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THE WORLD BANK Washington, D.C.

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Annual Meeting - General, 1988

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R1992-111 Other #: 2

President Barber B. Conable - Annual Meeting Files - 1988 - General

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Tuesday, Sept. 20

BBC & CWC - 6:50p Depart Dulles

PA 60

Wednesday, Sept. 21

9:00a Arrive Frankfurt (Marianne also)

*Accommodations at Bundesbank Guesthouse *Ground transportation provided by Government

BBC - Luncheon hosted by Chairman Poehl at

12:30p Bundesbank

BBC & CWC - Depart by car for Bonn (MH also) 2:00p *Accommodations at Koenigshof

BBC Meeting with Minister Klein 3:45p

5:30p BBC Meeting with Minister Stoltenberg

Thursday, Sept. 22

9:00a BBC Meeting with President von Weizsacker

10:00a BBC Meeting with Chancellor Kohl

3:05p BBC & CWC Depart Cologne British Air 3016

4:05p Arrive Berlin (Marianne also)

Transportation to Schweitzerhof by WB

Saturday, Oct. 1

BBC & CWC 8:00a Depart Berlin

PA 635

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TIMOTHY T. THAHANE Vice President & Secretary

November 9, 1988

Ms. Marianne Haug:

Marianne:

PPR Seminars in Spouse Program

- 1. You may recall that when the idea and decision to have the PPR Seminars included in the Spouse Program for the 1988 Annual Meetings was first discussed in Mr. Conable's office in June, (Charlotte and David Hopper were present), I made the following points:
- (a) During overseas meetings, the Spouse Program is the responsibility of the host government, which prepares the whole program;.
- (b) For Berlin, the German Government had already finalized the Spouse Program and sent it to the Governors by June. The Information Booklet had also been printed.
- (c) However, once a decision was reached to hold the Seminars, I indicated that we would handle the mailing of a letter from Barber to all participants (see copy attached); arrange meeting rooms; and the Joint Secretariat would distribute the announcement to the Spouses in the Conference Center in Berlin. Accordingly, the attached flier was included in the envelopes containing information on the Social Events.
- 2. Peter Haupt in his reply of August 8 to Mr. Conable's letter of July 18, stated that "Unfortunately, the Hospitality Program has already been printed, so these events cannot be included at this time". Mr. Conable should not therefore have been very surprised that the PPR program of events during the Annual Meetings was not incorporated in the Spouse Program!

3. For Washington Meetings, there is no constraint in including PPR programs in the Spouse Program because this is controlled by the WBVS. I therefore suggest that you get PPR to decide quickly what events they wish to put up and pass these to Bob Callis who will ensure that the WBVS group working on the Spouse Program incorporates them.

Jui

cc: Charlotte Conable

Attachments (2)

THE WORLD BANK Washington, D.C. 20433 U.S.A.

BARBER B. CONABLE President

June 1988

Dear Sir/Madam:

At this year's Annual Meetings in Berlin, the World Bank will be making presentations on four development topics of particular current interest.

Under the directorship of Mr. W. David Hopper, Senior Vice President for Policy, Planning and Research, Bank staff will discuss:

- (1) The Changing Nature of Adjustment Lending;
- (2) Food Production in Africa: The Promises and Problems;
- (3) Women in Development: Next Steps;
- (4) Poverty and the Environment: The Imperative of Sustainable Development.

These presentations, which will be made primarily for delegates and members, will also be open to the special guests, official visitors, spouses and members of the press, and I hope you will encourage those connected with your delegation to attend. All four presentations will be given on Monday, September 26, 1988. Additional information, including times and locations, will be distributed at a later date and also included in the information packet given to those attending the Annual Meetings at the time of registration.

I am pleased to invite you to these presentations, which will provide an opportunity for those not involved in the day-to-day operations of the Bank to have a first-hand look at the kind of sector policy work we are doing. I hope you will be able to attend.

Sincerely,

Brew B. Conde



Mr. Barber B. Conable, President and Mr. W. David Hopper, Senior Vice President Policy, Planning and Research

cordially invite you to attend four presentations to be given by Bank staff on development topics of current interest.

Monday, September 26	9:30 a.m.	THE CHANGING NATURE OF ADJUSTMENT LENDING
	11:30 a.m.	FOOD PRODUCTION IN AFRICA: The Promises and Problems
	3:00 p.m.	WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT: Next Steps
	4:30 p.m.	POVERTY AND THE ENVIRONMENT: The Imperative of Sustainable Development

The presentations will be given in Meeting Room No. 7 of the International Congress Center.

Simultaneous English/German, German/English interpretation will be available at all meetings; in addition, there will be simultaneous English/French, French/English interpretation at the presentation on Food Production in Africa.

Office of the President

November 4, 1988

Mr. Timothy T. Thahane

Mr. Conable told me that he had been very surprised that the PPR program of events during the Annual Meeting was not incorporated in the spouse program. I am sure you and other people in the Joint Secretariat are starting again to plan next year's events. Mr. Conable would like to make sure that in next year's program the spouses are given adequate information, as well as the option to attend the PPR program. I believe you should consider providing within the spouses' program a series of parallel events so that spouses with varying interests can choose from an assorted program.

If there are any problems, let me know so that Mr. Conable can directly address the problems with the Joint Secretariat or the IMF.

Marianne Haug

cc: Mrs. Conable

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 6, 1988

TO: Mr. Barber B. Conable, President

FROM: W. David Hopper, Senior Victoria ident, PPR

EXTENSION: 75678

SUBJECT: PPR Presentations at the 1988 Annual Meetings

- 1. In preparation for our Friday meeting, I met with PPR staff to discuss presentations which PPR might make in connection with the 1988 Annual Meetings.
- 2. We reviewed last year's presentations (on Environment, Women in Development, Food Security, and Education in Sub-Saharan Africa) both as to subject matter and logistics. With the exception of the Environment symposium which drew about 65 people, attendance was limited to between 15-30 people per presentation. The small crowds were undoubtedly due in part to the last minute scheduling of the presentations, but were also the result of less-than-optimal time slots and competing events. Since these presentations cannot be scheduled at the same time as the plenary sessions, they must contend with breakfast and luncheon meetings, cocktail receptions, evening programs, and other delegate distractions.
- 3. Given this scheduling conflict and in view of the probable nature of the President's remarks at this year's Annual Meetings, we think it might be more useful to arrange background press briefings instead of more formal symposia. The briefings on debt, the environment, and poverty would be open to participants in the Annual Meetings as well as the press but could be scheduled during the same prime time used by plenary sessions. We would prepare relevant brochures and other handouts for distribution and have appropriate PPR staff available to make short statements and answer questions.
- 4. Even with the scheduling constraints, however, we propose that there be one formal PPR presentation on Women in Development. We suggest that this be offered to both delegates and spouses, i.e. that there be one presentation instead of the two given last year. After reviewing the schedules of the Annual Meetings and of the program for spouses, we suggest that the WID presentation be made at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 27, in advance of the 10:00 a.m. opening ceremonies. We would concentrate on the Safe Motherhood Initiative and the Kenya WID program topics which were mentioned at last years' meetings but

which were not far enough along to be talked about extensively. We would describe the Safe Motherhood Initiatives being undertaken by a number of countries and outline in some detail three overall program aspects - advocacy, national planning of particular activities, and operational research. In discussing the WID program in Kenya, we would focus on how the work fits into both the country's and the Bank's development strategy, and the relationship of the WID program to four sectors - agriculture, primary and secondary education, health and family planning, and water supply.

5. I look forward to discussing these proposals with you and others on Friday.

cc: Mmes. Conable, Haug (EXC), Handwerger, Tillier (PPR)
Messrs. Thahane (SECGE), Stanton (EXC), Aguirre-Sacasa (EXTDR)
Fischer, Rajagopalan, Shakow, Meyers (PPR)

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE:

July 13, 1988

TO:

Messrs Husain, Jaycox, Karaosmanoglu, Thalwitz

FROM:

Moeen A. Qureshi

EXTENSION:

73665

SUBJECT:

1988 Annual Meetings

I would appreciate your initiating preparatory work for the upcoming Annual Meetings on the following items:

- Briefing material: country briefing notes should be prepared along the same lines as last year in terms of coverage and format (i.e. cover page with key data/issues, total length of the brief not to exceed 3 pages). A standard format for the cover page is in Attachment 1. These country briefing notes should be sent to my office for review by c.o.b. Friday, September 2 at the latest. I would also like to see prepared for Mr. Conable by Friday, September 17 a very brief update (in the form of bullet points), highlighting the key issues he should raise during his meetings.
- Meetings with Country delegations: In the case of country delegations that both Mr. Conable and I would meet there should be a single joint meeting arranged, unless you feel that I should hold a separate meeting beforehand, or the country requests it. I intend to meet as many country delegations as you would recommend within the regional ceilings outlined in Attachment 2. Mr. Conable has decided to limit the number of his meetings with Part II country delegations to a maximum of 20, and a tentative list of suggested countries is also in Attachment 2. I would like to get your final recommendations on these lists by c.o.b. Tuesday, July 19.

With respect to my schedule, I intend to be in Berlin on September 21 and would like to start my meetings with country delegations on Thursday, September 22. Mr. Conable will be able to meet with Part II country delegations starting Friday, September 23. Friday, September 30 will be the last day on which meetings can be scheduled. My office will issue the slots available to your respective Region for these meetings within the next few days. In order to ensure that an orderly process is being followed, I would appreciate that all meeting requests for Mr. Conable or myself be channelled to my office (Vanja Jordan Ext.75253) through your Regional Coordinator.

cc: Messrs Vergin, Lee, Dubey, Robless, Bock, Inakage and Ms Haug

1988 ANNUAL MEETINGS BRIEFS

Name of Country:	Date:				
Meeting with: (Titles of	Principal Delegation Members)				
Population:m (date);	Estimated Growth Rate% (date);				
GNP per capita: \$ (date)					
(\$million) Total Commitments to date: of which: Bank (no. of operations and value) IDA (no. of operations and value) Total Undisbursed: Lending Program: FY89-90	(\$million) FY88 Commitments: Disbursements: Amortization: Commitments from Special Facility: 1/ Commitments from Special Joint Financing: 1/ Commitments from Special Program of Assistance: 1/				
Summary Data Average 1983-87	1988				
GDP growth Export Growth Import Growth Current Acc. Deficit % GDP Gross Debt Service Ratio Annual Inflation Rate	Aid Group Meeting: (Type) Last Meeting: (Date) IMF Status as of: (Date) (Art. IV; Active/Lapsed Standby; EFF; n.a.)				
Background: (3- to 4-line summary further text may be provided on following page if not covered adequately in discussion of issues)					
Issues likely to be raised by delegation:					
(List of key issues one line each; provide recommended responses in text on subsequent pages)					
Issues to be raised by Bank Management:					
(List of key issues one line each; provide elaboration in text on subsequent pages)					
Attachments:					
FIVE-YEAR LENDING PROGRAM: FY88-92 (FY8	38 actual)				
Riographical Information					

1/ Africa Region Only

1988 ANNUAL MEETINGS

MEETINGS WITH COUNTRY DELEGATIONS

	Mr. Conable		Mr. Qureshi	
ASIA (5)	China India Indonesia Philippines Bangladesh	(11)	China* India* Indonesia* Philippines* Bangladesh* Thailand Korea Sri Lanka Nepal Burma Malaysia	
EMENA (5)	Algeria Turkey Yugoslavia Pakistan Egypt	(11)	Algeria* Turkey* Yugoslavia* Pakistan* Egypt* Tunisia Morocco Hungary Poland Portugal Jordan	
LAC (4)	Brazil Mexico Argentina Colombia	(7)	Brazil* Mexico* Argentina* Colombia* Chile Ecuador Venezuela	
AFRICA (6)	Nigeria Cote d'Ivoire Senegal Kenya Zimbabwe Cameroon	(13)	Nigeria* Cote d'Ivoire* Senegal* Kenya* Zimbabwe* Cameroon* Senegal Niger Ghana Mozambique Tanzania Madagascar Zaire	
TOTAL	20		42	

 $[\]star$ Joint meeting with Mr. Conable, unless the country requests a separate meeting or the RVP recommends it.

THE MORES BANK INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE June 2, 1988

Mr. F. Aguirre-Sacasa, EXTDR

Frank Vogl, Director of Information

1 × 11 N 10 N 72468

SUBJECT Annual Meetings

- 1. Please note the attached preliminary schedule of press events for the annual meeting, which includes the press conference times for Mr. Conable the schedule is similar to that of previous years.
- 2. It is not possible at this time to determine the informal press pressures on the President. German television will almost certainly request interviews when Mr. Conable is in Berlin. In the event of major demonstrations, the local Berlin media might well try and get hold of the President at the meeting or at his hotel (I suggest I stay at the same hotel to handle possible press calls). Accordingly, please take note of these possible press pressures when completing the President's annual meeting timetable.
- 3. We will liaise with PPR with regard to press involvement in the special meetings that it is arranging.
- 4. Depending on issues and circumstances it may be useful to have a press conference on a key subject of interest debt, or the global economic outlook on Wednesday, September 28, given by a senior Bank official.

cc: Ms. M. Haug (EXC)

Messrs. W. Brannigan (EXTMC)

P. Riddleberger (EXTMC)

W. Stanton (EXC)

W. Wapenhans (SVPEA)

Attachment

FVog1:mp

1988 Annual Meetings: Preliminary Schedule

DATE	TIME	EVENT					
Saturday, September 24	9:30 a.m.	G-24 Ministers* Press conference: Chairman, G-24					
.*	to be announced						
Sunday, September 25	9:30 a.m.	Interim Committee*					
	to be announced	Press conference: Chairman, Interim Comm. IMF Managing Director					
Monday, September 26	9:30 a.m.	Development Committee*					
	to be announced	Press conference: Chairman, Development Committee World Bank President, IMF Managing Director					
Tuesday, September 27 10 a.m.		Opening ceremonies: Address by Chairman of the Boards of Governors; Address by IMF Managing Director Address by World Bank President					
Wednesday, September 28	9:30 a.m.	Annual discussions					
Thursday, September 29	7:30 a.m.	Press breakfast, hosted by World Bank					
	8:30 a.m.	Press conference: World Bank President					
	9:30 a.m.	Annual discussions					
	4 p.m.	Closing ceremonies					
	after ceremonies	Press conference: IMF Managing Director					
	after press conference	Press reception, hosted by IMF Managing Director and World Bank President					

^{*} photographers at the start

THE WORLD BANK Washington, D.C. 20433 U.S.A.

BARBER B. CONABLE President

June 20, 1988

Dear Bob:

I extend a warm personal invitation to you to attend the 1988 Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Monetary Fund and The World Bank and its Affiliates. The opening session will be held on Tuesday, September 27, and the Chairman's Reception on Sunday, September 25.

If you are able to attend, please have your office telephone Mrs. Beth Hines of our Joint Secretariat at 477-3660. Her staff will make the necessary arrangements for your registration.

If I can assist you in any way, please let me know.

Sincerely,

1 mon

Barber B. Conable

Mr. Robert S. McNamara 1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Suite 515 Washington, DC 20004 BARBER B. CONABLE President

June 20, 1988

Dear Mr. Black:

I extend a warm personal invitation to you and Mrs. Black to attend the 1988 Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Monetary Fund and The World Bank and its Affiliates. The opening session will be held on Tuesday, September 27, and the Chairman's Reception on Sunday, September 25.

If you are able to attend, please have your office telephone Mrs. Beth Hines of our Joint Secretariat at (202) 477-3660. Her staff will make the necessary arrangements for your registration.

If I can assist you in any way, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Barber B. Conable

Mr. Eugene R. Black Box 753 Southampton, NY 11968 BARBER B. CONABLE President

June 20, 1988

Dear Tom:

I extend a warm personal invitation to you and Peggy to attend the 1988 Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Monetary Fund and The World Bank and its Affiliates. The opening session will be held on Tuesday, September 27, and the Chairman's Reception on Sunday, September 25.

If you are able to attend, please have your office telephone Mrs. Beth Hines of our Joint Secretariat at (202) 477-3660. Her staff will make the necessary arrangements for your registration.

If I can assist you in any way, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Brun lande

Barber B. Conable

Mr. A. W. Clausen 35 Aster Avenue Hillsborough, CA 94010 BARBER B. CONABLE President

June 20, 1988

Dear Mr. McCloy:

I extend a warm personal invitation to you to attend the 1988 Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Monetary Fund and The World bank and its Affiliates. The opening session will be held on Tuesday, September 27, and the Chairman's Reception on Sunday, September 25.

If you are able to attend, please have your office telephone Mrs. Beth Hines of our Joint Secretariat at (202) 477-3660. Her staff will make the necessary arrangements for your registration.

If I can assist you in any way, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Barber B. Conable

Mr. John J. McCloy c/o Milbank, Tweed, Hadley and McCloy One Chase Manhattan Plaza New York, NY 10005

BOARDS OF GOVERNORS - 1988 ANNUAL MEETINGS - BERLIN (WEST)

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND THE WORLD BANK GROUP

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR SETTLEMENT OF INVESTMENT DISPUTES MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT GUARANTEE AGENCY



Press Release No. 4

September 27, 1988

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE until 12:00 noon, Berlin (West) time Tuesday, September 27, 1988

Address by Barber B. Conable to the Board of Governors of the World Bank Group

Introduction

Mr. Chairman, Governors, Ladies and Gentlemen --

May I, too, welcome you to these Annual Meetings. I am pleased to be addressing you here in the heart of Europe. I wish to thank Chancellor Kohl, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mayor Diepgen and the authorities and the people of West Berlin for their hospitality.

This great continent stands at the threshold of new economic prosperity as the largest integrated market in the world. Europe's postwar transformation shows how hope, combined with enlightened international cooperative action, can yield great progress. We must apply the same spirit in our effort to provide rising prosperity and renewed hope for the poor people of the world.

Such hope, reinforced by international cooperation and assistance, can yield miracles. I have seen the difference that a village well or a rural health clinic can make. I have seen the grateful eyes of women having access to fresh, clean water for the first time since becoming mothers. From small investments -- a metal plow, a sack of seed, a biology textbook, a line of credit for a trucking firm, a bulldozer to make a dirt road passable in bad weather -- new worlds of opportunity can emerge.

As Francis Bacon so aptly stated, "...in this theatre of man's life it is reserved only for God and angels to be lookers on." We at the World Bank are determined not to be onlookers. We will continue to put all our energies into fighting poverty through sustainable, equitable growth.

Mr. Chairman, this is what I want to talk about today -- sustainable growth with equity -- and what we must do to turn our commitment to development into reality.

Resources for Action

Before doing this, however, I want to outline some of the highlights of the past year. At our last Annual Meetings, I called on you for increased support for our urgent development efforts. In response to that appeal:

- -- Shareholders approved the General Capital Increase, which will allow us to increase Bank lending by 10 percent per year through the early 1990s.
- -- The international community demonstrated its strong commitment to the poorest countries by agreeing to IDA's eighth and largest replenishment.
- Donors boosted their co-financing support for IDA's adjustment operations in Sub-Saharan Africa, and made some progress in reducing Africa's official debt.
- -- The Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) became an operational reality.

I am most grateful for your support. This added strength, combined with the continued confidence of the financial markets, will allow us to act resolutely and effectively. I am counting also on continued close cooperation with our sister organization, the International Monetary Fund.

The Bank will put these additional resources to work to foster growth and an equitable distribution of the fruits of that growth. We will encourage the process of economic policy reform, while helping to protect the poor from added hardships. The Bank will focus fresh effort in the fields of hunger, population, education and environmental protection. In the crucial area of finance, we will mobilize greater resources to ease debt burdens and ensure that growth expands and poverty recedes.

A Central Goal: Reducing Poverty

Let me focus now on the central goal of the Bank: the reduction of poverty. Poverty on today's scale prevents a billion people from having even minimally acceptable standards of living. To allow every fifth human being on our planet to suffer such an existence is a moral outrage. It is more: it is bad economics, a terrible waste of precious development resources. Poverty destroys lives, human dignity and economic potential. It must be fought with resolution, and overcome with sustainable growth.

The World Bank is dedicated to attacking poverty and beating it back. Our experience makes us confident. It also teaches us that simplistic solutions will not work.

Instead, we need determined and sustained action on five major fronts:

- -- securing economic growth:
- -- combatting hunger;
- curbing excessive population growth;
- -- investing in education; and
- -- protecting the interests of the poor during the process of economic adjustment.

<u>First</u> and foremost, we must have growth. Growth provides the poor with access to better markets and opportunities. It provides the resources for public and private programs vital to the poor. It helps sustain the broad-based political support the anti-poverty effort needs.

Sensible macroeconomic policies are essential for that growth and for a successful attack on poverty. The Bank supports such policies through lending for adjustment, which now accounts for a quarter of our new commitments.

Second, the impact of economic growth must be strengthened by direct action to combat hunger. Hunger takes many forms and has many specific causes. We all are aware of the natural disasters in Bangladesh, the social deprivation in Brazilian favelas, the economic backwardness in Northeast Thailand, to mention a few. Remedial measures must address these differences realistically.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, over one hundred million people -- one person in four -- do not get enough to eat. Dramatic emergencies are an all-too-frequent reminder of the tragedy of poverty.

To fight hunger, African countries need economic growth, especially in agriculture. I attach the highest importance to the Bank's efforts to expand agricultural research. We will continue to support national programs which bring the needed technology and services to small farmers. By the end of this year, such programs will be underway with Bank support in 31 African countries.

The Bank will work persistently with African governments, official and non-government donors, and other international institutions to make food security a reality. This will require more external resources, improved capacity to deal with droughts and other food emergencies, better policies to stabilize food prices and stronger institutions. Within five years, I am confident that our collective action can put in place food security programs across the continent.

The numbers of absolute poor are even larger in other parts of the world. Similar approaches of collaborative problem-solving and action are essential.

Third, it is imperative that developing countries renew and expand efforts to limit population growth. Some countries have made great progress in this area. Even so, many nations will double their already large populations early in the next century.

Mr. Chairman, allow me to speak plainly. I realize that population policy touches upon sensitive cultural and religious values. But the societies in which population is growing so fast must accept that many -- perhaps most -- of these new lives will be miserable, malnourished and brief. With today's population growth rates, badly-needed improvements in living standards cannot be achieved, public resources for necessary services are over-stretched, and the environment is severely damaged.

By contrast, effective family planning programs in countries as different as Mexico and Indonesia show large savings over time in public health and education expenditures -- to say nothing of the benefits to the families.

Given the magnitude and severity of the problem, it is alarming that many governments are failing to implement sensible population policies. It is also distressing that international assistance for population activities has declined. These trends must be reversed.

A vital part of the Bank's work involves development activities that have a strong impact on population. Many projects improve economic opportunity and education for poor people, particularly women and girls. We are financing health and safe motherhood programs, and we will expand our direct support for family-related activities. Population issues will be prominent in our dialogue with governments.

Fourth among the Bank's anti-poverty priorities is the need to focus on a vital resource for growth, the limitless capacity of the human mind. The productivity of an educated workforce is the most reliable engine of economic growth.

Knowing this, the Bank and its members cannot ignore the disturbing evidence that investment in education has declined as the need for it has risen. The gap in per-pupil spending between low-income and industrial countries is now almost four times what it was a generation ago.

Enrollment is lagging, as well. At the primary level alone, 100 million youngsters who should have been attending schools in 1985 were not. Can we afford to cut off so many young people from active, productive futures?

Modest investments in education, wisely and steadily made, pay great dividends in fostering growth and reducing poverty. "There is no force," Jose Marti wrote a century ago, "that will not eventually succumb to trained human intelligence."

I will give education heightened priority. Countries which undertake to reform and upgrade their education systems will find the Bank a supportive partner.

Fifth, governments and donors need to do more to protect the poor during the adjustment process. Policy reform is in the best long-term interests of the poor. Distortions and misconceived economic policies harm them more than others. Poor people can get hurt, however, in the transitional process of correcting past mistakes. We have a special duty to encourage and finance measures which keep their short-term interests in mind.

While growth is essential, growth alone cannot overcome these hardships. Deliberate measures must be taken to deal with the social consequences of adjustment. The adverse impact on poor people's income and consumption must be reduced. This is the focus of the Social Dimensions of Adjustment Program, a Bank-managed multi-agency effort now underway in a score of African countries.

Social programs for the poor must be protected. Initiatives, such as Bolivia's Emergency Social Program and Ghana's Program of Action to Mitigate the Social Costs of Adjustment, are Bank-financed examples of how this can be done.

These five priorities -- securing economic growth, combatting hunger, curbing excessive population growth, investing in education and protecting the poor during adjustment -- will guide the World Bank's renewed effort to reduce poverty.

But let me stress -- effective implementation, not noble intention, is the crucial test. Effective implementation demands that poverty measures focus directly on those in need, and that available resources be used more efficiently. Hence, Bank lending in the social sectors will support better design, targetting and delivery of services for the poor.

Poverty is not an economic abstract, nor is it homogeneous. In different ways it afflicts males and females, the young and the old, families and people alone, rural and urban dwellers. It must be dealt with through realistic programs which acknowledge the diversity of human conditions.

Government policies and public programs play a critical role in poverty alleviation. But governments cannot do everything. Non-government organizations in many developing countries have enormous potential for flexible and effective action. I have encouraged Bank staff to initiate a broadened dialogue with NGOs. Some 150 Bank projects have been identified where NGOs can play a cooperative role. I hope, and fully expect, that this collaboration will continue and flourish.

The objectives which I have outlined today are ambitious. They depend on the commitment of governments to initiate and sustain change in difficult times. The Bank is prepared to assist member countries that are willing to make a commitment to growth with equity. We have the ideas, the resources and a dedicated staff of men and women who are committed to development.

Action for the Environment

Let me turn, now, to another matter which is inextricably linked to poverty alleviation -- safeguarding the physical environment. The poor are the least able to escape the consequences of environmental damage caused by others. They are likely to be prime victims when loggers clear tropical forests recklessly, or when toxic waste is shipped unregulated to poor countries and dumped without regard to risk. This is a growing practice which the international community must not tolerate.

We have a collective responsibility to break this vicious cycle of poverty and environmental degradation. We must do so in ways which provide growth, higher productivity and secure incomes for poor people. I am determined that the Bank take a leading role in this common effort.

The Bank's expanded environment staff is active in programs to preserve biological diversity, in air and water pollution control projects, in water and sanitation improvement and urban upgrading, and in helping countries develop the capacity to manage industrial hazards.

Some \$200 million of Bank and IDA resources are being invested in projects in about 30 countries to combat desertification and conserve the potential of arid lands. We also are strengthening our own internal review and awareness of the environmental consequences of all projects we finance.

Last year I told you the Bank would expand support for forest management. Our forestry lending last fiscal year reached \$193 million and included an innovative forest rehabilitation project in China. In Brazil, Indonesia, Madagascar and the Philippines, we are collaborating with governments on national environmental programs with major forest conservation components.

We have come a long way in a short time. Both we and our member governments need to do far more. There is an equally urgent need for the world community to contain the global environmental threats to our common future.

An Agenda for Growth

Mr. Chairman, I have repeatedly stressed the importance of growth. Developing countries can only make significant progress in reducing poverty and in safeguarding the environment if they are undergoing healthy expansion. The Bank is, above all, an international partnership for growth. To facilitate growth, however, progress is needed in four major areas:

- -- <u>first</u>, better international economic policies and more open trade;
- -- <u>second</u>, deeper and more persevering structural reforms by developing countries;
- -- <u>third</u>, stronger, more sustained international financing to support economic reform and development efforts; and
- -- fourth, the creation of an economic environment for vigorous private sector growth in developing countries.

Let me address these four central issues, each one vital to long-term progress.

An Improved World Environment

For healthy growth to occur, there must be an expanding global economy. The world economy has, in fact, fared better than many had thought possible following last year's fall in the stock market. The outlook remains clouded, however, by inflationary trends, continued uncertainties over financial imbalances and exchange rates, and increasing protectionism in the industrialized world.

Coordinated, growth-oriented and outward-looking policies in the developed world are essential. The cooperative gains of recent summit agreements must continue. Negotiators and principals must act with courage in the Uruguay Round discussions, in preparations for the Lome IV agreements, and in the run-up to 1992 in Europe. The success of the Uruguay Round, especially the reform of agricultural trade, is critical for developing countries. In short, industrial countries must not shirk their special responsibilities for the health and stability of a growing international economy.

Need for Deeper Adjustment

To take advantage of the opportunities for growth, developing countries must undertake, and persist with, deeper adjustment than most have so far managed. Our research shows that countries which have undertaken deeper structural reforms have had better growth and stronger balance of payments performance than those whose reforms were patchy or short-lived.

Successful adjustment takes long and sustained effort. For this reason,

- -- we will increasingly base our lending on the implementation of multi-year adjustment programs;
- we and our borrowers will need to pay more attention to the fiscal dimension of adjustment, the management and financing of the public sector; and
- we will place stronger emphasis on institutional reform.

External Finance for Growth

Growth cannot be sustained unless it is adequately financed, and external finance is critical to continuity. Current flows of resources are inadequate to meet developing countries' minimum needs.

The Bank is committed to carrying its share of the burden. In Fiscal Year 1988, new Bank Group commitments to our borrowers topped \$20 billion for the first time. Our gross disbursements also reached an all-time record of more than \$15 Billion, and the Bank Group's net disbursements to its current borrowers totaled \$7.6 Billion.

The progress made to reduce the burden of debt service in low-income countries has been encouraging. The Bank's Special Program of Assistance for Sub-Saharan Africa and the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility of the Fund are in place. The Toronto Summit offered a broad menu of debt relief options to low-income debtors. The Paris Club is now working out the technicalities. Speedy action is important.

I am pleased to report that our Board has approved the immediate use of IDA reflows to increase IDA's commitment authority by an additional 525 million SDR annually starting this fiscal year. A portion of the IDA reflows and IDA's net income will be used to supplement adjustment operations in IDA-only countries, taking into account their debt service obligations to the IBRD.

But we cannot overlook the fact that the heavily indebted middle-income countries continue to experience persistent stagnation and low growth. The Bank's approach has been to support investments and new money flows. If this is not sufficient to restore and sustain growth, we must explore further collaborative solutions. I believe a pragmatic, evolutionary approach to the debt crises in the heavily indebted middle-income countries should:

- -- preserve the case-by-case approach;
- -- strengthen investment and stimulate growth in the indebted countries;
- -- provide financial support by catalyzing new money and facilitating voluntary debt reductions; and
- -- be linked to good performance under an adjustment program.

Critical Role for the Private Sector

Mr. Chairman, open trade, economic reform and adequate finance can provide essential opportunities for growth. But we also must make use of the full potential of the private sector. We must create conditions in which entrepreneurs, farmers and workers can save, invest and produce efficiently. This is a pragmatic imperative, not an ideological abstraction.

For years, the Bank has provided substantial support to the private sector. The Bank has lent billions for agriculture, industry and infrastructure. This support will continue. But we will do more:

- Our adjustment lending and other operations must encourage greater private initiative and help dismantle monopolies and special privileges for any group -- private or public.
- -- We will stress the urgently needed reforms of domestic financial systems, markets and instruments to mobilize domestic savings and venture capital.
- -- We will provide advice, technical services and finance to assist in the reform or privatization of state enterprises.

- -- Through IFC, we will extend stronger support for capital market development.
- -- MIGA will offer advice and guarantees to promote private ventures and development.

I am committed to use our institutional strength -- the financial and intellectual power of the Bank, the corporate agility of IFC, and soon the risk coverage of our new affiliate, MIGA. We will leverage our own resources with commitments from the international and domestic private sector.

Private sector involvement is not a panacea. But private entrepreneurs command much-needed resources, and have access to new technologies, management skills and markets. No economy should waste such a potential.

Conclusion

In closing, I want to reiterate that we must work together. The stubborn fact of the Eighties is that growth has been inadequate. Poverty is still on the rise and the environment is poorly protected. Unchanged, these realities would deny our children a peaceful, decent and livable world.

We cannot afford to give up. We must build, instead, on what has been achieved and what has been learned over four decades of development experience. We will not succeed immediately, and we will not succeed everywhere. But we are entering a period of greater opportunities for partnership and cooperation.

Let us seize these opportunities pragmatically and urgently. Let us, together, rededicate our energies, our will, our strength to the challenge of growth, the promise of equity, the work of development. With your continued support, we are determined to carry our mission forward with vision, competence, compassion and courage.

Thank you.



THE WORLD BANK

Office of the President

October 12, 1988

Mr. Moeen Qureshi

Moeen:

I share David's concerns and hope we can follow the established procedures.

Brown linette Barber B. Conable

Attachment

WORLD BANK OTS SYSTEM OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

CORRESPONDENCE DATE: 88/10/11 DUE DATE: 00/00/00	
LOG NUMBER: 881011001 FROM: WD Hopper	
SUBJECT : Memo Re-establishment of Normal Procedures for Reviewin	ıg
Structural Adjustment Proposals.	
OFFICE ASSIGNED TO FOR ACTION: Mr. B. Conable (E-1227)	
ACTION:	
APPROVED	
PLEASE HANDLE	
FOR YOUR INFORMATION	
FOR YOUR REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION	
FOR THE FILES	
PLEASE DISCUSS WITH 66	
PLEASE PREPARE RESPONSE FOR SIGNATURE	
AS WE DISCUSSED	
RETURN TO	
CONSTRUCT	

COMMENTS:

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 11, 1988

TO: Mr. Barber B. Conable, EXC

EXT: 75678

SUBJECT: Re-establishment of Normal Procedures for Reviewing

Structural Adjustment Proposals

- I was disquieted, and my staff shared my disquiet, at the lapse from the normal procedures for reviewing structural adjustment proposals that occurred in Berlin. The usual practice for reviewing these actions is to have a detailed document setting forth the proposed conditions and expected course of negotiations that is discussed in the Operations Committee, with the attendance from all the relevant Bank units. If considered necessary, an appropriately amended paper is then sent to the President's Council for review with This procedure has worked well in the past. Mr. Qureshi has given strong and fair leadership to the Operations Committee and has opened a full opportunity for all Bank units to place on record their concerns with the structural adjustment proposals.
- My disquiet arises because these procedures were not followed in Berlin. The final outcome of our previous discussions on Argentina differed in substantial measure from the assurances members of the President's Council received in our earlier review of the Argentian action. [For example, we have been informed that the Bank would not commit to Argentina until the commercial banks agreed to be full partners. In Berlin, I learned that this important condition was being dropped because it would give the commercial Banks veto power over our actions -- hardly a convincing reason for ignoring an important condition of our lending. | In the case of Mexico, there were no discussions and, to my knowledge, no paper detailing the proposals. I also learned in Berlin that a Moroccan adjustment loan was to go forward without an Operations Committee meeting or review by the President's Council.
- With the pressure of the Berlin meetings now behind us, I hope it will be possible to return the discipline of our normal procedures. In other words, let us not make what occurred in Berlin a precedent for future structural adjustment approvals.

WORLD BANK OUTGOING MESSAGE FORM Cable, Telex (3/82)IMPORTANT-PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS BELOW BEFORE TYPING FORM Typewritten Character Must Fall Completely in **TEST NUMBER** OFFICIAL DEPT/DIV PAGE Box! MESSAGE NUMBER (FOR CASHIER'S USE ONLY) **ABBREVIATION** 11 EXC START 2 HERE ALEXANDER G. FRIEDRICH, CHAIRMAN, DEUTSCHSTIFTUNG, BERLIN, WEST THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO YOUR TELEX TO MR. CLAUSEN WHO IS GERMANY PRESENTLY OUT OF THE COUNTRY. BECAUSE OF MR. CLAUSEN'S SCHEDULE, HE MUST LEAVE WEST BERLIN FOR ROME EARLY AFTERNOON OF TUESDAY, JULY 2, AND THEREFORE IS UNABLE TO MEET WITH MAYOR DIEPGEN AS SUGGESTED IN YOUR WIRE. HOWEVER, HE LOOKS FORWARD TO SEEING THE MAYOR AT DINNER ON JULY 1. HELEN HIGGINS, SECRETARY TO MR. CLAUSEN. THE WORLD BANK, WASHINGTON, D.C. 21 END OF TEXT PINK AREA TO BE LEFT BLANK AT ALL TIMES INFORMATION BELOW NOT TO BE TRANSMITTED CLASS OF SERVICE: TELEX NO .: DATE: TELEX 181405 DSEED 6-11-85 SUBJECT: DRAFTED BY: EXTENSION: H. HIGGINS 72002

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

SECTION BELOW FOR USE OF CABLE SECTION

AUTHORIZED BY (Namey and Signature):

H. HIGGINS

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TELEX AN:

WORLD BANK WASHINGTON / USA

BETR.: IT 04-10-85 , TIDEWATER

TO MR. A.W. CLAUSEN, PRESIDENT

GOVERNING MAYOR OF BERLIN, EBERHARD DIEPGEN, WAS DELIGHTED TO LEARN YOUR ACCEPTANCE TO JOIN TIDEWATER MEETING END OF THIS MONTH.

IN VIEW OF THE PLANNED WORLD BANK MEETING BERLIN 1988 MR. DIEPGEN WOULD HIGHLY APPRECIATE - BESIDES MEETING YOU AT DINNER AT CHARLOTTENBURG PALACE ON 1 JULY - HAVING AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS REGARDING THE BERLIN 1988 WORLD BANK CONFERENCE.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SOON HERE, ALEXANDER G. FRIEDRICH,

DSE DEVELOPMENT POLICY FORUM DEUTSCHSTIFTUNG BERLIN

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TELEX AN:

WORLD BANK WASHINGTON/ USA

BETR.: IT 04-10-85 TIDEWATER

TO MR. A.W. CLAUSEN, PRESIDENT

PLEASE ADD TO OUR FS NR. 1067:
- HAVING AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS REGARDING THE BERLIN 1988 WORLD BANK CONFERENCE ON 2 JULY AT 3 P.M. (15.00 HOURS).

ALEXANDER G. FRIEDRICH CHAIRMAN
DEUTSCHSTIFTUNG BERLIN TELEX 181405 DSEED D

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File Title					Barcode No.
President Barber B. Conable - Annual Med	eting Files - 1988 - General				1781147
Document Date Sep 28, 1984	Document Type Memorandum	1		X	
Correspondents / Participants To: Mr. A. W. Clausen, President of the V. From: Bruno De Maulder, Executive Dire					
Subject / Title IMF / World Bank Annual Meetings 1988	- West Berlin		a.		
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File Title			Barcode No.
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To: Members of the Managing Committee			
From : Ibrahim F.I. Shihata, VPG			
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			Bank Access to Information website.
			Withdrawn by Date
			Chandra Kumar Aug 5, 2014

THE WORLD BANK/INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

For MC information
Mr. Clausen

E-1227

DATE October 5, 1984

10 Managing Committee

FROM T. T. Thahane

EXTENSION 72185

SUBJECT 1988 Annual Meetings - West Berlin

Attached for information is a copy of a memorandum which the Secretary and the General Counsel of the IMF sent to the Managing Director.



Attachment





File Title								Barcode No.	
President Barber B. Conable - Annual Meeting Files - 1988 - General							*		
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Description 1	Desument Type								
Oct 3, 1984	Document Type Memorandum							9	*
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File Title President Barber B. Conable - Annu	ual Meeting Files - 1988 - General	Barcode No.	
		178	81147
Document Date	Document Type		
17 July, 1984	Memorandum		
Correspondents / Participants			
To: The Managing Committee			
From : T. T. Thahane, VPS			
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Forthcoming Annual Meetings of th	ne Board of Governors		
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		disclosure policies of the V	wond Bank Group.
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		Sherrine M. Thompson	June 20, 2023

A.W. CLAUSEN President

July 20, 1984

Excellency:

Just a note to let you know that we have now received the original of your letter of July 3, 1984, inviting the Boards of Governors of The World Bank and its Affiliates and the International Monetary Fund to hold the 1988 Annual Meetings in Berlin (West).

As you know, we have already conveyed our appreciation to your Government through Mr. Munzberg, Executive Director of The World Bank.

Thank you again for your kind invitation and my warm regards.

Sincerely,

8

Seine Exzellenz
Herrn Juergen Warnke
Bundesminister fur wirtschaftliche
Zusammenarbeit
Karl-Marx Strasse 4-6
D 5300 Bonn 1
Federal Republic of Germany

CC: R. Munzberg
BC: T. Thahane

Seine Exzellenz Herrn Juergen Warnke Bundesminister fur wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit Karl-Marx-Strasse 4-6 D 5300 Bonn 1 Federal Republic of Germany

Excellency:

Tust a note to let you know that we have I have now received the original of your letter of July 3,

1984, inviting the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and its Affiliates and the International Monetary Fund to hold the 1988 Annual Meetings in Berlin (West).

through Mr. Munzberg, Executive Director of the World Bank.

Let me thank you again for your kind invitation and look forward to seeing you in September here in Washington.

Warmest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

A. W. Clausen

DR. JÜRGEN WARNKE
BUNDESMINISTER
FÜR WIRTSCHAFTLICHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

KARL-MARX-STR. 4-6 5300 BONN 1 TEL. (02 28) 53 53 11/12

July, 3 1984

705

Mr. A.W. Clausen President International Bank for Reconstruction and Development 1818 H-Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20433

RECEIVED

Virginia De pière, destruite La rese Ma

Dear Mr. President,

on behalf of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and of the Senat I take great honor in formally extending an invitation to hold the 1988 Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and its Affiliates in Berlin (West).

Berlin (West) has a longstanding tradition as a city for international conventions and it has all the necessary advanced infrastructure. Its International Congress Centre, built a few years ago, is one of the world's most modern facilities which fully meets the requirements of the Fund and the Bank.

Prompt issuance of visas and expeditious clearance of customs will be accorded to all Governors, Alternate Governors, Advisors, staffs of the Fund and Bank, accredited observers, special guests, press and any other visitors permitted by the Organizations to be present for the Meetings as well as the accompanying family members of all the foregoing.

A similar invitation has been sent to the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund.

Sincerely yours,

Jurgen Warnke





File Title				Barcode No.	
President Barber B. Conable - Annual Meet	ing Files - 1988 - General		2.		
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Document Date Jul 17, 1984	Document Type Memorandum		8		
Correspondents / Participants To: Mr. Reinhard Munzberg, Executive Di From: A,W. Clausen, President	rector				,
Subject / Title 1988 Annual Meetings - Invitation from the	Federal Republic of German	у			
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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

160

DATE July 13, 1984

FOR INFORMATION

Mr. Clausen

FROM T. T. Thahane

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EXTENSION

72185

SUBJECT

Mission to Bangkok and Tokyo

- 1. Following extensive consultations with Mr. Phaichitr on the 1988 Annual Meetings and the decision to follow the past practice of rotation, we agreed that I should visit Thailand to meet with the Minister of Finance and the Governor of the Bank of Thailand to explain the situation. It appears that there is considerable sensitiveness on the way the German authorities handled it with the Prime Minister of Thailand during his visit there. An impression was left that the institutions were promoting Germany against Thailand.
- 2. In addition to discussing the 1988 Annual Meetings, I will take up with the Minister, general matters relating to the important role of the Board, the need of continuity in the appointment of EDs, particularly at the present time when the Board and Management are reviewing the future role of the Bank. Discussing these matters with the Minister and Senior Officials before they go to the constituency meeting in Singapore on August 3rd, will ensure that they are considered by the constituency.
- 3. En route from Bangkok, I will stop over in Tokyo, at the request of the Ministry of Finance, to discuss some arrangements for the Annual Meetings and the EDs' remuneration with the Minister and the Governor of the Bank of Japan.
- 4. I will leave in the evening of Tuesday, July 17, for Paris to meet with Mozambique officials on membership matters on the 18th, and then proceed to Bangkok and Tokyo. I will return on Friday, July 27.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1984 JUL 13 PM 5: 53
RECEIVED

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE May 15, 1984

158

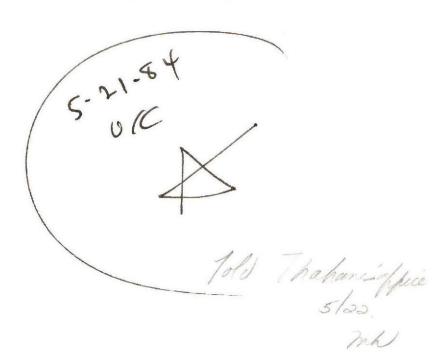
TO Mr. Clausen

FROM T. T. Thahane

EXTENSION: 72185

SUBJECT 1988 Annual Meetings in West Berlin

As a follow up to Mr. Munzberg's memorandum of May 8, 1984 to you on the 1988 Annual Meetings, the Fund Secretary, Mr. Leo Van Houtven, and I would plan to visit West Berlin during the week of June 11. A technical mission consisting of two staff members would be there during the preceding week. Mr. Van Houtven and I will hold discussions with the officials of the City of West Berlin on their responsibilities and with senior officials of the Federal Government in Bonn on the obligations and responsibilities of hosting the meeting.



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May 8, 1984	Memorandum				4	
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To: Mr. A.W. Clausen,						
From: Mr. Reinhard Munzberg, Executive	Director					
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						Chandra Kumar Aug 5, 2014





President Barber B. Conable - Annual Meeting Files - 1988 - General 1781147 Document Date Jul 5, 1984 Document Type Memorandum Correspondents / Participants To: Members of the Managing Committee From: Ibrahim F.I. Shihata, VGP	
Document Date Jul 5, 1984 Correspondents / Participants To: Members of the Managing Committee	
Jul 5, 1984 Memorandum Correspondents / Participants To: Members of the Managing Committee	
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To: Members of the Managing Committee	
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For MC information Mr. Clausen

E-1227

DFFICE MEMORANDUN

DATE July 3, 1984

SEC/MC84-27

Managing Committee Members

FROM

Timothy T. Thahane

72185 EXTENSION

1988 Annual Meetings - Visit to West Germany SUBJECT

- In response to a request by the German Authorities, my colleague in the IMF and I visited Berlin during the week of June 11-15, 1984, to assess the adequacy of the West Berlin conference facilities to host the 1988 Annual Meetings. We also visited Bonn to exchange views with the Federal Authorities on the timing of an invitation and the assurances that the institutions would seek.
- Messrs. Friis and Humphries of the Joint Conferences Office had 2. preceded us to Berlin for technical assessment of the facilities. From a technical standpoint, Berlin meets all the requirements for holding the Annual Meetings. The Berlin International Conference Center has two main meeting halls seating 5,000 and over 3,000 respectively, and several smaller meeting rooms and adequate space for delegations and staff. The hotel, airport and communications facilities are ample, of high quality and conveniently located.
- The Berlin authorities are most anxious to host the Annual Meetings. We met with the new Mayor, Mr. Diepgen, and officials of the Berlin Senate, who assured us of their fullest cooperation. In Bonn we met with Under-Secretary Tietmeyer in the Ministry of Finance and other Federal officials who had been with us during our visit to Berlin. They were fully aware of the assurances that the Fund and the Bank would require. In view of the circumstances of Berlin, and the unsuccessful attempt in the late 1960's to invite the meetings, the German officials referred to the Quadripartite Agreement, negotiated by the four occupying powers and signed on September 3, 1971, which provides, in Annexes 4(a) and (b) that, "Meetings of international organizations and international conferences ... may be held in the Western Sectors of Berlin. Invitations will be issued by the Senate or jointly by the Federal Republic of Germany and the Senate". The text of the Quadripartite Agreement has been passed on to the Legal Department for examination.
- Mr. Tietmeyer also informed us that prior to sending an invitation, the German Authorities will contact all Fund and Bank members concerning their intention to propose Berlin as the site for the 1988 Meetings. They would also follow up their communication through diplomatic and other channels to make sure that the invitation would obtain the necessary broad-based support of the membership. As a result, a formal invitation can be expected to be forthcoming in the first half of July. We will then prepare the necessary report on the basis of which the Executive Board could decide before the August recess and transmit a report to the Governors for a vote by early September.





File Title			Barcode No.
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Additional Comments			The item(s) identified above has/have been removed in accordance with The World Bank Policy on Access to Information. This Policy can be found on the World Bank Access to Information website.
			Withdrawn by Date Chandra Kumar Aug 5, 2014

Mr Clausen

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

THE WORLD BANK

Washington, D.C. 20431

May 29, 1984

To:

Mr. de Larosière

Mr. Clausen

From:

Joseph Lang

Serena Clarke, 5C

Subject: 1988 Annual Meetings: Visit to Bangkok

In response to a memorandum, dated January 6, 1984, from Mr. Phaichitr Uathavikul, World Bank Executive Director, Mr. Callis and Mr. Capbert of the Bank/Fund Conferences Office visited Bangkok from May 8 to May 18, 1984, to assess the adequacy of the facilities for holding the 1988 Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the Fund and Bank in that city. We joined the mission on May 12. The mission was received cordially by the Minister of Finance, the Governor of the Bank of Thailand and other high ranking Thai Government officials. Mr. Nibhat Bhukkanasut, Alternate Executive Director of the World Bank, attended many meetings and inspections with the mission. The warm reception and efficient assistance provided by the staff of the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Thailand contributed immensely to the work of the mission.

Early in the discussions it was made clear that the Cabinet was very earnest that the 1988 Meetings be held in Thailand. It was pointed out that 1988 would coincide with the fifth cycle of the King, a most auspicious occasion. However, it should be noted that owing to Royal protocol there can be no public reference to the coincidence at this time.

The Thai authorities had in mind two possible sites in Bangkok for the Meetings. A suggestion, also put forward by the Government, of perhaps utilizing the resort area of Pattaya, some two hours from Bangkok by automobile, was promptly discouraged by the mission.

One proposed site in Bangkok, the Dusit Thani Hotel, after thorough inspection, was determined by the mission to be inadequate. The other proposed site in Bangkok was the Hyatt Central Plaza complex which includes a 607 room hotel, a shopping mall, a 3,500 capacity parking garage, a six story office building, and a convention center. The center contains an auditorium presently capable of seating about 2,600 persons in a plenary seating arrangement and

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space for all other ancillary meeting needs. The mission judged that the complex contained the necessary elements for the site of the Meetings. Certain modifications to the complex would be required to increase the seating capacity of the Meeting Hall and to facilitate ease of access for the participants and the mission was assured by the owners of the complex that they would be willing to cooperate fully with the Government in this regard. Although the complex is located close to the Bangkok International Airport (some 10 minutes), it is about a 45 minute rush hour trip from the area in Bangkok where many of the Meetings' participants would be housed. The mission was informed by the Government that several projects are underway to improve Bangkok's traffic problem. In addition, several projects, i.e., barrier dams, waterways, etc., are underway to prevent occasional flooding caused by typhoons. These storms strike Bangkok perhaps once or twice in a decade, in October/November.

The mission inspected 17 deluxe or class A hotels, most of which are of exceedingly high quality, and received assurances that sufficient rooms and suites to satisfy our requirements would be made available to the Organizations. There is ample space for social events. Construction of two additional high quality hotels, each of 800 rooms, will be completed well before the 1988 Annual Meetings. As a result it would be possible to limit further the number of hotels that would need to be utilized.

Consideration was given to parking, airport facilities, passport, customs and health clearances, telecommunications facilities, international and local transportation, amplification and simultaneous interpretation systems and other necessary arrangements. The mission reviewed airport and telecommunications development projects that are scheduled for completion before the 1988 Annual Meeting. We believe that in all these matters it will be possible for our needs to be met. Although we did not discuss in detail the supply of local personnel, we do not foresee that this facet would present any untoward difficulty.

The mission was questioned by officials at the higher levels of the Thai Government about the pending site survey mission to Germany. The mission reiterated that for 1988 the Board of Governors could be expected for purposes of rotation to prefer a site in a continent other than Asia because of the choice of Seoul in 1985. We explained that the Thai and German Executive Directors would be advised informally of the results of the missions' findings in both countries. The Thai authorities stated that they were sensitive to the desirability of the Organizations receiving only one invitation. They expressed the hope that, if necessary, it would be possible to reach an accommodation with the German Government that would achieve this objective. They understand that no report would go to the Executive Boards until formal invitations were received by the Organizations. The authorities stated that the Government was prepared to act quickly to extend an invitation containing all the assurances required. They clearly understood the nature of all the assurances.

While the mission was in Bangkok a local newspaper ran a front page story on the 1988 Annual Meetings and the interest being shown not only by Thailand but also by Germany. Enquiries indicated that it was a story put together by a knowledgeable reporter who had accompanied the Thai Foreign Minister on his recent visit to Germany when, we understand, discussion of the 1988 Annual Meetings took place between the two countries. The Thai authorities expressed much disappointment about the "leak" but felt there was little they could do.

The Thai authorities said, should the Annual Meetings be convened in Bangkok in 1988, that workable dates would be about September 20 to 30 with the plenary sessions taking place, say, Tuesday, September 27 to Friday, September 30. These dates would not conflict with any religious holy days and would be free of national holidays in Thailand.

It is our conclusion that the facilities in Bangkok would permit the proper conduct of the 1988 Annual Meetings in that city. The mission is preparing a feasibility report on Bangkok for submission to the Executive Boards should it be needed.

cc: Mr. Erb, as of June 1, 1984

Mr. Van Houtven

Mr. Tun Thin

Mr. Thahane

Mr. Karaosmanoglu

Mr. Callis