses could be organised, preferably starting from September 1949, with the cooperation of the National School of Forestry.

C. Techniques employed in the evaluation of natural resources.

Here again, the Niger Office, which carries out topographical, pedological and photogeographical prospecting on a vast scale, could organize training courses, preferably from December to June, with the cooperation of the Office for Colonial Scientific Research.

Techniques employed in planning economic development, including methods of centralising and utilising statistics and other information, and in modern fiscal methods and the evaluation of natural resources, including aerial photogrammetry.

Statistics: Professor, Darmoy, Directeur de l'Institut de Statistique, who makes regular arrangements to take a number of foreign trainees each year, would willingly accept United Nations fellowship holders.

Photogrammetry: Experts interested in this subject would have to apply to M. le General Hurault, Inspecteur General, Directeur de l'Institut Geographique Nationale, 136 bis, Rue de Grenelle, Paris, who would direct them to the appropriate Service of the National Geographical Institute.

For trainees to benefit from their course at the Institute, which engages in very specialised work, it is essential that they should already have an advanced knowledge of the subject.
