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EQUATORIAL GUINEA

1/22/69
Antonastio Ndonga, Foreign Minister
Angel Massie, Interior Minister

1. 1/8/71
Mr. M'Ba, Charge d'Affaires, Equatorial Guinea Mission to the UN
One other person
Mr. M'Ba, Chargé d'Affaires of the Mission of Equatorial Guinea to the United Nations, visited Mr. McNamara on January 8, 1971 at 4:10 p.m., to deliver two sealed envelopes in the name of the President of the Republic. The envelopes, which were subsequently opened, contained letters from the President to Mr. McNamara thanking him for the work of our recent mission, and gave his agreement to the proposed highway mission. Mr. Chaufournier attended the meeting and acted as translator.
January 8, 1971

Mr. McNamara:

Mr. M'Ba, the Chargé d'Affaires of the Mission of Equatorial Guinea to the United Nations, will come to the Bank this afternoon at 4:10 to deliver to you personally a message from President Macias.

Equatorial Guinea has been a member of the Bank since July 1, 1970, and in December 1970 it applied for IDA membership. The Government is eager to receive technical and financial assistance from the Bank.

After an exploratory mission by Messrs. Thalwitz and Marco in November 1970, President Macias wrote to you on December 3, 1970 stating his Government's sector preferences (copy of English translation of letter attached). As soon as we had arranged for a highway project identification mission to visit Equatorial Guinea in January 1971, Mr. Knapp acknowledged, in your absence, President Macias' letter to you and announced the mission (copy of Mr. Knapp's cable attached). A reply to President Macias is being prepared for your signature.

Bank operations in Equatorial Guinea will be difficult for several reasons: (1) the absence of an experienced administration; (2) internal political instability; and (3) strained relations with the former Colonial Power, Spain. During the recent exploratory mission, Mr. Thalwitz was told that the Government would not welcome visits by Bank staff-members of Spanish nationality to Equatorial Guinea. The proposed highway mission consists of Mr. Schaefer, a U.S. national, and Mr. Soto, a Colombian national.
The President of the Republic of 
Equatorial Guinea

Santa Isabel, December 3, 1970

Mr. Robert S. McNamara
President of the International
Bank for Reconstruction and Development
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. McNamara:

I am writing to you with reference to the welcome visit paid to my country, during the past week, by the Mission from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

I feel sure that, in carrying out his exploratory mission, Mr. Wilfried P. Thalwitz was able not only to observe Equatorial Guinea's most pressing needs as regards economic development and technical assistance, but also to take due note of the favorable basic conditions of our economy, which I consider make us eligible to receive the indispensable assistance of the World Bank Group.

Even though my country does not, at present, possess all the data required for the planning of a development and investment program, I have been informed that the most urgent priorities were emphasized during the talks which Mr. Thalwitz had with the representatives of my Government, and I also trust that the brief visits paid by Mr. Thalwitz to the cities of Bata and Santa Isabel enabled him to note the opportunities for immediate assistance, particularly as regards highway maintenance, the opening of certain essential routes, and technical and financial assistance for our National Deposit and Development Bank that is now being set up.

Equatorial Guinea's needs in terms of development are many and pressing Mr. McNamara. My Government is fully determined to continue, as we have been doing, with the implementation of sound financial and monetary policies that merit the confidence of the national and international community. We intend to advance slowly but surely, enlisting the efforts of all Guineans. Nevertheless, our exertions fail to achieve the success we seek if we do not receive timely financial and technical aid from the International Organizations of which we are associate members.
It is for this reason that I would request you, by this letter, to have a Mission of technical experts visit us as soon as possible, in order to make specific arrangements for the financing of projects of greater priority.

At the same time, I have the honor to inform you that I have today sent a memorandum to the Secretary of the International Development Association, containing an application for membership from the Republic of Equatorial Guinea. I hope that the necessary arrangements can be made as soon as possible.

I trust that the present letter will receive your earliest attention, and I should be grateful if you would kindly acknowledge receiving it.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

/s/ Francisco Macias Nguema
TRANSLATION - NOT TO BE TRANSMITTED

IN THE ABSENCE OF MR MC NAMARA
/I HAVE THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR LETTER OF DECEMBER 3 TO
MR MC NAMARA AND TO THANK YOU FOR THE WELCOME YOUR GOVERNMENT GAVE TO
THE MISSION LED BY MR THALWITZ STOP I WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT EQUATORIAL
GUINEA HAS DECIDED TO JOIN IDA SEMICOLON THE APPLICATION IS AT PRESENT
BEING PROCESSED STOP I AM ALSO GLAD TO INFORM YOU THAT THE BANK IS PREPARED
TO SEND A FIRST TECHNICAL MISSION COMMA TO IDENTIFY THE NEEDS OF THE HIGHWAY
SECTOR IN EQUATORIAL GUINEA STOP THE MISSION WOULD CONSIST OF MR SCHAEFER
AND MR SOTO AND IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN SANTA ISABEL JANUARY 16 STOP
I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CABLED REPLY WHETHER TIMING OF THIS MISSION IS
CONVENIENT STOP I TRUST THAT THIS WILL BE THE BEGINNING OF A FRUITFUL
COORDINATION BETWEEN THE BANK GROUP AND YOUR COUNTRY CONCERNING WHICH
MR MC NAMARA WILL WRITE YOU AFTER HIS RETURN TO THE BANK STOP RESPECTFULLY

YOURS
SU EXCELENCIA
D. FRANCISCO MACIAS HOGUETA
PRESIDENTE DE LA REPÚBLICA DE GUINEA ECUATORIAL

GUINEA ECUATORIAL

ENausencia del Presidente McNamara

Tengo el honor de acudir recibo de la carta del Trío de Decidirme a

MR. McNamara y de agradecer a su Excelencia la acogida que el Gobierno
dispuso a la misión encabezada por Dr. Traillitz Pinto de la Salle,
saber que Guína Ecuatorial ha decidido ser miembro de IDA Punto Y

mi solicitud que arriba se ha transmitida por IDA Punto es también

un placer poder anunciar que el Banco prepara una primera mision

técnica para identificar las necesidades en el sector carreteras en

Guinea Ecuatorial Punto la mision estaria formada por los senores

Schaefer y Smith y pienso en llegar a Santa Isabel el 18 de enero Punto

Agradecería respuesta confirmada confirmando la fecha proyectada

Punto recibo en que esto sera el contenido de una cooperacion futura

entran el grupo del Banco Mundial y Guinea Ecuatorial Punto y con a este

recurso de McNamara escribiría proximamente a su Excelencia Punto

mi consideración mas distinguida

J. BURKE KNAPP
VICE PRESIDENTE
BANCO INTERNACIONAL DE
RECONSTRUCCION Y ECOMENTO

J. Burke Knapp
Office of the President

Cl and cc: Wenaca, North

Check

W. Traillitz / L. Marco/mn