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Dates: 03/15/1998 – 03/18/1998

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THE WORLD BANK

Washington, D.C.

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PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AUTHORIZED

Courtesy Call: Ambassador Ljubica Acevska
of Macedonia

Wednesday, March 18, 1998
2:35 - 2:45 p.m.
JDW Office

DECLASSIFIED
WBG Archives



R2002-036 Other #: 51 Box #: 186501B
President Wolfensohn - Briefing Book for President's Meetings - Briefing Material
Courtesy Call - Ambassador Ljubica Acevska of Macedonia - March 18, 1998



30489852

Archive Management for the President's Office

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Reference # : Archive-02097

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A. CLASSIFICATION

☐ Meeting Material
☐ Trips
☐ Speeches

☐ Annual Meetings
☐ Corporate Management
☐ Communications with Staff

☐ Phone Logs
☐ Calendar
☐ Press Clippings/Photos

☐ JDW Transcripts
☐ Social Events
☒ Other

B. SUBJECT: COURTESY CALL: AMBASSADOR LJUBICA ACEVSKA OF MACEDONIA (N) < CONFIRMED > VENUE: MC 12-750 (OFFICE) TIME: 2:35 - 2:45 P.M. // CONTACT: MARJOLEIN (STEK) @ 80252 // IN ATTENDANCE: JDW, STEK, MARISELA (FOR LUIGI) // EXTERNAL ATTENDEE: AMBASSADOR LJUBICA ACEVSKA // NOTE: AMBASSADOR WANTED TO POP IN TO CONVEY A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA // (B) BY LINN // DUE 12:00 NOON MONDAY, MARCH 16 // EXC: LP/MM // LFG (3/11)

DATE: 03/18/98

Brief includes:

---Routing slip to JDW from Johannes Linn

---Basic Facts and Figures

---Bio

C. VPU

Corporate

☐ CTR
☐ EXT
☐ LEG
☐ MPS
☐ OED
☐ SEC/Board
☐ TRE

Regional

☐ AFR
☐ EAP
☐ ECA
☐ LAC
☐ MNA
☐ SAS

Central

☐ CFS
☐ DEC
☐ ESD
☐ FPD
☐ FPR
☐ HRO

Affiliates

☐ GEF
☐ ICSID
☐ IFC
☐ Inspection Panel
☐ Kennedy Center
☐ MIGA

D. EXTERNAL PARTNER

☐ IMF
☐ UN
☐ MDB/Other IO
☐ NGO
☐ Private Sector

☐ Part I
☐ Part II
☐ Other

E. COMMENTS:

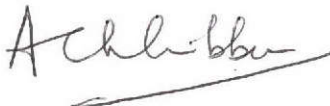
THE WORLD BANK GROUP

ROUTING SLIP		DATE: March 17, 1998	
NAME			ROOM. NO.
Mr. James D. Wolfensohn, EXC			
cc: Mr. Caio K. Koch-Weser, MDOMD			
☐ URGENT		☐ PER YOUR REQUEST	
☐ FOR COMMENT		☐ PER OUR CONVERSATION	
☐ FOR ACTION		☐ NOTE AND FILE	
☐ FOR APPROVAL/CLEARANCE		☒ FOR INFORMATION	
☐ FOR SIGNATURE		☐ PREPARE REPLY	
☐ NOTE AND CIRCULATE		☐ NOTE AND RETURN	
RE: Update on your meeting with Ambassador Acevska, FYR Macedonia on Wednesday, March 18 at 2:35 p.m.			
REMARKS: Jim, Attached is an update on our briefing for your meeting with the Macedonian Ambassador. We were informed that she wanted a one-on-one meeting with you. Hence there will be no ECA representative at this meeting, unless you otherwise direct. Thank you.  Johannes			
FROM Johannes F. Linn, ECAVP		ROOM NO. H12-071	EXTENSION 80602

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 17, 1998

TO: Mr. Johannes Linn, Vice-President, ECAVP

FROM: Ajay Chhibber, Director, ECC06 

EXTENSION: 34869

SUBJECT: **Meeting Between Mr. Wolfensohn and Ambassador Acevska Update**

Further to the briefing for Mr. Wolfensohn, Ambassador Ljubica Acevska has informed me today that the main purpose of her visit is to convey President Gligorov's invitation to Mr. Wolfensohn. In this context she will say that Mr. Camdessus visited Macedonia last year. She will also argue that the ongoing CAS preparation (which will be ready for Board presentation this July/August) may be a good opportunity for Mr. Wolfensohn to assess Macedonia's prospects and the Bank's role.

We believe that a visit after the spring of 1999 will be appropriate.

Ambassador Acevska also informed me that Deputy Secretary Strobe Talbott's visit was very successful. A US-Macedonian Action Plan was approved on March 17 with enhanced cooperation between the two countries on security and economic issues. A copy of the joint statement on the Action Plan is attached.

U.S.-Macedonian Joint Statement

Deputy Secretary Talbott and Foreign Minister Handziski approved the U.S.-Macedonian Action Plan during their meeting March 17. The U.S.-Macedonian Action Plan was developed in the context of the U.S. Action Plan for Southeast Europe, which is designed to give further dynamism to U.S. cooperation with the stable democracies of Southeast Europe. The Action Plan for Southeast Europe will help states in the region consolidate reforms, develop regional cooperation, and advance their integration into the European and transatlantic communities. It will also reinforce stability around the Dayton Accord countries.

The U.S.-Macedonian Action Plan will be implemented along three tracks:

First, expanding bilateral political, economic, military and civil cooperation.

Second, the United States will support Macedonian efforts aimed at promoting greater regional cooperation.

Third, the United States will work bilaterally and multilaterally, particularly through closer cooperation with members of the European Union, to support Macedonian efforts to embed itself into the new architecture of European and transatlantic institutions.

The U.S.-Macedonian Action Plan was initially developed in intensive working group meetings, involving senior officials from several ministries and agencies from both sides, during the visit of a U.S. interagency delegation led by National Security Council Director for Europe Stephen Flanagan on January 27-28. The detailed plan is designed to translate the Southeast Europe Action Plan into concrete projects in the areas of economic and commercial concerns, political-military affairs and law enforcement cooperation.

The plan commits both sides to enhanced consultations on regional and European security issues and intensified efforts to support the modernization of the Macedonian military. Similarly, it commits both sides to explore avenues for greater economic and commercial cooperation and to intensify efforts to support Macedonian economic transformation and development.

Skopje, March 17, 1998

Briefing for Mr. Wolfensohn for Meeting With Ambassador Ljubica Acevska

Time : Wednesday, March 18, 1998 2:35-2:45 p.m.

Accompanying Ambassador Acevska will be Mr. Pieter Stek, Executive Director

The Ambassador has recently returned from Macedonia and would like to re-invite Mr. Wolfensohn to Macedonia. She will convey an invitation from President Gligorov which was made to Mr. Wolfensohn last in June 1997 during his visit to Washington. This is the primary reason for her request to see Mr. Wolfensohn. The region recommends a visit not before Spring 1999 as Macedonia is going in for elections this year (in October/November) and Mr. Wolfensohn's visit could be mis-used at this time. A visit after the elections would be appropriate if a suitable time could be found on Mr. Wolfensohn's calendar.

The Ambassador may bring up three other issues:

Kosovo: With the Kosovo situation deteriorating Macedonia is concerned as it has a large Albanian minority and is the likely destination for Albanian refugees from Kosovo. Its own restive Albanian minority has political demands but prefers to work within the parliamentary framework - thanks to some deft handling by President Gligorov. Macedonia is concerned because UNPREDEP troops are expected to pull-out by August 31, 1998. Macedonia would like to either have US troops replace the UN troops or have the mandate of UNPREDEP continue for another 6-9 months. Deputy Secretary Strobe Talbott is visiting the region and will be in Skopje on March 17 to discuss these issues with President Gligorov. The Ambassador may request your personal help in ensuring that one of these options is pursued.

IDA: Macedonia is a blend country and is eligible for IDA. The Bank has agreed to continue to extend IDA to Macedonia for another 3 year CAS period (FY99-01) in the amount of SDR 45 million after which it will be phased out. The funds will be utilized to assist Macedonia in the social sectors and with employment generating projects. The Ambassador may thank the Bank for this assistance during a period when the political, and as a result, the economic situation may be turbulent.

European Union: Macedonia is very keen to get on a track towards membership of the EU. It is not an accession country but has signed a special treaty with the EU. It has requested Bank help in bringing Macedonia's case to the EU. In a recent visit to the EU, Johannes Linn, ECAVP raised the issue as a question with Mr. van den Broek, the EU Commissioner. Macedonia is happy if we help them keep their case on the agenda for EU. The Ambassador may raise the issue with you and thank the Bank for its help. However, we have to be cautious in our response, since we should not (be seen to) insert ourselves directly into the bilateral relationship between a member country and the EU in matters relating to accession negotiations.

FYR of Macedonia at a glance

3/15/98

POVERTY and SOCIAL

	Macedonia, FYR	Europe & Central Asia	Lower- middle- income
Population mid-1996 (millions)	2.1	479	1,125
GNP per capita 1996 (US\$)	920	2,180	1,750
GNP 1996 (billions US\$)	2.0	1,043	1,967

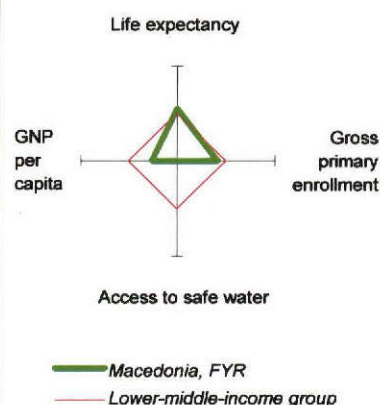
Average annual growth, 1990-96

Population (%)	0.9	0.3	1.4
Labor force (%)	1.3	0.5	1.8

Most recent estimate (latest year available since 1989)

Poverty: headcount index (% of population)	..	..	..
Urban population (% of total population)	60	65	56
Life expectancy at birth (years)	73	68	67
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	23	26	41
Child malnutrition (% of children under 5)	..	..	..
Access to safe water (% of population)	..	..	78
Illiteracy (% of population age 15+)	..	..	..
Gross primary enrollment (% of school-age population)	87	97	104
Male	88	97	105
Female	87	97	101

Development diamond*



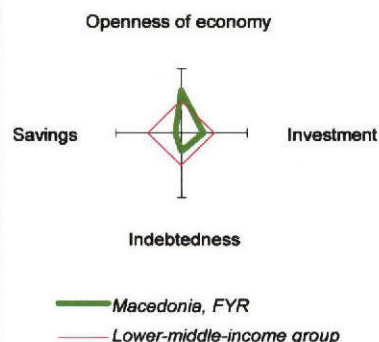
KEY ECONOMIC RATIOS and LONG-TERM TRENDS

	1975	1985	1996	1997
GDP (billions US\$)	..	..	3.7	3.1
Gross domestic investment/GDP	..	..	17.2	11.5
Exports of goods & Non-factor services/GDP	..	..	35.8	43.9
Gross domestic savings/GDP	..	..	10.1	4.0
Gross national savings/GDP /a	..	..	13.7	12.5
Current account balance/GDP	..	..	-7.9	-8.1
Interest payments/GDP	..	..	1.5	1.9
Total MLT debt/GDP	..	..	32.1	36.9
Total debt service/exports	..	..	11.3	7.3
Present value of debt/GDP	..	..	32.1	32.1
Present value of debt/exports	..	..	85.9	80.3

(average annual growth)

	1975-85	1986-96	1996	1997	1997-05
GDP	..	..	0.9	2.0	5.1
GNP per capita	..	-8.7	0.5	..	..
Exports of goods and Non-factor services	..	..	-4.2	3.3	7.8

Economic ratios*



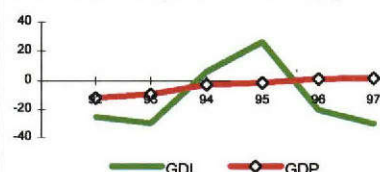
STRUCTURE of the ECONOMY

	1975	1985	1996	1997
(% of GDP)				
Agriculture	..	..	14.0	..
Industry	..	..	34.2	..
Manufacturing	..	..	..	..
Services	..	..	51.8	..
Private consumption	..	..	71.2	78.3
General government consumption	..	..	18.6	17.7
Imports of goods and non-factor services	..	..	48.7	59.4

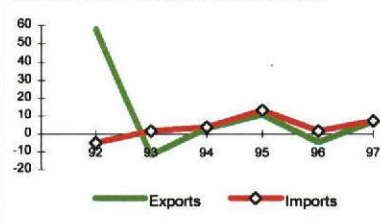
(average annual growth)

	1975-85	1986-96	1996	1997
Agriculture	..	..	..	..
Industry	..	..	..	..
Manufacturing	..	..	..	..
Services	..	..	..	..
Private consumption	..	..	7.8	10.0
General government consumption	..	..	10.4	-5.1
Gross domestic investment	..	..	-20.4	-30.3
Imports of goods and non-factor services	..	..	-0.4	2.3
Gross national product	..	-7.9	0.9	..

Growth rates of output and investment (%)



Growth rates of exports and imports (%)

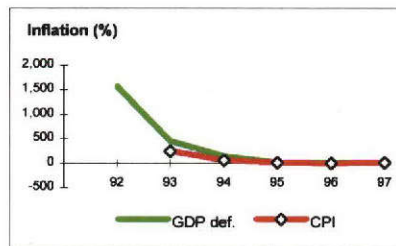


Note: 1997 data are preliminary estimates. Figures in italics are for years other than those specified.

* The diamonds show four key indicators in the country (in bold) compared with its income-group average. If data are missing, the diamond will be incomplete.

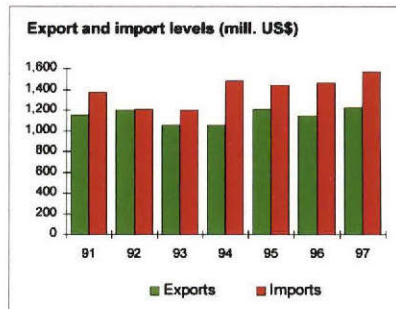
PRICES and GOVERNMENT FINANCE

	1975	1985	1996	1997
Domestic prices				
(% change)				
Consumer prices	..	..	-0.7	4.4
Implicit GDP deflator	..	..	1.8	2.5
Government finance				
(% of GDP)				
Current revenue	..	..	43.8	42.2
Current budget balance	..	..	2.0	1.2
Overall surplus/deficit	..	..	-0.4	-0.4



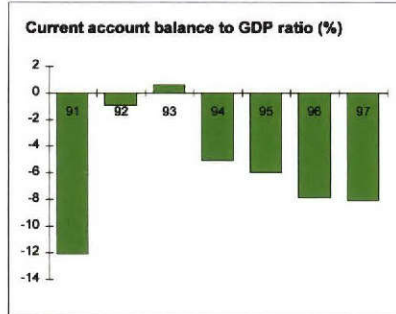
TRADE

	1975	1985	1996	1997
(millions US\$)				
Total exports (fob)	..	..	1,147	1,225
Commodity 1	..	..	188	128
Commodity 2	..	..	419	331
Manufactures	..	..	540	393
Total imports (cif)	..	..	1,464	1,568
Food	..	..	175	108
Fuel and energy	..	..	131	128
Capital goods	..	..	218	142
Export price index (1987=100)	..	..	..	..
Import price index (1987=100)	..	..	..	..
Terms of trade (1987=100)	..	..	..	..



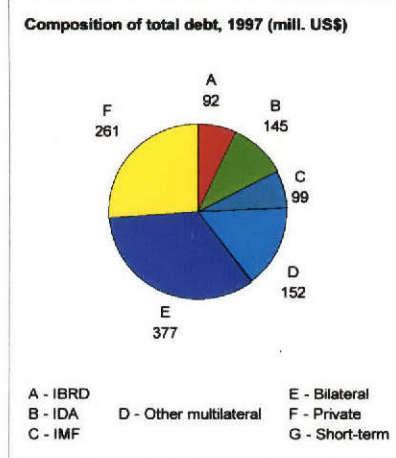
BALANCE of PAYMENTS

	1975	1985	1996	1997
(millions US\$)				
Exports of goods and non-factor services	..	..	1,301	1,342
Imports of goods and non-factor services	..	..	1,773	1,814
Resource balance	..	..	-472	-473
Net income	..	..	-9	-23
Net current transfers	..	..	213	244
Current account balance, before official capital transfers	..	..	-268	-251
Financing items (net)	..	..	216	272
Changes in net reserves	..	..	52	-21
Memo:				
Reserves including gold (mill. US\$)	..	..	220	..
Conversion rate (local/US\$)	..	..	39.9	49.8



EXTERNAL DEBT and RESOURCE FLOWS

	1975	1985	1996	1997
(millions US\$)				
Total MLT debt outstanding and disbursed /b	..	..	1,172	1,127
IBRD	..	..	81	92
IDA	..	..	125	145
Total debt service	..	..	155	103
IBRD	..	..	21	13
IDA	..	..	1	1
Composition of net resource flows				
Official grants	..	..	52	2
Official creditors	..	..	58	-1
Private creditors	..	..	..	..
Foreign direct investment	..	..	12	7
Portfolio equity	..	..	0	1
World Bank program				
Commitments	..	..	37	60
Disbursements	..	..	46	67
Principal repayments	..	..	15	10
Net flows	..	..	31	58
Interest payments	..	..	6	6
Net transfers	..	..	25	51



Status of Bank Group Operations in Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of IBRD Loans and IDA Credits in the Operations Portfolio

Project ID	Loan or Credit No.	Fiscal Year	Borrower	Purpose	Original Amount in US\$ Millions				Difference Between expected and actual disbursements a/		Last ARPP Supervision Rating b/	
					IBRD	IDA	Cancellations	Undisbursed	Orig Frm	Rev'd	Dev Obj	Imp Prog
Number of Closed Loans/credits: 4												
<u>Active Loans</u>												
MK-PE-8407	IBRD 38680	1995	FYR Macedonia	Transit Facilitation	24.00	0.00	0.00	1.27	-2.75	0.00	HS	HS
MK-PE-38092	IDA 27220	1995	FYR Macedonia	Social Reform	0.00	14.00	0.00	3.42	4.72	0.00	HS	S
MK-PE-43447	IBRD 40150	1996	FYR Macedonia	Private Sector Development	12.00	0.00	0.00	2.89	-3.11	0.00	HS	HS
MK-PE-36089	IDA 28890	1996	FYR Macedonia	Health Sector Transition	0.00	16.90	0.00	14.98	11.93	0.00	U	S
MK-PE-10001	IDA 28630	1996	FYR Macedonia	Private Farmer Support	0.00	7.90	0.00	6.32	4.41	0.00	S	S
MK-PE-38393	IBRD 41530	1997	FYR Macedonia	SAL I	30.00	0.00	0.00	12.31	3.27	0.00	S	S
MK-PE-38393	IDA 29490	1997	FYR Macedonia	SAL I	0.00	30.00	0.00	5.54	3.27	0.00	S	S
MK-PE-42399	IBRD 42840	1998	ESM	Power System Improvement	35.00	0.00	0.00	34.11	0.00	0.00		
MK-PE-38399	IBRD 42410	1998	FYR Macedonia	Irrigation Rehabilitation	7.50	0.00	0.00	7.49	.11	0.00	S	S
MK-PE-34609	IBRD 42400	1998	FYR Macedonia	PSD II	25.00	0.00	0.00	24.96	0.00	0.00		
MK-PE-38399	IDA 30010	1998	FYR Macedonia	Irrigation Rehabilitation	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00	.11	0.00	S	S
MK-PE-38391	IDA 29820	1998	FYR Macedonia	Education Rehabilitation	0.00	5.00	0.00	3.88	-.22	0.00	HS	S
Total					133.50	78.80	0.00	122.17	21.74	0.00		

a. Intended disbursements to date minus actual disbursements to date as projected at appraisal.

b. Following the FY94 Annual Review of Portfolio performance (ARPP), a letter based system was introduced (HS = highly Satisfactory, S = satisfactory, U = unsatisfactory, HU = highly unsatisfactory): see proposed Improvements in Project and Portfolio Performance Rating Methodology (SecM94-901), August 23, 1994.

Note:

Disbursement data is updated at the end of the first week of the month.

Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of
STATEMENT OF IFC's
Committed and Disbursed Portfolio
 As of 31-Jan-98
 (In US Dollar Millions)

FY Approval	Company	Committed				Disbursed			
		IFC				IFC			
		Loan	Equity	Quasi	Partic	Loan	Equity	Quasi	Partic
1997	Nikol-Fert	3.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1997	SEF Masinomont	.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	.58	0.00	0.00	0.00
1997	SEF Teteks	1.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.47	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Portfolio:		5.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
Approvals Pending Commitment									
		<u>Loan</u>	<u>Equity</u>	<u>Quasi</u>	<u>Partic</u>				
1997	MAKEDONIJA	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
1997	SEF MASINOMONT	.20	0.00	0.00	0.00				
Total Pending Commitment:		5.20	0.00	0.00	0.00				

**Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of - Selected Indicators of
Bank Portfolio Performance and Management**

Indicator	1995	1996	1997	1998
<i>Portfolio Assessment</i>				
Number of Projects under implementation ^a	4	6	7	10
Average implementation period (years) ^b	.45	.60	1.40	1.33
Percent of problem projects ^{a, c}				
by number	0.00	0.00	14.29	10.00
by amount	0.00	0.00	7.69	7.96
Percent of projects at risk ^{a, d}				
by number	0.00	0.00	16.67	10.00
by amount	0.00	0.00	12.54	7.96
Disbursement ratio (%) ^e	0.00	64.88	9.91	29.96
<i>Portfolio Management</i>				
CPPR during the year (yes/no)				
Supervision resources (total US\$ thousands)	153.45	457.88	558.59	230.33
Average Supervision (US\$/project)	38.36	76.31	79.80	38.39
Memorandum item	Since FY80	Last five FYs		
Projects evaluated by OED				
by number				
by amount (US\$ millions)				
Percent rated U or HU				
by number				
by amount				

- a. As shown in the Annual Report on Portfolio Performance (except for current FY)
- b. Average age of projects in the Bank's country portfolio.
- c. Percent of projects rated U or HU on development objectives (DO) and/or implementation progress (IP).
- d. As defined under the Portfolio Improvement Program.
- e. Ratio of disbursements during the year to the undisbursed balance of the Bank's portfolio at the beginning of the year: investment projects only.

Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of - IBRD/IDA Lending Program

Category	Past		Current		Planned ^a		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Commitments (US\$m)	123.0	36.8	60.0	107.5	20.0	95.0	0.0
Sector (%) ^b							
Agriculture	0.0	21.5	0.0	11.6	0.0	15.8	0.0
Education	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Electric Pwr & Engy.	0.0	0.0	0.0	32.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Finance	69.1	32.6	0.0	23.3	0.0	42.1	0.0
Multisector	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Populn, Hlth & Nutn	0.0	45.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Public Sector Mgmt.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.3	0.0
Soc Protection, etc.	11.4	0.0	0.0	27.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Transportation	19.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Water Supply & Santr	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.8	0.0
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lending instrument (%)							
Adjustment loans ^c	69.1	0.0	100.0	27.9	0.0	57.9	0.0
Specific investment loans and others	30.9	100.0	0.0	72.1	100.0	42.1	0.0
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Disbursements (US\$m)							
Adjustment loans ^c	1.0	41.9	62.4	12.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Specific investment loans and others	0.0	24.7	4.8	12.5	11.9	.4	0.0
Repayments (US\$m)	.5	.3	.2	.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Interest (US\$m)	2.1	4.6	4.8	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

^a Ranges that reflect the base-case (i.e., most likely) Scenario. for IDA countries, planned commitments are not presented by FY but as a three-year-total range; the figures are shown in brackets. A footnote indicates if the pattern of IDA lending has unusual characteristics (e.g., a high degree of frontloading, backloading, or lumpiness). For blend countries, planned IBRD and IDA commitments are presented for each year as a combined total.

^b For future lending, rounded to the nearest 0 or 5%. To convey the thrust of country strategy more clearly, staff may aggregate sectors.

^c Structural adjustment loans, sector adjustment loans, and debt service reduction loans.

Note:

Disbursement data is updated at the end of the first week of the month.

Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of - IFC and MIGA Program, FY95-98

Category	Past			
	1995	1996	1997	1998
IFC approvals (US\$m) ^a	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sector (%)				
TOTAL	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Investment instrument (%)				
Loans	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Equity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quasi-Equity ^b	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
MIGA guarantees (US\$m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MIGA commitments (US\$m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

^aExcludes AEF projects.

^bIncludes quasi-equity types of both loan and equity instruments.

LJUBICA Z. ACEVSKA
AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ljubica Z. Acevska is the first Ambassador of the Republic of Macedonia to the United States of America. She was appointed in November 1995. Her duties as the U.S. Representative of the Republic of Macedonia began in January 1992, and lasted until her appointment as Ambassador. During this time, she also covered the United Nations from January through September 1992. One of her major accomplishments include the establishment of full diplomatic relations between the United States and the Republic of Macedonia.

Prior to her work with the Republic of Macedonia, Ambassador Acevska worked in the field of international development as a partner in an international trading and consulting company.

She is a graduate of Ohio State University and a recipient of the 1996 Alumni Medalist Award from the Ohio State Alumni Association for international distinction in service to humanity.

The Ambassador actively participates in international conferences, and frequently speaks at universities and organizations. Her hobbies include reading, hiking, running, tennis, traveling and doing work with charity organizations.

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