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(Onchocerciasis Control Programme)

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Dates: 01/01/1984-12/31/1986

Sub-Fonds: Records of President A. W. Clausen

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Washington, D.C.

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CLAUSEN'S: General Correspondence - Onchocerciasis Control Programme



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 **Archives**
A1995-265 Other #: 5 209463B
Correspondence 09 (Onchocerciasis Control Programme)

1629773



OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE January 27, 1986

TO Mr. A. W. Clausen
 THROUGH: Mr. Ernest Stern, SVPOP
 FROM Wilfried P. Thalwitz, RVP, WAN

EXTENSION 72063

SUBJECT River Blindness Program Signing Ceremony, February 4, 1986

1. The ceremony is for the signing of the Onchocerciasis (Riverblindness) Fund Agreement for the third six-year financial phase (1986-1991) of the Onchocerciasis Control Programme (OCP). Attending will be the 18 donor countries and agencies which will sign the agreement and, as observers, the 11 West African beneficiary countries (a list of attendees and copy of the final agreement will be provided to you by January 31). Also attending will be Dr. Ebrahim Samba, Director of OCP at the Programme headquarters in Burkina Faso.

2. Bank staff responsible for the signing ceremony are:

Bilsel Alisbah, Director, WAL
 Bruce Benton, Onchocerciasis Coordinator, WAIDA
 Charles Vuylsteke, Legal Advisor, Legal Department

3. We have requested donors and beneficiaries to arrive at 3:45 p.m. The ceremony will begin at 4:00 p.m., to be opened with a brief speech by you (draft attached). You will then sign two copies of the agreement (French and English) for the Bank and the other donors will follow. When the signing has been completed, the United States (Peter McPherson) will make a statement on behalf of the donors as current chairman of the Joint Programme Committee (JPC), followed by a statement on behalf of the beneficiary countries by Niger (Ambassador Joseph Diatta), as outgoing chairman of the JPC. Each participant is being notified of these arrangements so that there will be no misunderstanding as to which representative is expected to speak and when.

4. The estimated time for the ceremony is 45 minutes. Afterwards, representatives will adjourn for coffee in the anteroom. A new film on the Programme will be shown at about 5:00 p.m., for interested representatives and EDs. Simultaneous French-English interpretation will be provided for the ceremony and the film.

5. A few reporters may attend the signing ceremony following a press briefing on the Programme earlier in the day.

6. Attached is background on the Programme, including the upcoming third phase and levels of donor financing.

cl. w. and cc: Messrs. Alisbah, Liese
 cc: Messrs. North, Hinkle, Poortman, Blinkhorn, Southworth, Rigo,
 Vuylsteke, Benton, Brennan, Mattheisen, Rimpler

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Messrs. Moeen A. Qureshi and Ernest Stern

September 26, 1985

FROM: A. W. Clausen



Henry Owen called me yesterday to report on the visit of a small group representing the Friends of Bretton Woods (Joe Fowler, Charls Walker, Ed Fried, James Orr and Henry Owen) with Secretary Jim Baker and Dick Darman of the U. S. Treasury.

Henry reports that the Secretary is becoming increasingly more supportive of the idea of a General Capital Increase for the Bank. The Treasury sees the GCI as a part of a package that includes assurances or "pledges" by the three important partners in the process of long-term recovery.

- 1) The LDCs should pledge to adopt and follow good economic policies.
- 2) The IBRD should pledge to pull out all stops vis-a-vis its catalytic role with respect to the private sector.
- 3) The commercial banks should pledge that they will stay in the game and will increase their exposure in credit-worthy developing countries where there is an appropriate plan of action endorsed by the Bank and the Fund.

The real problem is in the third constituency above.

It is an important political point, however, for the Treasury to gain support in Congress to show that the GCI is not another Bank bailout maneuver. Therefore, thought needs to be given as to how to defuse this possible counterpoint on the part of Congress. Henry suggested that the five of them meet with us to try to come up with a strategy (Henry even suggested a statement that the commercial banks would agree to --- a statement that the Treasury could use for political purposes in supporting a General Capital Increase in the Congress).

I told Henry that the Bank was hosting a breakfast meeting in Seoul, Korea, with 12-15 of the major commercial banks involved in international lending, and that we would very much like to meet with the group from the Friends of Bretton Woods upon our return.

AWC:MH

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE November 20, 1985

373

TO Mr. A.W. Clausen, President
THROUGH Mr. Ernest Stern, SVPO
FROM Hans Fuchs, Acting, RVP WAN

EXTENSION 76388

SUBJECT Onchocerciasis (Riverblindness) Control Programme Signing Ceremony

1. The Bank has been involved in the West African Onchocerciasis (Riverblindness) Control Programme as a leading donor and cosponsoring agency for over a decade. This program, which will shortly expand to cover 11 West African countries benefiting 24 million people, is turning into one of the most successful regional health assistance efforts ever. It is now on the verge of eliminating this severely debilitating disease as a public health hazard in the original seven-country core area where it began operations in 1974. Furthermore, socio-economic opportunities, including increased agricultural production, can be expected to eventually flow from the control of the disease which until recently has been hyperendemic in most Sahelian river valleys.

2. Participants in the Programme (20 donors and eleven participating countries) have agreed to a third six-year phase beginning on January 1, 1986, with the objectives of extending operations to a much wider area, sustaining the Programme's impressive results, halting transmission of the disease throughout most of West Africa, and bringing the Programme to a close in the 1990s. The donors have endorsed a plan of operations for the Third Phase to achieve these objectives. Furthermore, the Bank has worked with donors to raise about 85 percent of the funding required over the next six years (see attached President's memorandum for further background on the Third Phase). The annual meeting of the Programme (Joint Programme Committee), hosted by WHO in Geneva, December 10-13, 1985, will be one stage in launching the Third Phase. WHO is planning to hold a press conference following that session.

3. A second stage in launching the Third Phase will be the signing of the Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement. We are planning to have that agreement, incorporating donor pledges, signed by the donors' representatives at the Bank on Thursday, ~~January 30, 1986~~. Given the importance and success of this regional West African program, we suggest that you host this signing ceremony. The ceremony would take about 45 minutes of your time during the afternoon of ~~January 30, 1986~~.

Feb. 4

4. Donor and beneficiary country representation at the signing ceremony would be at the ambassadorial level and might include the AID Administrator or Assistant Administrator for Africa. As host you would make a brief statement at 4:00 p.m. to begin the signing and would sign for the Bank. This would be followed by a coffee reception lasting to about 5:00 p.m. We are planning a press conference/luncheon prior to the signing which would not require your presence. Would you agree to host the signing ceremony?

cc and cleared with Messrs. Blinkhorn (IPA), Liese (PHN),
and Rigo (Legal)

cc Messrs. Stern (SVOP), Thalwitz (o/r) (WANVP), Alisbah (o/r) (WA1DR),
North (PHNDR), Hinkle (o/r) (WA1DA), Dailly (WA1DA),
Benton (WA1DA), Beguery (WANVP), Mattheisen (WA1DA)

BBenton/DMattheisen:ma

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

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SecM85-1198

FROM: The President

November 4, 1985

GRANTS FOR CONTROL OF ONCHOCERCIASIS IN WEST AFRICA*

1. At the Board meeting on December 20, 1984, Mr. Alisbah informed the Executive Directors of the progress achieved by the Riverblindness Program and the recommendation by the Joint Programme Committee to go ahead with a third six-year phase (1986-1991). This memorandum reports on developments since that time and proposes a level of contribution for the third phase.

2. The Onchocerciasis Control Programme (OCP) is one of the largest and most effective regional health programs in Africa. The benefits are shared by about 17 million people living in the poor rural areas of seven West African countries (Burkina, Niger, Mali, Togo, Benin, Ghana and Ivory Coast). The Programme, begun in 1974 and expected to last until 1997, is based primarily on controlling the blackfly that carries the disease parasite. WHO is the executing agency under the guidance of a Joint Programme Committee consisting of the donors and beneficiary countries. It is financed by grants contributed by donors to a trust fund administered by the World Bank which also is responsible for raising the funds. Operations are organized under six-year financial phases. The first ran from 1974 to 1979, and the second from 1980 to 1985. A summary of contributions by donors to date is attached.

3. The Programme - and also evaluation missions sent to the field by major donors - has, at the close of Phase II, gathered evidence that control is working. Transmission of the disease has been halted in 90 percent of the program area. In areas where blackfly control has stopped

Distribution

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* Questions related to this report should be addressed to Mr. Bruce Benton (Extension 78100).

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transmission of new parasites for nearly 10 years, existing parasites are reaching the end of their life span and are rapidly dying off. As a consequence of the halt in transmission, the prevalence of the disease in the control area is declining rapidly. This observation validates a key assumption of the program, that successful control of the blackfly, if sustained long enough, can eradicate river blindness as a major public health problem. A new generation of three million children born since the operation began is growing up without the risk of contracting the disease. In addition, preliminary data indicates that there is an increasing migration of people into the once uninhabited river valleys: new villages are being established and agricultural activities are beginning on lands once deserted due to the disease and now safe for resettlement.

4. To bring the Programme to a successful conclusion and to extend its benefits to neighboring populations severely affected by the disease, the Programme's donors have endorsed a plan of operations and funding agreement which would extend the Programme westward into Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone, Senegal and western Mali and to the south of Togo, Benin and Ghana. These extensions constitute the major thrust of the plan of operations for the third phase which will cost an estimated \$134 million in current prices. This compares very favorably with the \$108 million that the second phase will cost since, in the third phase, the Programme will cover more than 2 1/2 times the length of river valleys as during the second phase.

5. At a donors seminar on the Programme in October donors provisionally agreed to fund about US\$110 million of the cost of the third phase of the Programme. The principal argument made by the Bank at the seminar was that Phase III would be fundable if the current donor community would maintain the Phase II level of its contributions. Virtually all donors agreed to do so and some indicated that they plan to increase their contributions. Several donors, which did not attend the meeting, are also expected to contribute and the Bank will seek to complete the funding for the third phase by enlisting new donors in the Programme. One new donor, Finland, attended the seminar and indicated the level it would contribute during the first two years with increases probable in subsequent years.

6. In summary, the Programme continues to be a model of international cooperation which is having a significant humanitarian impact. It is also one of the Bank's most effective co-financing operations where each dollar contributed by the Bank generates at least nine dollars from other donors.

7. I propose, therefore, that the Bank indicate at the forthcoming Joint Programme Committee meeting, taking place in Geneva, Switzerland, December 10-13, 1985, that it intends to maintain its contribution at the same level as under Phase II. This level would be equivalent to ten percent of the total cost of Phase III, or \$13 million over a six year period (1986-1991). During the course of Phase III, specific recommendations would be made in the Bank's annual budget regarding the level of yearly contributions.

		PHASE I		PHASE II		PHASE III		CONTRIBUTOR
1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987	
1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	AFRICA DEV. BANK
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	BELGIUM
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	DENMARK
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	FRANCE
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	GERMANY
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	IRELAND
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	ITALY
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	JAPAN
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	KOREA
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	NETHERLANDS
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	NORWAY
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	OECD FUND
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	OECD INST. FOR DEV. STUDIES
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	RUSSIA
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	SWITZERLAND
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	UNITED KINGDOM
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	USA
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	UNITED STATES
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	YUGOSLAVIA
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION

A. W. Clausen
President

TO INCLUDE CONTRIBUTION FOR 1986 RECEIVED IN 1985
 TO INCLUDE 1986 CONTRIBUTION NOT YET RECEIVED
 TO INCLUDE CONTRIBUTION FOR 1986 RECEIVED IN 1985

ONCHOCERCIASIS FUND (1974-1985)

(US\$ MILLIONS)

CONTRIBUTIONS	TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL	
	PHASES I + II	% SHARE OF TOTAL	PHASE I (1974-1979)	% SHARE OF TOTAL	PHASE II (1980-1985) B/	% SHARE OF TOTAL
AFRICAN DEV. BANK	2.53	1.5%	1.09	1.8%	1.44	1.3%
BELGIUM	5.46	3.2%	2.38 A/	3.8%	3.08 B/	2.9%
CANADA	9.09	5.4%	3.31	5.3%	5.78	5.4%
FRANCE	10.69	6.3%	5.78	9.3%	4.91 B/	4.6%
GERMANY	10.14	6.0%	5.24	8.5%	4.90 B/	4.5%
IRAQ	0.05	.0%	0.05	0.1%	...	0.0%
ITALY	2.50	1.5%	...	0.0%	2.50 B/	2.3%
IVORY COAST	2.40	1.4%	2.40 A/	3.9%	...	0.0%
JAPAN	13.53	8.0%	5.00	8.1%	8.53	7.9%
KUWAIT	12.00	7.1%	6.00	9.7%	6.00 B/	5.6%
NETHERLANDS	17.76	10.5%	6.50	10.5%	11.26	10.4%
NORWAY	3.71	2.2%	1.06	1.7%	2.65	2.5%
OPEC FUND	2.00	1.2%	...	0.0%	2.00	1.9%
AL SABAH FOUNDATION	0.20	0.1%	0.10	0.2%	0.10	0.1%
SAUDI ARABIA	13.09	7.7%	3.33 A/	5.4%	9.76 B/	9.1%
SWITZERLAND	7.79	4.6%	...	0.0%	7.79 C/	7.2%
UNITED KINGDOM	9.50	5.6%	5.55	9.0%	3.95	3.7%
UNDP	4.37	2.6%	0.47	0.8%	3.90 B/	3.6%
UNITED STATES	22.98	13.5%	7.70	12.4%	15.28 B/	14.2%
WHO	1.50	0.9%	...	0.0%	1.50	1.4%
WORLD BANK	18.50	10.9%	6.00	9.7%	12.50	11.6%
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	169.78		61.95		107.83	

A/ INCLUDES CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1979 RECEIVED IN 1980.

B/ INCLUDES 1985 CONTRIBUTIONS NOT YET RECEIVED.

C/ INCLUDES CONTRIBUTION FOR 1980 RECEIVED IN 1979.



Record Removal Notice

File Title Clausen Papers - General Correspondence - Correspondence 09 (Onchocerciasis Control Programme)		Barcode No. 1629773		
Document Date December 26, 1984	Document Type Board Record			
Correspondents / Participants				
Subject / Title EDs' Meeting December 20, 1984 Statement by Mr. Alisbah on River Blindness Program				
Exception(s)				
Additional Comments Declassification review of this record may be initiated upon request.		The item(s) identified above has/have been removed in accordance with The World Bank Policy on Access to Information or other disclosure policies of the World Bank Group.		
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Record Removal Notice

File Title Clausen Papers - General Correspondence - Correspondence 09 (Onchocerciasis Control Programme)		Barcode No. 1629773		
Document Date Jan. 6, 1986	Document Type Memorandum			
Correspondents / Participants To: Mr. Gerard Boehmer, Executive Director From: Bilsel Alisbah, Director, WA1				
Subject / Title OCP Invitation to Government of Federal Republic of Germany to sign phase 3 agreement.				
Exception(s)				
Additional Comments Declassification review of this record may be initiated upon request.		The item(s) identified above has/have been removed in accordance with The World Bank Policy on Access to Information or other disclosure policies of the World Bank Group.		
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ROUTING SLIP		DATE: January 9, 1986
NAME		ROOM NO.
Mr. Southworth		E-1227
<i>Mirra Lopez & appropriate</i>		
APPROPRIATE DISPOSITION	NOTE AND RETURN	
APPROVAL	NOTE AND SEND ON	
CLEARANCE	PER OUR CONVERSATION	
COMMENT	PER YOUR REQUEST	
FOR ACTION	PREPARE REPLY	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION	RECOMMENDATION	
INITIAL	SIGNATURE	
NOTE AND FILE	URGENT	
REMARKS:		
<u>Onchocerciasis Control Programme</u>		
Copies of letters sent to donors and participating countries.		
FROM: Bruce Benton <i>BH</i>	ROOM NO.: E-301	EXTENSION: 78100

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1818 H Street, N.W.
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(202) 477-1234
Cable Address: INTBAFRAD
Cable Address: INDEVAS

January 7, 1986

Mr. Edouard Saouma
Director-General
Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations
Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100
Rome, Italy

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

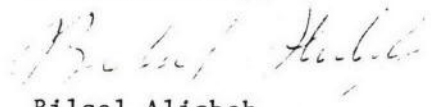
Dear Mr. Saouma:

I am pleased to invite the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to attend the signing of the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with its role as a sponsoring agency of the Programme in cooperation with the World Bank, UNDP, and WHO. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for FAO.

Yours sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

cc: Dr. Moubrey S.O. Nicholas
Director
Agricultural Service Division
FAO

The World Bank

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le 7 janvier 1986

Ms. François-Xavier de Donnea
Secrétaire d'Etat à la Coopération
au Développement
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
du Commerce Extérieur et de la
Coopération au Développement
"AG" Building
Place du Champ de Mars 5
Boîte 57
1050 Bruxelles

Monsieur le Secrétaire d'Etat,

Object: Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose


J'ai l'honneur d'inviter le Gouvernement du Royaume de Belgique à signer l'Accord relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose (Phase III), conformément à l'annonce faite par la Belgique à la réunion du Comité conjoint du Programme des 10-13 décembre 1985 d'apporter une contribution au Fonds de la Phase III.

La signature de l'accord relatif à la Phase III aura lieu le 4 février 1986 au siège de la Banque mondiale, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. dans la salle E-1244, à 15h45. La cérémonie de signature sera présidée par M. A.W. Clausen, Président de la Banque mondiale. Votre gouvernement pourra être représenté à la cérémonie de signature soit par un fonctionnaire de votre Ministère soit par votre Ambassadeur à Washington.

Des dispositions seront prises au guichet du service de sécurité dans le hall d'entrée de la Banque pour accueillir votre représentant et l'accompagner jusqu'à la salle où aura lieu la signature.

Je vous saurais gré de bien vouloir nous faire connaître avant le 27 janvier 1986 le nom et la qualité du représentant de votre pays qui sera habilité à signer l'accord pour la Belgique.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Secrétaire d'Etat, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.


Bilsel Alisbah

Directeur des programmes I
Région Afrique de l'Ouest

cc: Mr. Jacques de Groote, Administrateur

The World Bank

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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

(202) 477-1234
Cable Address: INTBAFRAD
Cable Address: INDEVAS

le 7 janvier, 1986

Monsieur René Courty
Sous-Directeur DPR/C
Affaires Générales et Financières
Ministère de la Coopération
et du Développement
20, rue Monsieur
75007 Paris, France

Monsieur,

Objet: Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose

J'ai l'honneur d'inviter le Gouvernement de la République Française à signer l'Accord relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose (Phase III), conformément à l'annonce faite par la France à la réunion du Comité conjoint du Programme des 10-13 décembre 1985 d'apporter une contribution au Fonds de la Phase III.

La signature de l'accord à la Phase III aura lieu le 4 février 1986 au siège de la Banque mondiale, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. dans la salle E-1244, à 15h45. La cérémonie de signature sera présidée par M. A.W. Clausen, Président de la Banque mondiale. Votre gouvernement pourra être représenté à la cérémonie de signature soit par un fonctionnaire de votre Ministère soit par votre Ambassadeur à Washington.

Des dispositions seront prises au guichet du service de sécurité dans le hall d'entrée de la Banque pour accueillir votre représentant et l'accompagner jusqu'à la salle où aura lieu la signature.

Je vous saurais gré de bien vouloir nous faire connaître avant le 27 janvier 1986 le nom et la qualité du représentant de votre pays qui sera habilité à signer l'accord pour la France.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Secrétaire d'Etat, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.



Bilsel Alisbah

Directeur des programmes I
Région Afrique de l'Ouest

cc: M. Bruno de Maulde, Administrator

The World Bank

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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

1818 H Street, N.W.
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January 7, 1985

Mr. Douglas P. Lindores
Vice-President, Multilateral Branch
Canadian International Development Agency
200 Promenade du Portage
Hull, Quebec
Canada KIA OCG

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

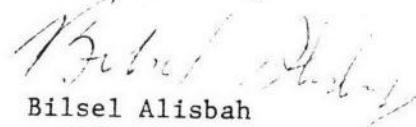
Dear Doug:

I am pleased to invite the Government of Canada to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with Canada's pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank. You may wish to give consideration as to whether your Government should be represented at the signing ceremony by your Agency or your Ambassador in Washington.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for Canada.

Yours sincerely



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

cc: Mr. N.F. Potter, Executive Director

cc: Mr. Denis Potvin
Section Head
Multilateral Technical Division
Canadian International Development Agency

The World Bank

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

(202) 477-1234
Cable Address: INTBAFRAD
Cable Address: INDEVAS

January 7, 1986

Mr. G. Arthur Brown
Associate Administrator
United Nations Development Programme
One United Nations Plaza
New York, New York 10017

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

Dear Mr. Brown:

I am pleased to invite the United Nations Development Programme to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with the United Nations Development Programme's pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for the United Nations Development Programme.

Yours sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

cc: Pierre-Claver Damiba
Assistant Administrator and
Regional Director for Africa
United Nations Development Programme

cc: Mr. Otto B. Essien
Chief, Division for Regional Programmes
Regional Bureau for Africa
United Nations Development Programme
Room DCI-2464

The World Bank

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

(202) 477-1234
Cable Address: INTBAFRAD
Cable Address: INDEVAS

January 7, 1986

Mr. Faisal Al-Khaled
Director-General
Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development
P.O. Box 2921
Kuwait, Kuwait

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

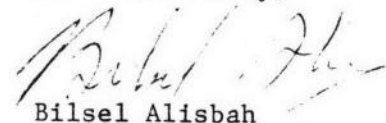
Dear Mr. Al-Khaled:

I am pleased to invite the Government of Kuwait to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with Kuwait's pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for Kuwait.

Yours sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

cc: Mr. Fawzi Hamad Al-Sultan, Executive Director

cc: Dr. Mustapha Kadhi, Technical Advisor
Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development

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January 7, 1986

Sir Cristin Tickell
Permanent Secretary
Overseas Development Administration
Ministry of Overseas Development
Eland House, Stag Place
SW1 5DH London, England

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

Dear Mr. Tickell:

I am pleased to invite the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with the United Kingdom's pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank. You may wish to give consideration as to whether your Government should be represented at the signing ceremony by your Ministry or your Ambassador in Washington.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for the United Kingdom.

Yours sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

cc: Mr. Timothy P. Lankester, Executive Director

cc: Mr. Dennis Osborne
Head of Eastern and Western
Africa Department
Overseas Development Administration

The World Bank

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January 7, 1986

Mr. Peter McPherson
Administrator
Agency for International Development
321 21st St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20523

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

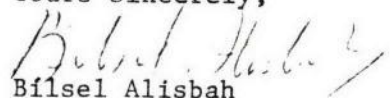
Dear Mr. McPherson:

I am pleased to invite the Government of the United States to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with United States' pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for the United States.

Yours sincerely,


Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

- cc: Mr. Hugh W. Foster, Alternate Executive Director
- cc: Mr. Jim Procopis
Chief, Sahel Division
Agency for International Development
- cc: Dr. Joe Stockard
Medical Officer
Bureau for Africa
Agency for International Development

The World Bank

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January 7, 1986

Dr. Sergio Silvio Balanzino
Ministro
Ministero Affari Esteri
Dipartimento Cooperazione Allo Sviluppo
La Farnesina
Rome, Italy

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

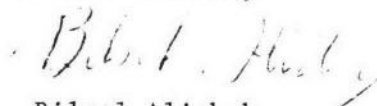
Dear Dr. Balanzino:

I am pleased to invite the Government of Italy to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with Italy's pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank. You may wish to give consideration as to whether your Government should be represented at the signing ceremony by your Ministry or your Ambassador in Washington.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for Italy.

Yours sincerely



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

cc: Mr. Mario Draghi, Executive Director

cc: Ms. F. Forcignano
Deputy Director for International Affairs
Ministry of the Treasury

The World Bank

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January 7, 1986

Mr. M. Ahtisaari
Under Secretary of State
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mannerheimintie 15
SF-00260 Helsinki 26
Finland

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

Dear Mr. Ahtisaari:

I am pleased to invite the Government of Finland to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with Finland's pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank. You may wish to give consideration as to whether your Government should be represented at the signing ceremony by your Ministry or your Ambassador in Washington.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for Finland.

Yours sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

cc: Mr. C. Ulrik Haxthausen, Executive Director

cc: Ms. Ulla-Maija Finskas
Health Programme Officer
Finnish International Development Agency

The World Bank

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le 7 janvier 1986

Son Excellence
Monsieur l'Ambassadeur Fritz Staehelin
Département fédéral des affaires étrangères
Direction de la coopération au
développement et de l'aide humanitaire
Eigerstrasse 73
CH-3003 Bern
Suisse

Son Excellence,

Objet: Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose

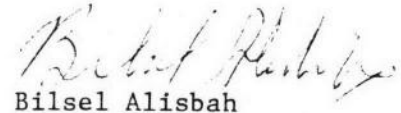
J'ai l'honneur d'inviter le Gouvernement de la Confédération Helvétique à signer l'Accord relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose (Phase III), conformément à l'annonce faite par la Suisse à la réunion du Comité conjoint du Programme des 10-13 décembre 1985 d'apporter une contribution au Fonds de la Phase III.

La signature de l'accord relatif à la Phase III aura lieu le 4 février 1986 au siège de la Banque mondiale, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. dans la salle E-1244, à 15h45. La cérémonie de signature sera présidée par M. A.W. Clausen, Président de la Banque mondiale. Votre gouvernement pourra être représenté à la cérémonie de signature soit par un fonctionnaire de votre Ministère soit par votre Ambassadeur à Washington.

Des dispositions seront prises au guichet du service de sécurité dans le hall d'entrée de la Banque pour accueillir votre représentant et l'accompagner jusqu'à la salle où aura lieu la signature.

Je vous saurais gré de bien vouloir nous faire connaître avant le 27 janvier 1986 le nom et la qualité du représentant de votre pays qui sera habilité à signer l'accord pour la Suisse.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Secrétaire d'Etat, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.



Bilsel Alisbah
Directeur des programmes I
Région Afrique de l'Ouest

cc: Monsieur André Bisaz
Chief de la Section Afrique Occidentale
Coopération au Développement et Aide Humanitaire

cc: Ms. Hélène Attinger
Direction de la Coopération et
de l'Aide Humanitaire

The World Bank

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January 7, 1986

Dr. Halfdan Mahler
Director-General
World Health Organization
Avenue Appia
Geneva, Switzerland

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

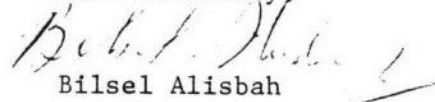
Dear Dr. Mahler:

I am pleased to invite the World Health Organization to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with the World Health Organization's pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for the World Health Organization.

Yours sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

- cc: Dr. Ebrahim Samba
Director
Onchocerciasis Control Programme
Burkina Faso
- cc: Mr. Douglas Marr
OCP Liaison Officer
World Health Organization
- cc: Mr. Claude-Henri Vignes
Legal Counsel
World Health Organization

The World Bank

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January 7, 1986

Mr. Koichi Takahashi
Director for Multilateral Cooperation
Economic Cooperation Bureau
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2-2-1 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo, Japan

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

Dear Takahashi:

I am pleased to invite the Government of Japan to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with Japan's pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank. You may wish to give consideration as to whether your Government should be represented at the signing ceremony by your Ministry or your Ambassador in Washington.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for Japan.

Yours sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah

Director

Programs 1

West Africa Region

cc: Mr. Kenji Yamaguchi, Executive Director

cc: Mr. Yutaka Yoshizawa
First Secretary
Embassy of Japan
Washington, D.C.

The World Bank

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
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1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
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January 8, 1986

Mr. Osama J. Faquih
Deputy Minister of Finance for
International Development Cooperation
Ministry of Finance and National Economy
Riyadh
Saudi Arabia

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

Dear Mr. Faquih:

I am pleased to invite the Government of Saudi Arabia to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with Saudi Arabia's pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank. You may wish to give consideration as to whether your Government should be represented at the signing ceremony by your Ministry or your Ambassador in Washington.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for Saudi Arabia.

Yours sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

cc: Mr. Ayebh A. Al-Jeaid
Ministry of Finance and National Economy
cc: Fawzi Hamad Al-Sultan, Executive Director

The World Bank

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January 7, 1986

Dr. Wolf-Dieter Ernert
Division Chief
Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation
Karl Marx Strasse 4-6
D-53 Bonn
Federal Republic of Germany

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

Dear Dr. Ernert:

The invitation to sign the Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement for Phase III has been sent to the Executive Director of the World Bank for Germany. The text of the invitation follows, quote:

I am pleased to invite the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with Germany's pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III.

The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank. You may wish to give consideration as to whether your Government should be represented at the signing ceremony by your Ministry or your Ambassador in Washington.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for Germany.

The text of this memorandum has been sent to Dr. Wolf-Dieter Ernert, the official in the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation responsible for the Onchocerciasis Control Programme. Unquote.

Yours sincerely,

Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

The World Bank

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January 7, 1986

Mr. Awni S. Al-Ani
Assistant Director-General of
Technical and Economic Services
OPEC Fund for International Development
P.O. Box 995 Parking 8
Vienna 1010, Austria

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

Dear Mr. Al-Ani:

I am pleased to invite the OPEC Fund for International Development to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with the OPEC Fund's pledge to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for the OPEC Fund.

Yours sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

The World Bank

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January 7, 1986

Mr. J. B. Hoekman
Director General for International Cooperation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
P.O. Box 20061
2500 EB, The Hague
The Netherlands

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

Dear Mr. Hoekman:

I am pleased to invite the Government of the Netherlands to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with the Netherlands' pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank. You may wish to give consideration as to whether your Government should be represented at the signing ceremony by your Ministry or your Ambassador in Washington.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for the Netherlands.

Yours sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

cc: Mr. Ferdinand van Dam, Executive Director

cc: Mr. J. Berteling
Head
Coordination and Budgetary Affairs Division
International Organization Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The World Bank

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January 7, 1986

Mr. T. P. Svennevig
Director-General
The Ministry of Development Cooperation
Multilateral Department
P.O. Box 8142 Oslo Dep.
0033 Oslo 1
Norway

Onchocerciasis Control Programme

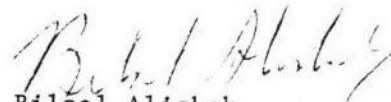
Dear Mr. Svennevig:

I am pleased to invite the Government of Norway to sign the Phase III Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement in accordance with Norway's pledge at the Joint Programme Committee meeting on December 10-13, 1985, to contribute to Phase III. The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986, at the World Bank, 1818 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank. You may wish to give consideration as to whether your Government should be represented at the signing ceremony by your Ministry or your Ambassador in Washington.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your representative to be met and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, the name and title of the representative who will be signing the agreement for Norway.

Yours sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah

Director

Programs I

West Africa Region

cc: Mr. C. Ulrik Haxthausen, Executive Director

cc: Mr. Knut Toraasen
Head of Division
The Ministry of Development Cooperation
Multilateral Department

cc: Messrs. North, Hinkle, Benton, Liese, Southworth, Mattheisen

LETTER3/LTR

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The World Bank

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7 janvier 1986

Son Excellence Facine Touré
Ministre d'Etat Chargé des Affaires Etrangères
et la Cooperation Internationale
Ministère d'Etat Chargé des Affaires Etrangères
et la Cooperation Internationale
Conakry
République de Guinée

Monsieur le Ministre,

Objet: Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose

J'ai l'honneur d'inviter l'Ambassadeur de Guinée à Washington à venir assister à la cérémonie de signature par les bailleurs de fonds de l'Accord juridique relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose au titre de la Phase III du Programme, auquel la Guinée prendra part en qualité de pays participant. Comme vous le savez, le Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose a contribué sensiblement à améliorer la santé de la population guinéenne et se révèle plein de promesses pour le développement socio-économique qui s'ensuivra pour votre pays.

La signature de l'accord relatif à la Phase III aura lieu le 4 février 1986 au siège de la Banque mondiale, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., dans la salle E-1244, à 15h45. La cérémonie de signature sera présidée par M. A.W. Clausen, Président de la Banque mondiale.

Des dispositions seront prises au guichet du service de sécurité dans le hall d'entrée de la Banque pour accueillir votre Ambassadeur à son arrivée et l'accompagner jusqu'à la salle où aura lieu la signature.

Je vous saurais gré de bien vouloir nous confirmer avant le 27 janvier 1986 la participation de votre gouvernement à la cérémonie de signature du nouvel Accord relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.



Bilsel Alisbah
Directeur des Programmes I
Région Afrique de l'Ouest

- cc: S.E. Dr. Pathé Diallo
Ministre de la Santé et des Affaires Sociales
Conakry, Guinée
- cc: S. E. Monsieur Tolo Beavogui
Ambassadeur
Ambassade du Guinée
- cc: Mr. Astere Girukwigomba, Administrateur

The World Bank

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le 7 janvier 1986

Son Excellence Boukari Adji
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
Niamey
République du Niger

Monsieur le Ministre,

Objet: Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose

J'ai l'honneur d'inviter l'Ambassadeur du Niger à Washington à venir assister à la cérémonie de signature par les bailleurs de fonds de l'Accord juridique relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose au titre de la Phase III du Programme, auquel le Niger prendra part en qualité de pays participant. Comme vous le savez, le Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose a contribué sensiblement à améliorer la santé de la population nigérienne et se révèle plein de promesses pour le développement socio-économique qui s'ensuivra pour votre pays.

La signature de l'accord relatif à la Phase III aura lieu le 4 février 1986 au siège de la Banque mondiale, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., dans la salle E-1244, à 15h45. La cérémonie de signature sera présidée par M. A.W. Clausen, Président de la Banque mondiale.

Des dispositions seront prises au guichet du service de sécurité dans le hall d'entrée de la Banque pour accueillir votre Ambassadeur à son arrivée et l'accompagner jusqu'à la salle où aura lieu la signature.

Je vous saurais gré de bien vouloir nous confirmer avant le 27 janvier 1986 la participation de votre gouvernement à la cérémonie de signature du nouvel Accord relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.



Bilsel Alisbah
Directeur des Programmes I
Région Afrique de l'Ouest

- cc: S.E. le Docteur Abdou Moudi
Ministre de la Santé Publique et des Affaires Sociales
Niamey, Niger
- cc: S.E. Monsieur Joseph Diatta
Ambassadeur
Ambassade du Niger
- cc: Mr. Nicephore Soglo, Administrateur

The World Bank

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

(202) 477-1234
Cable Address: INTBAFRAD
Cable Address: INDEVAS

January 7, 1986

H.E. Dr. Obed Asamoah
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
P.O. Box 53
Accra
Republic of Ghana

Onchocerciasis Control Programme (OCP)

Excellency:

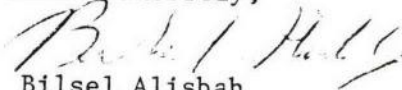
I am pleased to invite Ghana's Ambassador to Washington to observe the donors' signing of the legal agreement for the Onchocerciasis Fund for Phase III of the Programme, in which Ghana will take part as a Participating Country. As you are aware the Onchocerciasis Control Programme has contributed significantly to improving the health of Ghana's citizens and holds considerable promise for follow-on socioeconomic development for your country.

The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986 at the World Bank, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your Ambassador to be met when he arrives and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, confirmation of your Government's attendance at the signing ceremony for the new Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement.

Yours Sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah

Director

Programs I

West Africa Region

cc: H.E. Mr. Emmanuel G. Tanoh
Secretary for Health, Ministry of Health
Accra, Ghana

cc: H.E. Ambassador Eric Otoo
Embassy of Ghana

c: Mr. Mourad Benachenhou, Executive Director

The World Bank

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le 7 janvier 1986

Son Excellence Affro Frédérick
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères et de la Coopération
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et de la Coopération
B.P. 318
Cotonou
Bénin

Monsieur le Ministre,

Objet: Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose

J'ai l'honneur d'inviter Monsieur l'Ambassadeur du Bénin à Washington à venir assister à la cérémonie de signature par les bailleurs de fonds de l'Accord juridique relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose au titre de la Phase III du Programme, auquel le Bénin prendra part en qualité de pays participant. Comme vous le savez, le Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose a contribué sensiblement à améliorer la santé de la population béninoise et se révèle plein de promesses pour le développement socio-économique qui s'ensuivra pour votre pays.

La signature de l'accord relatif à la Phase III aura lieu le 4 février 1986 au siège de la Banque mondiale, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., dans la salle E-1244, à 15h45. La cérémonie de signature sera présidée par M. A.W. Clausen, Président de la Banque mondiale.

Des dispositions seront prises au guichet du service de sécurité dans le hall d'entrée de la Banque pour accueillir votre Ambassadeur à son arrivée et l'accompagner jusqu'à la salle où aura lieu la signature.

Je vous saurais gré de bien vouloir nous confirmer avant le 27 janvier 1986 la participation de votre gouvernement à la cérémonie de signature du nouvel Accord relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.



Bilsel Alisbah
Directeur des Programmes I
Région Afrique de l'Ouest

cc: S. E. Le Colonel André Atchade
Ministre de la Santé Publique
Cotonou, Benin

cc: S. E. Monsieur Guylandry Hazoumé
Ambassadeur
Ambassade du Benin

cc: Mr. Nicephore Soglo, Administrateur

The World Bank

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le 7 janvier 1986

Son Excellence Amega Atsu Koffi
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
Lomé
République Togolaise

Monsieur le Ministre,

Objet: Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose

J'ai l'honneur d'inviter l'Ambassadeur du Togo à Washington à venir assister à la cérémonie de signature par les bailleurs de fonds de l'Accord juridique relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose au titre de la Phase III du Programme, auquel le République du Togo prendra part en qualité de pays participant. Comme vous le savez, le Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose a contribué sensiblement à améliorer la santé de la population togolaise et se révèle plein de promesses pour le développement socio-économique qui s'ensuivra pour votre pays.

La signature de l'accord relatif à la Phase III aura lieu le 4 février 1986 au siège de la Banque mondiale, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., dans la salle E-1244, à 15h45. La cérémonie de signature sera présidée par M. A.W. Clausen, Président de la Banque mondiale.

Des dispositions seront prises au guichet du service de sécurité dans le hall d'entrée de la Banque pour accueillir votre Ambassadeur à son arrivée et l'accompagner jusqu'à la salle où aura lieu la signature.

Je vous saurais gré de bien vouloir nous confirmer avant le 27 janvier 1986 la participation de votre gouvernement à la cérémonie de signature du nouvel Accord relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.



Bilsel Alisbah
Directeur des Programmes I
Région Afrique de l'Ouest

cc: S. E. Dr. Tehaseu Karsa
Directeur, Division Epidémiologie
Ministère de la Santé Publique et des
Affaires Sociales

cc: S.E. Monsieur Ellom-Kodjo Schuppius
Ambassadeur, Ambassade du Togo

cc: Mr. Nicephore Soglo, Administrateur

The World Bank

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le 7 janvier 1986

Mr. Simeon Ake
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
B.P.V. - 109
Abidjan, République de Côte d'Ivoire

Monsieur le Ministre,

Objet: Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose

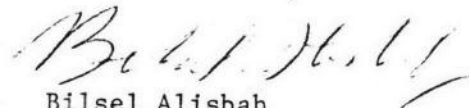
J'ai l'honneur d'inviter l'Ambassadeur de Côte d'Ivoire à Washington à venir assister à la cérémonie de signature par les bailleurs de fonds de l'Accord juridique relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose au titre de la Phase III du Programme, auquel la Côte d'Ivoire prendra part en qualité de pays participant. Comme vous le savez, le Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose a contribué sensiblement à améliorer la santé de la population ivoirienne et se révèle plein de promesses pour le développement socio-économique qui s'ensuivra pour votre pays.

La signature de l'accord relatif à la Phase III aura lieu le 4 février 1986 au siège de la Banque mondiale, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. dans la salle E-1244, à 15h45. La cérémonie de signature sera présidée par M. A.W. Clausen, Président de la Banque mondiale.

Des dispositions seront prises au guichet du service de sécurité dans le hall d'entrée de la Banque pour accueillir votre Ambassadeur à son arrivée et l'accompagner jusqu'à la salle où aura lieu la signature.

Je vous saurais gré de bien vouloir nous confirmer avant le 27 janvier 1986 la participation de votre gouvernement à la cérémonie de signature du nouvel Accord relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.



Bilsel Alisbah
Directeur des Programmes I
Région Afrique de l'Ouest

- cc: S. E. Le Professeur Mady Alphonse Djédjé
Ministre de la Santé Publique et de la Population
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
- cc: S. E. Monsieur René Amany
Ambassadeur
Ambassade de Côte d'Ivoire
- cc: Mr. Nicephore Soglo, Administrateur

The World Bank

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le 7 janvier 1986

Son Excellence Alioune Blondin Beye
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
Bamako
République du Mali

Monsieur le Ministre,

Objet: Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose

J'ai l'honneur d'inviter l'Ambassadeur du Mali à Washington à venir assister à la cérémonie de signature par les bailleurs de fonds de l'Accord juridique relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose au titre de la Phase III du Programme, auquel le Mali prendra part en qualité de pays participant. Comme vous le savez, le Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose a contribué sensiblement à améliorer la santé de la population malienne et se révèle plein de promesses pour le développement socio-économique qui s'ensuivra pour votre pays.

La signature de l'accord relatif à la Phase III aura lieu le 4 février 1986 au siège de la Banque mondiale, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., dans la salle E-1244, à 15h45. La cérémonie de signature sera présidée par M. A.W. Clausen, Président de la Banque mondiale.

Des dispositions seront prises au guichet du service de sécurité dans le hall d'entrée de la Banque pour accueillir votre Ambassadeur à son arrivée et l'accompagner jusqu'à la salle où aura lieu la signature.

Je vous saurais gré de bien vouloir nous confirmer avant le 27 janvier 1986 la participation de votre gouvernement à la cérémonie de signature du nouvel Accord relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.



Bilsel Alisbah
Directeur des Programmes I
Région Afrique de l'Ouest

- cc: S.E. le Professeur Mamadou Dembélé
Ministre de la Santé Publique et des
Affaires Sociales
Bamako, Mali
- cc: S.E. Monsieur Lassana Keita
Ambassadeur, Ambassade du Mali
- cc: Mr. Nicephore Soglo, Administrateur

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January 7, 1986

Mr. Abdul Karim Koroma
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Gloucester Street
Freetown
Republic of Sierra Leone

Excellency: Onchocerciasis Control Programme (OCP)

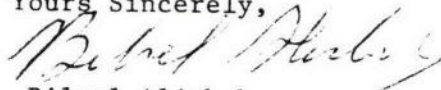
I am pleased to invite Sierra Leone's Ambassador to Washington to observe the donors' signing of the legal agreement for the Onchocerciasis Fund for Phase III of the Programme, in which Sierra Leone will take part as a Participating Country. As you are aware the Onchocerciasis Control Programme has contributed significantly to improving the health of Sierra Leone citizens and holds considerable promise for follow-on socioeconomic development for your country.

The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986 at the World Bank, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your Ambassador to be met when he arrives and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, confirmation of your Government's attendance at the signing ceremony for the new Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement.

Yours Sincerely,



Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

- cc: H. E. Mr. Salia Jusu Sheriff
Minister of Health
- cc: H.E. Mr. Dauda S. Kamara
Ambassador, Embassy of Sierra Leone
- cc: Mr. Astere Girukwigomba, Executive Director

The World Bank

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January 7, 1986

H.E. Mr. Julio Semedo
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Bissau
Republic of Guinea-Bissau

Onchocerciasis Control Programme (OCP)

Excellency:

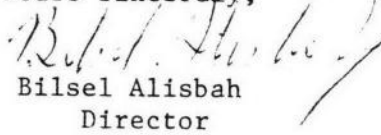
I am pleased to invite Guinea-Bissau's Ambassador to Washington to observe the donors' signing of the legal agreement for the Onchocerciasis Fund for Phase III of the Programme, in which Guinea-Bissau will take part as a Participating Country. As you are aware the Onchocerciasis Control Programme has contributed significantly to improving the health of Guinea-Bissau's citizens and holds considerable promise for follow-on socioeconomic development for your country.

The signing of the Phase III legal agreement will take place on February 4, 1986 at the World Bank, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., in Room E-1244 at 3:45 p.m. The signing ceremony will be hosted by Mr. A.W. Clausen, President of the World Bank.

Arrangements will be made at the guard's desk at the building entrance for your Ambassador to be met when he arrives and accompanied to the room where the signing will take place.

I would appreciate receiving by January 27, 1986, confirmation of your Government's attendance at the signing ceremony for the new Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement.

Yours Sincerely,


Bilsel Alisbah
Director
Programs I
West Africa Region

cc: H.E. Ing. Alexandre Nunes Correia
Minister of Health
Bissau, Republic of Guinea-Bissau

cc: H.S. Mr. Inacio Semedo Jr.
Ambassador
Embassy of Guinea-Bissau

cc: Mr. Nicephore Soglo, Executive Director

The World Bank

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1818 H Street, N.W.
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le 7 janvier 1986

Son Excellence Ibrahim Sall
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
Dakar
République du Sénégal

Monsieur le Ministre,

Objet: Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose

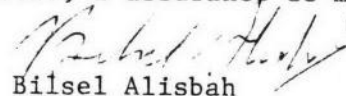
J'ai l'honneur d'inviter l'Ambassadeur du Sénégal à Washington à venir assister à la cérémonie de signature par les bailleurs de fonds de l'Accord juridique relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose au titre de la Phase III du Programme, auquel le Sénégal prendra part en qualité de pays participant. Comme vous le savez, le Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose a contribué sensiblement à améliorer la santé de la population sénégalaise et se révèle plein de promesses pour le développement socio-économique qui s'ensuivra pour votre pays.

La signature de l'accord relatif à la Phase III aura lieu le 4 février 1986 au siège de la Banque mondiale, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. dans la salle E-1244, à 15h45. La cérémonie de signature sera présidée par M. A.W. Clausen, Président de la Banque mondiale.

Des dispositions seront prises au guichet du service de sécurité dans le hall d'entrée de la Banque pour accueillir votre Ambassadeur à son arrivée et l'accompagner jusqu'à la salle où aura lieu la signature.

Je vous saurais gré de bien vouloir nous confirmer avant le 27 janvier 1986 la participation de votre gouvernement à la cérémonie de signature du nouvel Accord relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.



Bilsel Alisbah
Directeur des Programmes I
Région Afrique de l'Ouest

- cc: S. E. Madame Marie Sarr Mbodj
Ministre de la Santé Publique
- cc: S.E. Dr. Birane Diouf
Directeur du service national des Grandes Endémies
Ministère de la Santé Publique
- cc: S.E. Monsieur Falilou Kane, Ambassadeur
Ambassade du Sénégal
- cc: Mr. Nicephore Soglo, Administrateur

cc: Messrs. North, Hinkle, Benton, Liese, Southworth, Mattheisen

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le 7 janvier 1986

Son Excellence Monsieur Guissou Basile
Ministre des Relations Extérieures et de la Coopération
Ministère des Relations Extérieures et de la Coopération
Ouagadougou
Burkina Faso

Monsieur le Ministre,

Objet: Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose

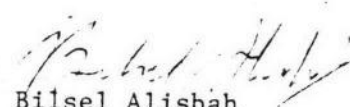
J'ai l'honneur d'inviter l'Ambassadeur du Burkina Faso à Washington à venir assister à la cérémonie de signature par les bailleurs de fonds de l'Accord juridique relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose au titre de la Phase III du Programme, auquel le Burkina Faso prendra part en qualité de pays participant. Comme vous le savez, le Programme de lutte contre l'onchocercose a contribué sensiblement à améliorer la santé de la population burkinabè et se révèle plein de promesses pour le développement socio-économique qui s'ensuivra pour votre pays.

La signature de l'accord relatif à la Phase III aura lieu le 4 février 1986 au siège de la Banque mondiale, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., dans la salle E-1244, à 15h45. La cérémonie de signature sera présidée par M. A.W. Clausen, Président de la Banque mondiale.

Des dispositions seront prises au guichet du service de sécurité dans le hall d'entrée de la Banque pour accueillir votre Ambassadeur à son arrivée et l'accompagner jusqu'à la salle où aura lieu la signature.

Je vous saurais gré de bien vouloir nous confirmer avant le 27 janvier 1986 la participation de votre gouvernement à la cérémonie de signature du nouvel Accord relatif au Fonds pour l'onchocercose.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.


Bilsel Alisbah
Directeur des Programmes I
Région Afrique de l'Ouest

cc: S.E. Dr. Alain Dominique Zoubga
Secrétaire général
Ministère de la Santé
Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

cc: Monsieur Traoré Melegué
Chargé d'Affaires
Ambassade de Burkina Faso

cc: Mr. Nicephore Soglo, Administrateur

For info

December 16, 1985

12-17-85
O/K
Ø

Mr. Gué:

Per our conversation, Mr. Clausen will meet with Mr. David Rockefeller and Mr. George Landau, President, Society of the Americas on January 2, at 15:00. The purpose of their visit is to discuss and review the Bank's view on the economic situation in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. Mr. Rockefeller will also like to discuss the role of the Bank under the Baker initiative for these countries.

on calendar

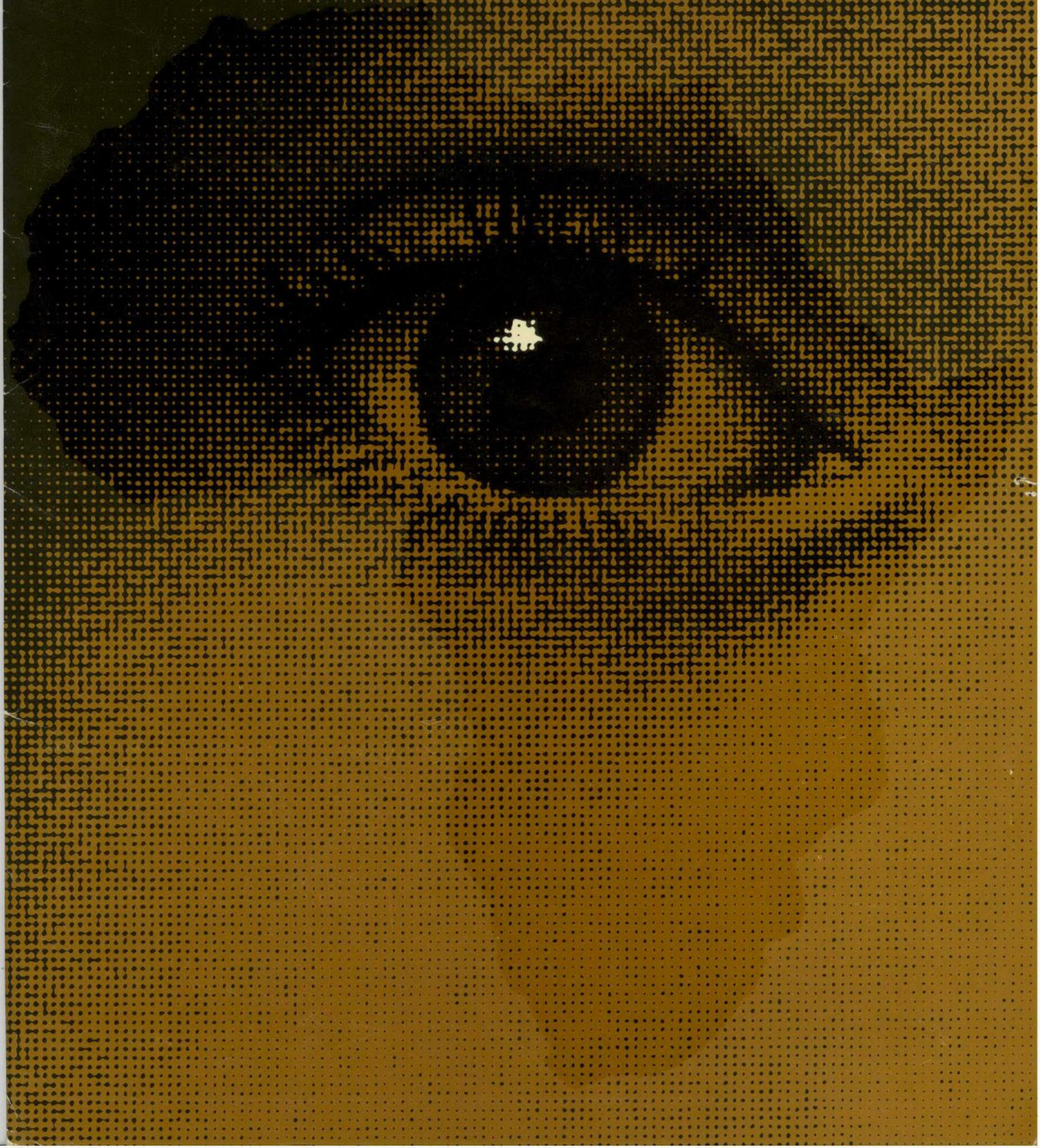
Mr. Rockefeller will be visiting these countries during the first week of January. He will also be meeting with some of the region's major private sector figures in Buenos Aires during that week on the occasion of the Chairman's Council of the Americas Society. Since Mr. Clausen just came back from a visit to Argentina and Uruguay, and is meeting with Minister Joao Sayad tomorrow, very short briefs would be adequate.

Carlos N. Quijano
Carlos N. Quijano

- cc: Mr. Knox
- Mr. Southworth ✓
- Mr. Gonzalez-Cofiño
- Mr. Scherer
- Mrs. Vobé

OK

ONCHO



ONCHO

On•cho•cer•ci•a•sis (ǒng''kō-sûr-kī-a-sĭs): common name, *River Blindness*

A parasitic disease caused by the accumulation in the human body of a filarial worm (*Onchocerca volvulus*) that is transmitted by the bites of the females of a species of blackfly (*Simulium damnosum*) that breeds in fast flowing rivers. A person living in an endemic area is constantly being reinfected with the disease, and the most severe infections are usually found in older people. The disease is marked by rapid, unnatural aging of the skin, depigmentation, and thickening of the epidermis (elephant skin). It is often accompanied by intense itching. Macrofilariae, the adult worms, form subcutaneous nodules of one or several worms which are usually easily detectable and may occur anywhere on the body. In its chronic form, onchocerciasis produces visual impairment and blindness through the accumulation of microfilariae, the young worms, in the eyes.

ONCHOCERCIASIS CONTROL PROGRAMME

FACT SHEET

1. Onchocerciasis, often referred to as oncho or river blindness, is a debilitating disease caused by a threadlike parasitic worm, passed to humans by the bite of a female blackfly which needs blood to develop its eggs. The effect of the disease is cumulative in that regular transmission over a long period increases its severity.
2. Oncho initially causes intense itching, followed by wrinkling, thickening and depigmentation of the skin. The adult worms develop in nodules beneath the skin and produce microscopic worms which travel through the skin and other organs. If they reach the eye, they can cause damage and eventually blindness according to their abundance.
3. The disease affects about 30 million people in the world. It is found in parts of Yemen and Central and South America, but is most prevalent in the savanna zone of West Africa near rivers where the fly breeds.
4. The Onchocerciasis Control Programme (OCP) is a well-coordinated international control effort to help 15 million rural West Africans affected by oncho. The Programme was set up in 1974, at the request of seven countries in the Volta River Basin: Benin, Burkina (formerly Upper Volta), Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, and Togo. In this region, oncho represents a major obstacle to economic development since it drives people away from relatively fertile land near the rivers where the fly is most common and the disease most easily contracted.
5. The OCP region covers an area one and one half times the size of France (764,000 square kilometers), incorporating about 18,000 kilometers of river.
6. The World Health Organization (WHO) is the executing agency responsible for carrying out the operations of the OCP. General guidance in policy and planning for the Programme is provided by a Joint Programme Committee consisting of representatives of the beneficiary and donor countries and of the four sponsoring agencies: the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), The World Bank, and WHO.
7. The Programme is evaluated annually by an independent Expert Advisory Committee and an Ecological Group which provide guidance on scientific, technical and ecological matters. The memberships of both are made up of internationally recognized experts nominated by the Programme's sponsoring agencies.
8. The Programme, with headquarters in Ouagadougou, Burkina, employs 56 professionals and 750 general service staff. Ninety-six percent of the staff are African.
9. Control of the disease must be carried out by destroying the blackfly vector at its larval stage through the use of insecticides applied to hundreds of breeding places in fast-flowing sections of rivers. This method is necessary because to date no fully effective drug has been found to treat victims, nor to prevent the disease. Efforts to find one are being undertaken.

10. The insecticides must be biodegradable (capable of breaking down into harmless substances) and must not affect non-target organisms like plant and fish life in the rivers. The impact of the chemicals on the environment is carefully monitored.
11. The achievements of the Programme are impressive. By 1984, transmission of the disease was interrupted in 90 percent of the original Programme area. It is estimated that 3 million children born since the Programme started have been protected from the disease.
12. Eye problems in a control group of villagers have diminished significantly - from one half of the group eight years ago to one quarter now.
13. In the past three years, valleys cleared of oncho have been transformed by resettlement, both spontaneous and organized.
14. The Programme is facing certain challenges, including: (1) the need for a new insecticide to avoid problems of fly resistance to existing insecticides; (2) the necessity to fight reinvasion in certain areas by flies from outside the controlled zone; and (3) the need for a drug suitable for mass treatment to complement current spraying operations.
15. The larvicide development program has been accelerated to deal with resistance. A number of new larvicides have been formulated, but further testing is necessary.
16. Evidence gathered under the Programme indicates that an extension of the Programme area is needed to achieve full control of the disease in the long term. The present area is subject to annual reinvasion by flies from the west and south, where large pockets of disease still exist outside the Programme area.
17. An Onchocerciasis Chemotherapy Project, with an initial budget of \$17 million for five years, was started in 1983 to stimulate research for a suitable drug. Several products have shown promise and are undergoing thorough testing.
18. A document on long-term strategy is being prepared as a basis for future program action. The document will be presented to the Joint Programme Committee for consideration in December 1984.
19. The first phase of the Programme (1974-79) cost \$53.8 million, which was provided by donor and beneficiary countries through contributions to a multilateral program fund administered by The World Bank. The budget for the second phase (1980-85) is estimated at \$111.9 million to which beneficiary countries contribute one percent.
20. The 19 current OCP donors are: the African Development Bank, Al Sabah Foundation, Belgium, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Norway, OPEC Fund, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, UNDP, WHO, and The World Bank.

ONCHOCERCIASIS CONTROL PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME OPERATIONS

The Onchocerciasis Control Programme (OCP) is a major disease control program with the ultimate goal of eliminating the serious medical and socioeconomic problems caused by onchocerciasis in seven West African countries: Benin, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Togo, and Burkina. Some 800 staff are part of the Programme, which is based on aerial insecticiding operations designed to destroy the blackfly vector in its larval stage.

The Programme was scheduled to last twenty years because the life span of the parasite was thought to be 15 to 18 years. Recent evidence suggests a shorter life span and hence the possibility that operations may be reduced sooner than anticipated. Besides the vector control operation, the Programme carries out detailed evaluation activities to monitor control operations, an on-going epidemiological evaluation program to assess the progress against the disease by studying those suffering from it, and comprehensive research to provide support for Programme operations.

VECTOR CONTROL: TO DESTROY THE CARRIER

- * Since no useful drug exists to combat the disease, the best means of control is to interrupt its transmission by destroying the blackfly. Because the larvae of the fly are concentrated in the rapids of rivers, it is more efficient to kill the larvae by applying insecticide to the rivers, than to attempt to eliminate the adult flies, which are widely distributed.
- * The Vector Control Unit (VCU) attacks the breeding sites of the blackfly in the river systems through aerial insecticiding operations at designated points where heavy concentrations of larvae have been identified by OCP staff. The vast area covered by the OCP (764,000 square kilometers) and the lack of road access to the rivers, makes aerial application the only efficient means of operation.
- * The insecticiding is carried out by a fleet of aircraft under contract to the Programme. As many as eight helicopters and one fixed-wing aircraft are used in the rainy season. Treatments are normally for three days each week.
- * The insecticide is released in carefully measured quantities through a pipe, by gravity or under pressure. As the insecticide is carried down the river, it is slowly diluted. Near the point of application, the larvae are exposed to a high concentration for a short time, while further downstream the concentration is much lower and the exposure time much longer.
- * The larvae are destroyed with each application. Since a new generation of larvae matures every eight to ten days, treatments are on a weekly basis.
- * At the height of the rainy season, (June to October), about 18,000 kilometers of river were originally monitored for treatment. This is decreasing each year as the Programme succeeds. During a normal dry season, less than 6,000 kilometers need treatment. In 1983, only 600 kilometers were treated in the dry season because the drought caused so many rivers to dry up.

- * The quantity of insecticide used is established by taking rainfall and river levels into consideration. It is important not to underdose, as that would increase the risk of resistance to the insecticide, but also not to overdose, as that could upset the ecological balance in the region.
- * If signs of resistance to an insecticide are noticed, another type must be used. For example, in 1983 the Teknar formulation of B.t. H-14 was employed in the Ivory Coast because resistance had developed in that region to the other two insecticides used: Abate (temephos) and chlorphoxim, both organophosphates.
- * VCU operations are divided into a western and eastern zone with six sectors in each. Attached to the sectors are 24 subsectors; 11 in the west and 13 in the east. All sectors and subsectors are linked with operational headquarters, in Ouagadougou, Burkina, through a radio network. Sector chiefs are entomologists and all are African nationals who may serve in any country of the Programme area.

ENTOMOLOGICAL EVALUATION: TO GUIDE AND MONITOR OPERATIONS

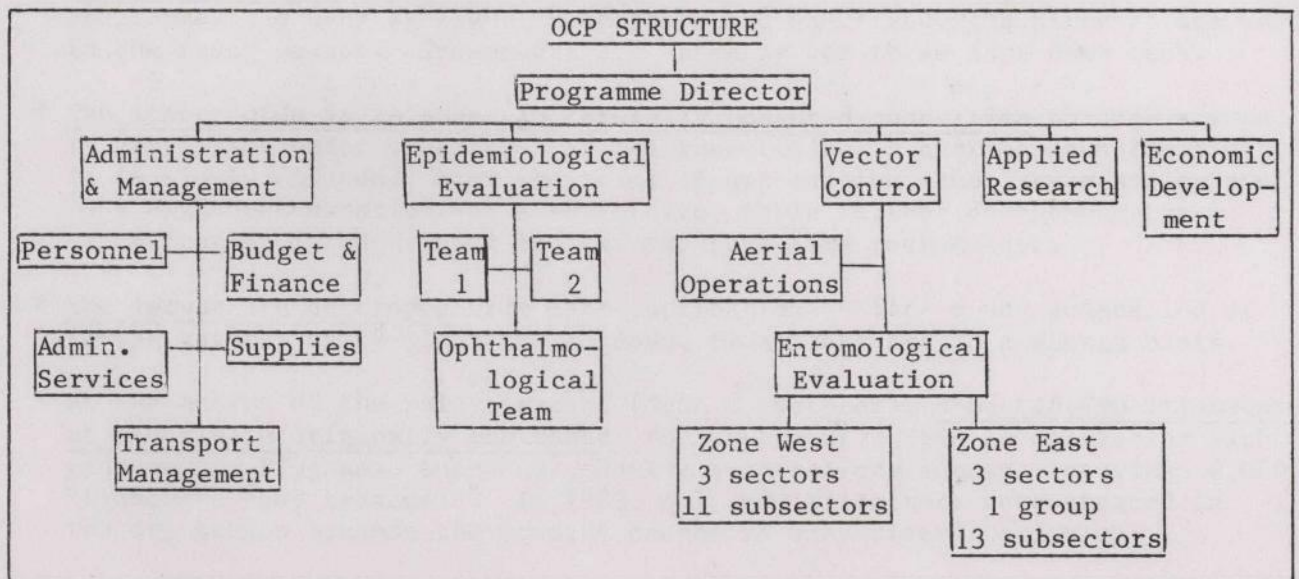
- * Entomological surveillance teams in the field are advised when the insecticiding is to be done on their stretch of river, and two days after the treatment is applied they visit the rivers to see that the larvae have been killed. Important breeding sites, not always accessible by road, must sometimes be checked using helicopters. The survey teams also record the water level of the river. Their findings are radioed to sector headquarters.
- * A network of local monitoring staff operate at some 275 catching points to collect samples of the fly in the project area. The fly-catchers, who are recruited from the local population, sit on river banks with their legs exposed to attract the flies. The catchers collect flies in a tube for later use in research on the vector by Programme entomologists. Artificial fly-traps, developed by Programme researchers, are also being tried with a view to reducing the number of monitoring staff needed for careful control.
- * The data gathered by the surveillance teams and monitoring staff is quantified and examined by entomologists working for the Programme. They study the number of blackflies collected, their species (savanna or forest), whether the flies are parous or nulliparous (have laid eggs or not), and whether the flies are infected with onchocerciasis or not. Data is also gathered on the amount of rainfall, the river level, and the possible existence of larvae in the treated areas of the river.
- * The information on fly and larvae distribution determines the areas to be treated.
- * National teams of hydrobiologists monitor the environmental impact of the insecticides. The results are evaluated by an independent Ecological Group of internationally recognized experts in the field.
- * The insecticides used (temephos, chlorphoxim and B.t. H-14) do not cause damaging chemical build-up, nor do they cause permanent harm to the fish, or non-target invertebrates in the rivers, nor to humans or terrestrial fauna.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL EVALUATION: TO TEST THE POPULATION

- * To monitor the effectiveness of the vector control, 142 representative villages are studied by an Epidemiological Evaluation Unit. At the beginning of the Programme, the majority of these villages were hyperendemic in that more than 60 percent of the population were infected. This has declined to a large degree. There are signs that the eyes recover from light infestation with microfilariae as infection levels fall. A survey of 913 people in 10 villages showed that 70 percent of those with low levels of microfilariae in their eyes in 1975 are now free of them.
- * The evaluation unit is made up of two teams, each consisting of a medical officer, microscopist, census clerk, visual acuity/weight/height tester and an ophthalmological team.
- * There are two types of evaluation: The simple evaluation procedure starts with a census check updating previous information about the village residents, followed by microscopic evaluation of skin snips from villagers to check for the presence of larvae, and visual acuity tests. The detailed evaluation, done in a smaller number of villages, involves a more comprehensive medical examination of the whole body, as well as a critical ophthalmological examination with slit lamp and ophthalmoscope in a van specially equipped for the purpose.

RESULTS

The achievements of the Programme are impressive. By 1984, transmission of the disease was interrupted in 90 percent of the original Programme area. The epidemiological evaluation is now providing the medical confirmation that the years of vector control are yielding the desired results in bringing onchocerciasis under control. Eye problems due to the disease are much less frequent and an estimated three million children born since the Programme started are not subject to the danger of contracting the disease. The vector control operations have been modified in response to this success and further reduction of operations to a surveillance and maintenance level may be possible ahead of the original schedule.



ONCHOCERCIASIS CONTROL PROGRAMME

RESEARCH

The Onchocerciasis Control Programme (OCP) has its own evolving program of research aimed at improving operations, and making the OCP as effective and efficient as possible. The applied research, which responds to operational requirements, is carried out within the Programme itself in West Africa. It focuses on the study of the biology of the blackfly, its larval life span, the dispersion of the vector, and the analysis of possible resistance to insecticides used in the Programme. Other specialized research work, which may require the use of advanced technology, is contracted out to research centers throughout the world.

APPLIED RESEARCH: TO IMPROVE OPERATIONS

- * The Programme has built up a large body of knowledge on the life cycle and habits of the blackfly vector through constant monitoring of the area being treated. Flies are caught by human collectors stationed on river banks or by artificial fly-traps of shiny aluminum coated with a sticky substance. The fly-traps were developed through applied research and have proved a useful addition to the vector monitoring program especially in areas exposed to reinvasion. Trials are underway to determine to what extent these traps can replace human collectors and whether the traps are cost-effective. A successful experiment, associating a village community in the monitoring of traps, has encouraged the vector control unit to consider the possibility of expanding the use of this method.
- * The flies are studied in detail using a microscope to see whether they are forest or savanna species, identification being by examination of the wing tufts which are darker in forest species. Such separation of species may indicate different disease-carrying capacities and facilitate the determination of fly parasite loads. The flies are then dissected to determine if they are parous (have laid eggs), infected, and if there is any mutation which might indicate reduced susceptibility to a particular insecticide. Work is being carried out on the differences between eight species of the Simulium damnosum complex.
- * The cumulated results of identifications and dissections on thousands of blackflies indicate that the forest species are the sole vectors of the disease in dense forest zones and that the savanna species are entirely responsible for transmission in the dry savanna zones. In intermediate wet savanna areas, the savanna species are the cause of most of the infective bites, even where the forest species are more prevalent.
- * Research on the larval stage of the blackfly indicates that the larval life span in the savanna species is about 11 days, slightly shorter than in the forest species. These results confirm the soundness for weekly larviciding in savanna areas.

- * **Research on resistance** is carried out regularly on blackfly larvae to make sure that their resistance is not building up to the insecticide being used. The first test is at 2.5 parts per million, which is four times the concentration that will normally kill all larvae. It is essential that even after ten years of the program 100 percent of the larvae are killed at that concentration. If not, this could signal the beginning of resistance. The concentration is then reduced to determine the ultimate level of susceptibility.
- * **Two new techniques of measuring susceptibility** have recently been introduced. The first measures the susceptibility of adults through topical application of the insecticides, enabling resistance to chlorphoxim and temephos to be detected. The second measures the susceptibility of larvae to B.t. H-14 by artificially reproducing the river current necessary to supply nourishment to larvae.
- * **Mapping studies** were done to relate breeding site productivity to water levels of the rivers and to develop appropriate larvicide application methods. Researchers have learned how much insecticide must be applied according to the characteristics of flow in the breeding sites.
- * **Research on dispersion** is part of routine entomological surveillance activities. Linear dispersion studies have helped the program assess the distance from a fly's breeding site that it will travel along the river. Radial dispersion studies determine how far from the river the fly will stray. Both types of study are useful in determining the flies' capacity to travel long distances and the likelihood of specific human populations coming in contact with the fly as it moves away from the breeding site. Such research helps establish the size of the control area and its risk to exposure from outside.

PARASITOLOGICAL AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL RESEARCH: TO UNDERSTAND THE DISEASE

- * **One of the most important discoveries of the parasitological research** program concerns the life span of the adult worm. Continued study indicates that most adult worms live for only ten to twelve years (average 11.2 years) instead of fifteen to eighteen as originally assumed. The vector control program was originally planned for twenty years, taking the longer life span into consideration. Now it is possible that by 1986 in some parts of the Programme area, (after only twelve years of interruption of transmission), the existing parasite population will decline rapidly and eventually disappear.
- * **The possibility of a new immunodiagnostic test**, more sensitive than skin snips, is also being investigated. It would detect new infections before the microfilariae appear in the skin.
- * **In comparative studies of the epidemiological patterns** of the forest form and the savanna form of the disease, results have indicated that the forest form does not have the same clinical and ocular impact, and that it is not a major constraint to economic development.

- * A detailed ophthalmological study in seven savanna villages, before and after five years of vector control, indicates that if the damage to the eyes is not severe, further deterioration is either very slight or is arrested once control is established.

CHEMOTHERAPY RESEARCH: TO FIND A CURATIVE OR PREVENTIVE DRUG

- * Priority has been given to drug development to complement vector control since 1983. At that time the Onchocerciasis Chemotherapy Project started with an initial budget of \$17 million for 5 years to stimulate research. It is implemented in association with the WHO/UNDP/World Bank Special Program for Research and Training on Tropical Diseases.
- * Two drugs for the treatment of onchocerciasis exist at present, but they have severe, unacceptable side effects, including allergic reaction which can prove fatal. A new drug is vital. The related research is primarily for a macrofilaricide, because only that type of drug can kill the productive adult worm in the host, thus halting production of young worms which cause the disease symptoms.
- * The following drugs are being tested:
 - (1) Flubendazole - is a promising macrofilaricide, but the present formulation causes too much pain and inflammation. A less painful formulation is being tested.
 - (2) CGP 6140 - Preliminary studies on this new macrofilaricidal compound have been completed. It will undergo clinical trials shortly at the Tamale Clinical Research Center in Ghana.
 - (3) Ivermectin - Test results on this single dose, long-lasting microfilaricide should be available in the second half of 1984.
- * Basic synthesis and screening of new drugs is also being carried out in England at the Wellcome Foundation.

HYDROBIOLOGICAL MONITORING: TO STUDY THE ECOLOGY

- * National hydrobiological monitoring teams examine the effect of the insecticides on non-target organisms in rivers in their own countries. The studies are coordinated by OCP and submitted annually to the Ecological Group for review.
- * An immediate reduction of up to 30 percent of non-target organisms is considered acceptable, provided no particular important group is eliminated and no permanent disequilibrium results.
- * Observations show that flora and fauna populations are not permanently harmed by the larvicide treatments. Populations usually recover within a month or two.

INSECTICIDE DEVELOPMENT

- * Screening of new insecticides has been given high priority since the first signs of resistance to temephos and chlorphoxim appeared in 1980 and 1981. In addition, the Expert Advisory Committee endorsed the recommendation of the independent Ecological Group that at least two new insecticides should be available before the Programme area was extended, in case resistance to the commonly used products developed quickly and threatened the stability of the original control area.

- * OCP requires that larvicides should:
 - (1) kill 100 percent of blackfly larvae at an exposure for ten minutes to a concentration of one part per million;
 - (2) have low toxicity for humans;
 - (3) have no acute or long-term effect on fish, even at overdose levels;
 - (4) have a minimal effect on invertebrate non-target organisms;
 - (5) carry 20 kilometers or more downstream;
 - (6) not degrade rapidly when stored unprotected in a hot climate;
 - (7) not corrode release equipment and aircraft parts.

- * Of some 1200 compounds tested from about 35 different companies, the following have proved to be of interest:
 - (1) Temephos, marketed as Abate, an organophosphate, has proved to be ideal for the operations and has been used since 1974;
 - (2) Chlorphoxim, an organophosphate, is effective in low concentrations and has been used mainly in Ivory Coast since resistance to temephos arose in 1980. Its use is limited to the rainy season because in the dry season, it has a greater impact on non-target organisms;
 - (3) B.t. H-14, marketed as Teknar, has been used extensively in Ivory Coast, since November 1981 when resistance to temephos and chlorphoxim was found. The large volumes needed, however, limit its operational effectiveness. It is a selective larvicide with minimal effect on non-target organisms. Bactimos, an alternative formulation, is also being tested;
 - (4) Permethrin, a synthetic pyrethroid has been found effective in early tests and is now undergoing large-scale river trials;
 - (5) Carbamates have proved effective, but are so far available only in an inconvenient, unstable powder form. Research is continuing on a liquid formulation;
 - (6) Azamethiphos, is an effective organophosphate, but of the same chemical group as temephos and therefore rapid development of resistance in the vector can be expected.

EVALUATION OF APPLICATION SYSTEMS

- * Different insecticides and formulations require different delivery systems. A rigorous program is underway to develop appropriate delivery systems and test them under actual field conditions.

September, 1984

ONCHOCERCIASIS CONTROL PROGRAMME

SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The aim of the Onchocerciasis Control Programme is to reduce the impact of the disease, not just as a public health hazard, but also as an obstacle to socioeconomic development. When the Programme started in 1974, there were few villages along the rivers in the savanna area of West Africa because people who tried to live there became debilitated and eventually blinded from onchocerciasis. They moved away if they could, abandoning potentially productive land.

By making the river valleys safe for humans, the Programme hopes to encourage the reoccupation and cultivation of formerly underused land and the establishment of productive agricultural activities. Another long-term benefit of disease control will be the improved work capacity of the population as the debilitation and blindness caused by the disease disappear. Gradually a more vigorous work force will improve the living standards for the area, helping to raise the general level of education and health services.

THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE OCP AREA

The socioeconomic development of the OCP area is now underway and spontaneous resettlement is progressing at an increasing rate which augers well for the future development of onchocerciasis-controlled areas. The importance of being near a reliable supply of water has been well demonstrated in the current drought.

In much of the controlled area, the OCP has provided safe access to river valleys by interrupting the transmission of the disease, making it possible for people to grow more food than before. While the improved conditions have resulted from OCP activities, putting the land to good use is not its responsibility.

The governments of the countries concerned organize the resettlement and development in different ways. They report on their progress to the OCP's executive body, the Joint Programme Committee, every other year. At present, in the absence of comprehensive figures measuring the socioeconomic progress, it is possible only to describe a few examples of development currently underway. In many of the countries benefiting from the OCP, a comprehensive data base is under preparation.

Settlement of valleys cleared of the risk of transmission of onchocerciasis is rapid in the northern part of the OCP area, primarily along the Black, White, and Red Volta Rivers in Burkina, but also in Niger and Mali. In the White Volta valley, most of the land is now under cultivation.

BENIN

- * Two northern provinces of Atacora and Borgou, previously affected by onchocerciasis, have up to now been sparsely populated, with only 2 or 3 percent of their land cultivated. A special unit has been formed in the Ministry of Planning, Statistics and Economic Analysis to draw up a 10-year development plan, design potential investment projects and set up a data bank for the area.
- * Some 15 agricultural projects have been identified, involving an investment of 23 million CFA francs, primarily for bilateral aid. The projects aim mainly to increase the production of food crops, improve livestock production, build roads and strengthen the rural support network.

BURKINA

- * In Burkina, organized settlement is directed by the Volta Valleys Development Authority (VVDA), set up in 1974 to develop the under-populated areas where onchocerciasis has been controlled. The Authority has allocated land to families, organized land fallow systems, and provided credit to farmers. The new development has set up infrastructure which has attracted a large number of farmers from other areas. Some of the new villages have followed a policy of self-help by building health centers and even dams with minimum foreign technical assistance.
- * On the White Volta, east of Ouagadougou, where in 1975 the closest village was 20 kilometers from the river, there is now a village no more than 100 meters from the river, with a population of 4,000 and rising, an active market, and a primary health care center.
- * On the road from Samandeni to Lahirasso in the west of Burkina there are 11 villages which have more than doubled in size between 1975 and 1984. Much of the increase is due to an influx of people from other regions.
- * The area near Samandeni was one of the first where transmission of the disease was broken. In the late sixties, the Organisation pour la Cooperation et Coordination de la Lutte contre les Grandes Endemies (OCCGE) started a control project there which was the precursor of OCP. Socioeconomic development is therefore more advanced in this area than elsewhere. The progress there demonstrates that cultivation and development will be possible in other areas when irrigation from the rivers can be organized.
- * Close to Samandeni, at Beredadougou, is the country's only sugar factory. Its establishment was made possible by the control of onchocerciasis and the consequent feasibility of working in an area which could be irrigated from the Banfora river. Millet, maize, wheat, vegetables and mangoes are grown in the same area.

IVORY COAST

- * Since 1977 six sugar complexes have been built in Ivory Coast close to watercourses where onchocerciasis used to be hyperendemic. Some 12,500 jobs have been created as a result. There are also fruit and vegetable projects, and programs for soya, manioc, rice, coconut, coffee, cocoa and cotton production in the area.
- * The cotton program in the Ivory Coast exceeded its own objective in 1982, producing 120,000 tons of seed cotton and making a contribution towards improving incomes in savanna areas.
- * Because the country has a serious shortage of animal protein, schemes are underway to encourage livestock-raising (mainly cattle) and fish-farming, both of which will require efficient use of the country's water resources. Onchocerciasis control helps to make this possible.

MALI

- * The onchocerciasis zones of Mali contain two million of the country's seven million inhabitants and cover 125,000 square kilometers. They have considerable natural potential in terms of water, cultivable land, and plant life. In spite of the shortage of equipment and technology and the serious effects of the drought, agriculture in this area is making progress.
- * Land in the region has potential for the cultivation of food crops (millet, sorghum, maize), industrial or commercial crops (ground nuts, cotton, sisal), and market-garden crops (tomatoes, onions, legumes). Cattle, sheep, and goats can also be raised.
- * A large plantation of tea, a crop new to the region, has been established near Sikasso.

TOGO

- * In the Kara area of Togo, where there are still problems with reinvasion, there are 40,000 newcomers in an area of 2,500 square kilometers. Where villagers cannot afford their own cattle and ploughs, they are provided with loans by the government of Togo.

FOR THE FUTURE?

Countries participating in the OCP acknowledge that their national campaigns for self-sufficiency in food are made possible by the Programme's success. At the last Joint Programme Committee meeting, the countries indicated they would welcome bilateral assistance to continue the progress already made.

September, 1984

ONCHOCERCIASIS CONTROL PROGRAMME

DISEASE AND STATUS OF CONTROL

The OCP has a specialized epidemiological evaluation unit (EPI) to study the impact of vector control on the transmission of the disease and the decline of the disease after vector control. EPI teams regularly visit 142 indicator villages representing all the river basins in the program area. The population in 33 of the villages has undergone at least two detailed examinations including a complete ophthalmological investigation.

The most extensive information on the presence and intensity of the infection is based on the results of the microscopic examination of skin snips which are taken during the examination of each individual. The number of microfilariae per skin snip are carefully counted and recorded.

The information on the presence of microfilariae is particularly important for children born since the start of vector control operations, because infections among these children are almost certainly the result of continued transmission.

Out of 6,337 examined children born after vector control in 142 indicator villages, 19 were found to be infected. Eighteen of those children come from villages which are situated in the west and the south-east of OCP, areas which are subject to reinvasion of blackflies originating from breeding sites outside the Programme. Among 5,185 children examined in the total non-reinvaded central area of OCP, only one was found to be infected, compared to an expected number of over 300 if there had been no vector control.

Though the skin snip results for children born after vector control began, give quite reliable information on continuing transmission, that is not the most sensitive indicator. Children constitute the group which is the least exposed to infection with onchocerciasis. The high risk group is made up of adults who are much more exposed as a result of their daily activities which take them closer to the rivers. In hyperendemic villages, all adults are infected. In fact, super infection (reinfection resulting in more female worms which produce microfilariae) is the rule.

For the adult population it is therefore not just the presence of microfilariae which is important, but rather the quantity of microfilariae. If vector control achieves interruption of transmission, no new infections will be added and the number of worms per person will start to decrease when the older worms die. The microfilarial load will then begin to decline. This phenomenon is measured by the Community Microfilarial Load (CMFL), which gives, for a population of adults, the mean number of microfilariae per skin snip.

For all groups, the CMFL decreases rapidly with control and after eight years the average microfilarial loads are less than one third of their initial value. Furthermore, results suggest that 11.2 years is the average productive life span of the adult worm. If this highly satisfactory trend continues, OCP will achieve its main objective in a considerably shorter period than the 20 years originally envisaged.

Quite different trends in the CMFL are observed in the reinvaded areas. Here the CMFL either does not decrease at all (in the Kara basin close to the Programme boundary in Togo and in a village along an affluent of the Bandama in the Ivory Coast) or shows an unsatisfactory decrease compared to the central OCP area. A localized breakdown in control in 1981 might be the explanation for a seemingly unsatisfactory decrease in the CMFL in one area in Ghana, though the data here are insufficient to reach a definite conclusion.

Another index of the intensity of infection is the mean number of microfilariae in the anterior chamber of the eye, (MFAC load). Although this information is only available for those villages where detailed ophthalmological investigations have been done, it is a very important index because of the direct relationship between the invasion load and the incidence of lesions in the anterior segment of the eye.

The MFAC loads show a rapidly decreasing trend and the decrease is even faster than for the microfilarial loads in the skin. After eight years of vector control, the MFAC loads in the central OCP area had decreased by 80 to 90 percent.

Different trends were seen in the reinvaded areas. In the west, detailed surveys cover only a period of four to five years during which the MFAC loads did not change in the reinvaded villages. Close to the Programme boundary the MFAC loads did not decrease, but with increasing distance from the Programme boundary the results soon improved.

Additional epidemiological information has been obtained from the examinations of adult worms removed by operation from infected patients in several villages within OCP and two villages outside the Programme area, in Mali. In the two villages in the area with ongoing transmission, 11 percent of the female worms removed were dead. The percentage was 35 to 50 in the protected OCP villages. This would be substantially higher if one took into account that many worms which have died since the start of OCP would have dissolved and therefore disappeared. The investigations also showed that the production of microfilariae is reduced considerably when the age of the female worm begins to approach the end of the estimated productive life span.

The ophthalmological examinations have provided substantial information on the impact of successful vector control on the epidemiology of ocular onchocerciasis. The results for a cohort of 913 persons from ten villages in the central OCP area show that 70 percent of the patients with, initially, a light load of microfilariae in the eye, no longer have any ocular involvement. For a similar percentage of those with a heavy load, the microfilariae have either disappeared or are significantly decreased in number. Ninety percent of the patients who initially had punctate keratitis are now free of ocular onchocerciasis.

Furthermore one third of the severe lesions which were recorded in the beginning has disappeared and one third has stabilized. The results indicate that the progression of severe lesions to an advanced stage and to blindness has been arrested or slowed down. The incidence of blindness over the eight years was only 1.1 percent and concerned exclusively patients who already had ocular lesions before the start of vector control.

ONCHOCERCIASIS CONTROL PROGRAMME

FUTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

A Long-Term Strategy Proposal, prepared by OCP staff, will be presented in December 1984 to the Joint Programme Committee. The proposal describes the most effective manner in which the Programme can be brought to a successful conclusion by incorporating the southern and western extensions and estimates the cost of these extensions. Should this plan be approved, operations in the extension areas will increase the Programme area from its present 764,000 square kilometers to 1,315,000 square kilometers, providing protection to an additional 5 million people. Control will be extended to cover 46,000 kilometers of river rather than the original 18,000 kilometers.

The estimated cost of the control operations alone is \$113 million for the third financial phase (1986-91) and \$44 million for the fourth financial phase. In addition, there will be \$10.5 million to cover the Onchocerciasis Chemotherapy Project, launched in 1982. The level of financial support to the Onchocerciasis Chemotherapy Project beyond 1988 will be decided in 1987 after an evaluation of what has been achieved. Research and training will cost \$16 million in the third financial phase and \$12 million in the fourth phase.

By the end of the fourth financial phase, the whole Programme area will have been in the maintenance phase for five years or more. OCP operations as they presently exist will gradually have been modified and future activities will be handed over to the countries concerned, according to the epidemiological situation regarding the disease and the capability of the country concerned to assume responsibility.

The migratory habits of the vector have necessitated an international approach to guard against blackfly reinvasion. It is expected that by the end of the fourth phase, the risk of recrudescence of the disease will be minimal and the low level of surveillance and control activity will readily be undertaken by the participating countries.

Preparation for devolution has been underway for the past few years with studies being undertaken to determine the requirements in each country for a suitable structure within their national health services to manage control, to train personnel in the different disciplines and to absorb national personnel from the Programme. It is important that onchocerciasis activities be integrated with the identification and treatment of other parasitic diseases, in a multidisease control effort in the West African countries.

September, 1984

ONCHOCERCIASIS CONTROL PROGRAMME

COST AND FINANCING

PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE MEASURED IN CURRENT PRICES

*The total Programme expenditure during the first financial phase (1974-79) was \$53.8 million.

The figures on the right reflect an annual build-up of operations to cover the present Programme area including the southern Ivory Coast, which came under OCP operational control in 1978. In addition, studies began in the proposed southern extension area in 1979.

<u>PHASE I</u>	
<u>ACTUAL EXPENDITURE</u>	
<u>Year</u>	<u>Current Prices (\$000)</u>
74	2,681
75	5,958
76	10,006
77	9,991
78	11,163
79	13,984
<u>Total</u>	<u>53,783</u>

*The estimated cost of the second financial phase (1980-85) is \$111.9 million. This is composed of actual costs from 1980 through 1983, approved costs for 1984, and proposed costs for 1985.

The figures on the right include funds in 1980 for financing an independent commission, in 1982 for chemotherapy development, and in 1983 for the identification and funding of the Onchocerciasis Chemotherapy Project. The resistance problem also increased costs throughout the second financial phase and required the use of an additional helicopter in 1983 and 1984.

<u>PHASE II</u>	
<u>ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE</u>	
<u>Year</u>	<u>Current Prices (\$000)</u>
80	16,507
81	16,646
82	16,886
83	16,776
84	24,202
85	20,867
<u>Total</u>	<u>111,884</u>

In the 1984 budget, funds were included for exploratory studies in the western extension, for the Onchocerciasis Chemotherapy Project, for additional posts approved by the Joint Programme Committee, and for replenishment of insecticide stocks.

PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE MEASURED IN CONSTANT PRICES

*To compare the real trend in expenditure over time, it is useful to relate current prices to a common denominator. As the figures on the right indicate, total OCP expenditure measured in 1983 prices was \$159.1 million during its first ten years.

Actual expenditure in constant prices peaked in 1980 and has declined each year since, up to and including 1983. This reflects the success of operations which is masked by the additional work that the Programme has undertaken.

<u>PHASE I</u>	
<u>Year</u>	<u>\$ 1983 (000)</u>
74	5,427
75	11,033
76	17,542
77	16,433
78	17,042
79	19,209
	86,686
<u>PHASE II TO DATE</u>	
80	19,984
81	18,253
82	17,444
83	16,776
	72,457
	<u>Total: 159,143</u>

PROGRAMME FINANCING

OCP is financed by contributions from donors to a Trust Fund, which is administered by the World Bank. From the Trust Fund, quarterly advances are made to the World Health Organization (WHO), based on a budget authorized by the Joint Programme Committee.

Contributions are presently received from: African Development Bank, Belgium, Canada, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Norway, OPEC Fund, Al Sabah Foundation, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United Nations Development Programme, United States, WHO, and The World Bank. Iraq and Ivory Coast were contributors to the first financial phase (1974-79).

Programme financing is based on a Fund Agreement, which covers a six year period. Each signatory pledges contributions for that financial phase and amounts are paid into the Trust Fund on an annual basis subject to government approval.

Year	Estimated Expenditure
1980	80
1981	81
1982	82
1983	83
1984	84
1985	85
1986	86
1987	87
1988	88
1989	89
Total	800

September, 1984

Year	Actual Expenditure
1980	75
1981	76
1982	77
1983	78
1984	79
1985	80
1986	81
1987	82
1988	83
1989	84
Total	800

PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE BARRIERS IN CONSTANT DOLLARS

It is noted that the total amount of expenditure over time is not equal to the total amount of income to a common denominator. As the figures on the right indicate, total OCP expenditure amounted to 800 million dollars during the first ten years. Annual expenditure in constant prices passed 80 billion dollars each year since 1980 and has declined each year since, up to and including 1983. This reflects the success of operations which is noted by the additional work that the programme has undertaken.

ONCHOCERCIASIS CONTROL PROGRAMME

DIRECTOR: DR. EBRAHIM SAMBA



Dr. Ebrahim Samba has been Director of the Onchocerciasis Control Programme since 1980. He is a Gambian national who served as Director of Medical Services in The Gambia from 1978 to 1980. As chief medical adviser to the government, Dr. Samba introduced primary health care in the country. He was also a founding member of the West African College of Surgeons and the West African Post-Graduate Medical College.

Dr. Samba is a surgeon who received a B.Sc. in Physics, Biology, and Chemistry at Legon University in Ghana and higher degrees in obstetrical surgery at the National University of Ireland. In 1963 he was awarded the FRCS (Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons) at Edinburgh University. Dr. Samba is married and has four children.

ONCHO

In large parts of West Africa the disease onchocerciasis has plagued the people of the river valleys. Thousands of families abandoned their homes and fled potentially productive farmland because living there increased their chance of infection by the parasitic worm which causes the illness.

The worm is transmitted by female blackflies infected with the disease, which is more commonly known as oncho or river blindness. The flies breed in the rivers and infest the surrounding countryside. Over years of exposure to the infective bites of the flies, the human body is weakened by the presence of microscopic worms that travel through the system under the skin, often reaching the eyes and causing blindness.

Outtara Ibrahimia, who lives on the Bandama River in the Ivory Coast describes what oncho feels like: "You get lots of headaches. That's how it starts. Your skin irritates. Later on you feel bumps under the skin and they feel so uncomfortable. If you look towards the light, it burns your eyes."

Mr. Ibrahimia has been treated for oncho with the drug diethylcarbamazine citrate. It provokes an extremely painful allergic reaction which can be fatal. "It makes you scratch everywhere," he says, "and it burns." Because of such serious side-effects, the drug cannot be given as a mass treatment and there is presently no other adequate drug treatment to cure onchocerciasis.

Spurred by the serious implications of river blindness for the development of the region, the World Health Organization, The World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, and the Food and Agriculture Organization have, for the past ten years, jointly organized and helped to implement a massive international campaign against it. The Onchocerciasis Control Programme aims to clear the river valleys in seven West African countries of the disease and to restore large areas to productive economic use. The control campaign has had enormous success, but many challenges remain.

Only the cooperation of the donors, some nineteen governmental and non-governmental organizations who provide funds for the Programme, has made the extensive effort possible. In 1983, for example, their contributions covered the annual budget of nearly \$17 million for blackfly control operations, larvicide and chemotherapy research, and detailed monitoring and study of the blackfly and the disease itself.

Because drug treatment is so dangerous, oncho has to be tackled by interrupting transmission of the disease and that means killing the larvae of the blackfly as they hatch in the rapids of the rivers. A fleet of small planes and helicopters carries out aerial insecticide spraying operations on parts of the river infested with blackfly larvae, often located in remote areas not accessible by motor vehicle. The pilots patrol, on a systematic basis, an area one and a half times the size of France, incorporating 18,000 kilometers of river.

Great care is taken by monitoring teams and independent scientific experts that the biological equilibrium of the region is not damaged. The larvicides used are biodegradable and therefore do not cause chemical build-up in the water, nor do permanent damage to non-target plants or creatures.

In 1984, the tenth anniversary of the campaign, originally planned to last 20 years, it is evident that tremendous progress has been made. The blackfly is now a rare sight in the northern half of the Programme area. Transmission of the disease has been broken there and children born in the Volta River Basin area no longer face the tragedy of contracting onchocerciasis.

Not only is the fly no longer around to transmit the disease, but the pool of infection in the population is running dry. The number of microscopic worms in skin tests indicates that levels of infection have fallen drastically. Research has shown that the average life of the adult worms is only 10 to 12 years instead of 15 to 18 as originally thought. This is good news for the Programme as the disease may drop off drastically after twelve years and require only a maintenance level of operations provided that reinvasion by the blackfly can be controlled.

In the past few years another promising development has been taking place. As the valleys have been cleared of onchocerciasis, farmers have moved in to take advantage of the newly available fertile land. The chief of a new village on the River Leraba which forms the border between Burkina and the Ivory Coast says he remembers having to bat the flies away from his arms and legs, but now they are gone. His new village has grown up so fast that it still has no name.

Eleven families have also settled on the other side of the river. They came from 50 miles away, and explain their move by saying that "Here the soil is good and there is water nearby." They also like being near the road. Their aspirations are moving on: "Ploughing by hand is very tiring," the chief says, adding, "It is hard to farm a lot of land. We would like to buy ploughs, fertilizers and animals."

Some of the new villages have been encouraged by organizations -- including the Volta Valleys Development Authority (VVDA) in Burkina -- to establish profitable farms, build roads, sink wells and build houses, stores, clinics and schools. Many more have grown up spontaneously and some have demonstrated an impressive willingness to help themselves by building and organizing their own facilities.

Mogteda, a village about 40 miles east of Ouagadougou, in the middle of Burkina, is a fascinating mixture of organized development and self help. The VVDA has built some grain stores and houses not far from the White Volta River which is now clear of river blindness. They are sturdy concrete buildings. Nearby the villagers have taken on a much larger task: building a 100-yard dam to hold water for their cattle.

Nearer the road and the bridge over the White Volta -- a site not previously habitable because of oncho -- there are clear signs of prosperity. The children are healthy, active and mischievous. Pigs, goats and guinea fowl abound.

Wells have been sunk with the help of the Volta Valleys Development Authority, but the villagers decided not to wait for help to build a health center. They made blocks from earth with a little cement added. They built their own health center and next door their own maternity clinic: a simple one, with almost no equipment, but shady, private and relatively clean.

This new life near the river would not have been possible without the Onchocerciasis Control Programme. Many adults in the region, who would otherwise be in the most productive years of their lives, are badly debilitated and virtually blinded by the disease. But those younger than them, who have onchocerciasis, do not face an inevitable deterioration in their eyesight as they get older. Those under ten are luckier still as they were born since the Programme started and are entirely free of the disease.

For many of the villagers in the area the Programme has had a profound impact: first, because the land near the river is more fertile and watering it is easier; second, because people have more energy and can see to work; and third, because they are no longer pestered by biting blackflies.

African governments, too, have been supportive of the Programme which helps their people produce more food and makes the river valleys safer for their use. This is particularly important at a time when severe drought has caused great hardship in the region.

Challenges do remain. Reinvasion by blackflies from non-treated areas to the west and south is a constant threat to the eventual success of the Programme because current achievements cannot be maintained without continuing expensive blackfly control operations. Exploratory work has been authorized to determine the feasibility of extending larvicide spraying to areas outside the present control area.

The lack of a useful drug treatment for the disease also presents a major obstacle. It was decided in 1981 that larviciding operations would have to be complemented by additional medical research on possible chemotherapeutic drugs. Funding for chemotherapy research began in 1983. The Programme will concentrate on providing small, but critical amounts of capital for research by private industry to find a successful drug.

In some ways, the rapid success in controlling the disease complicates the Programme as well. It gives greater urgency to the question of how the Programme will eventually conclude. Freed areas will remain free of the disease only as long as infective flies are prevented from reestablishing themselves. Activities to accomplish that will be part of a maintenance phase, which will ultimately be the responsibility of the beneficiary countries. The Programme, in cooperation with the countries involved, is seeking to define the role they will play in keeping the area safe for habitation and productive development.

Extending the Programme would require reorganizing operations. It would unavoidably generate new risks, such as the possible development of resistance to insecticides in an isolated species. Furthermore, an extended program would cost more. In tackling these challenges over the next few years, the Onchocerciasis Control Programme will have the opportunity to play an important role for progress in health system development and for positive social and economic change as well.

ONCHOCERCIASIS CONTROL PROGRAMME

CONTACT LIST

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Ms. Pamela Brennan, World Bank Public Affairs Specialist, can provide further information on the Onchocerciasis Control Programme. Her address is: The World Bank, Information and Public Affairs Department, 1818 H Street, N.W., Room D-835, Washington D.C. 20433. Telephone (202) 477-3293.

For Audio-visual Material

The World Bank film, "A Plague Upon the Land", which explains the Onchocerciasis Control Programme and outlines the progress which has been made against the disease, can be obtained from the World Bank Film Library. The film documents the socioeconomic effects of the disease on the Volta River region as villagers suffering from oncho moved away from the endemic areas. It is available in 3/4" Video-(PAL) and (NTSC) in English as well as in 16 MM film in English, French, Spanish, Italian, Swahili, Chinese, and Arabic. Black and white photographs on the Programme are also available. Please contact the World Bank Film Library, 1818 H Street, N.W., Room D-860, Washington, D.C. 20433. Telephone (202) 477-8346.

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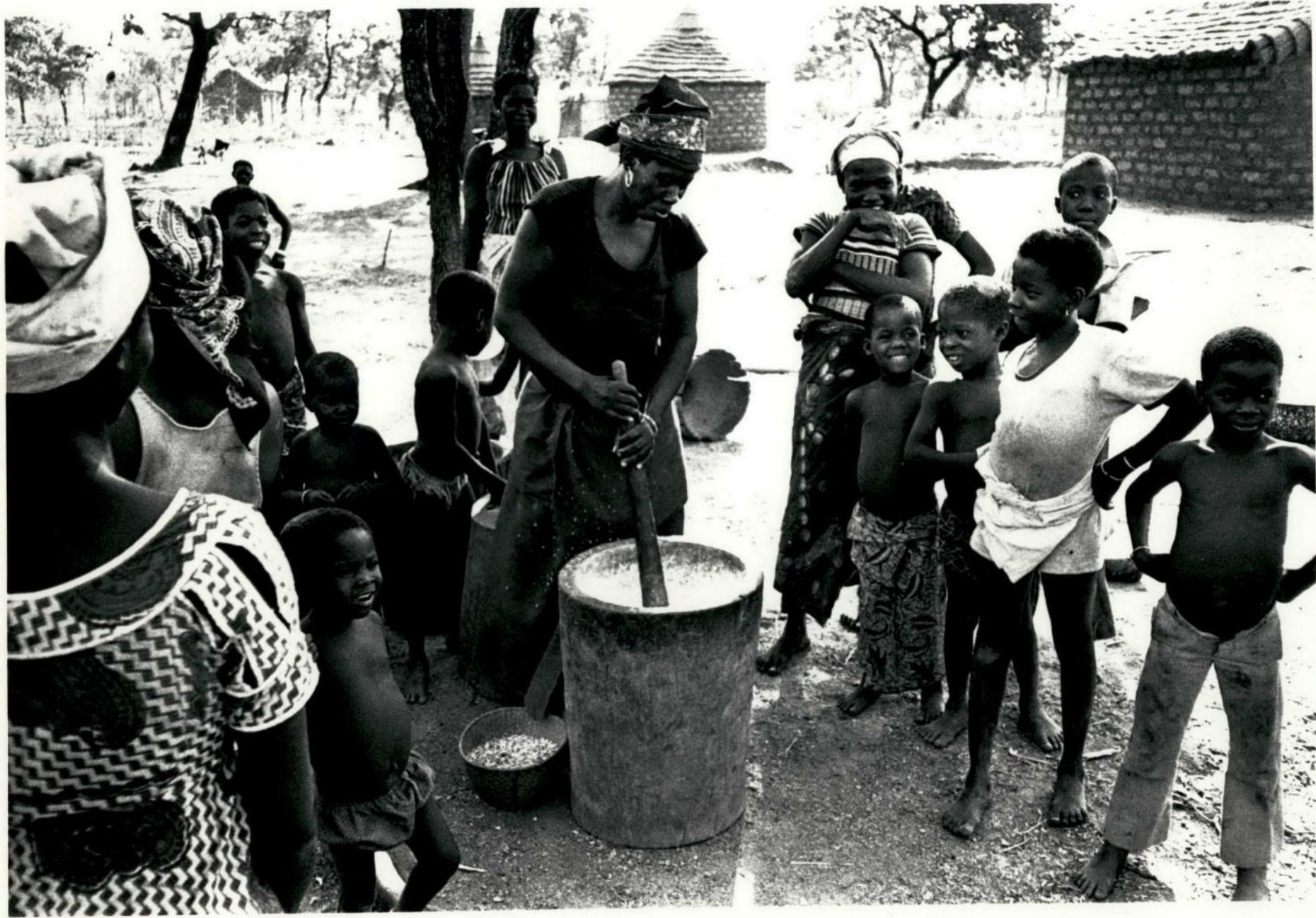
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IVORY COAST—Onchocerciasis 1

The blackfly vector which spreads the disease
Onchocerciasis.

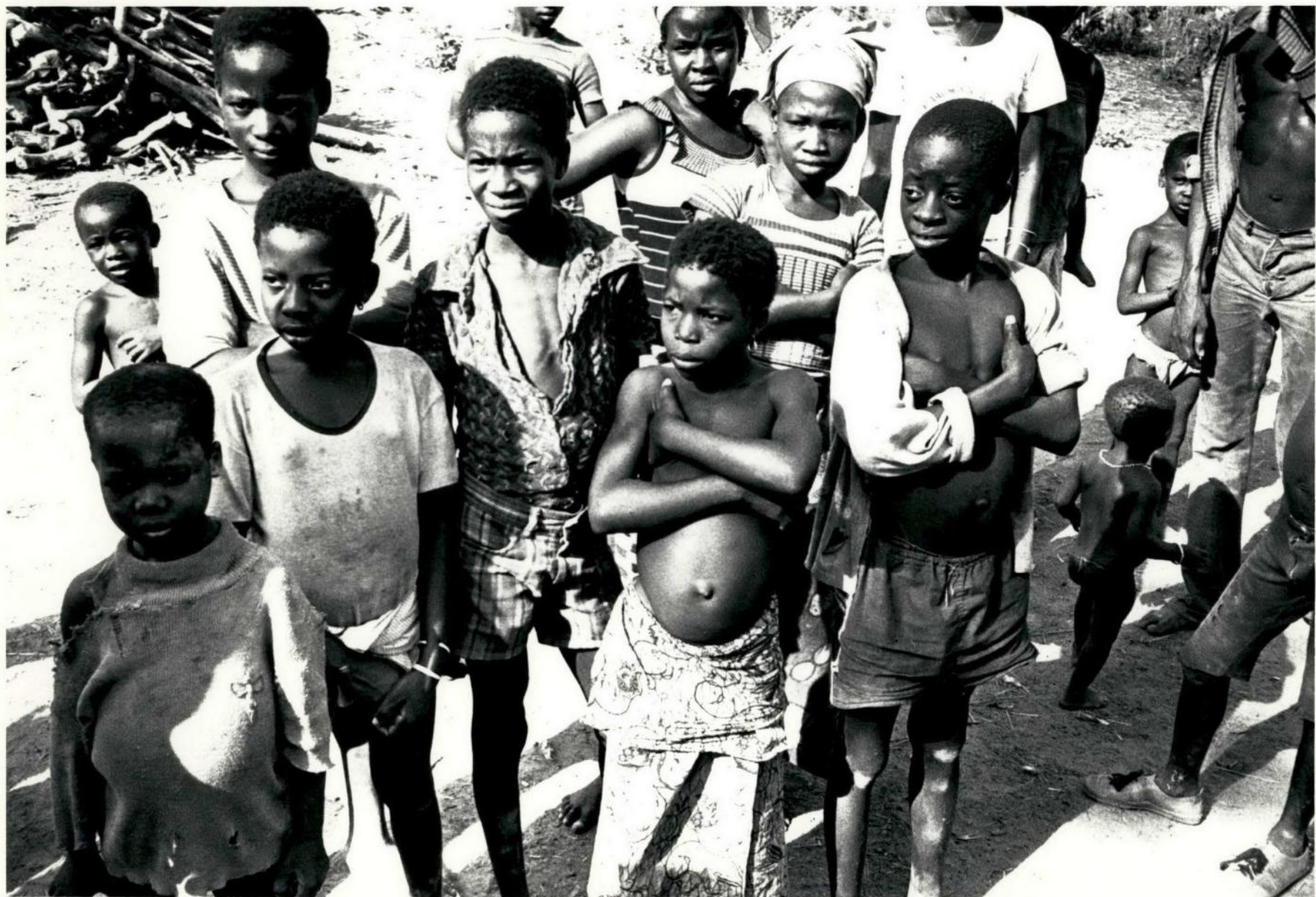
Please credit: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



IVORY COAST—Onchocerciasis 2

Healthy villagers from a new village near the Leraba River in Ivory Coast. Resettlement of the area has been possible because of the success of the Control Programme.

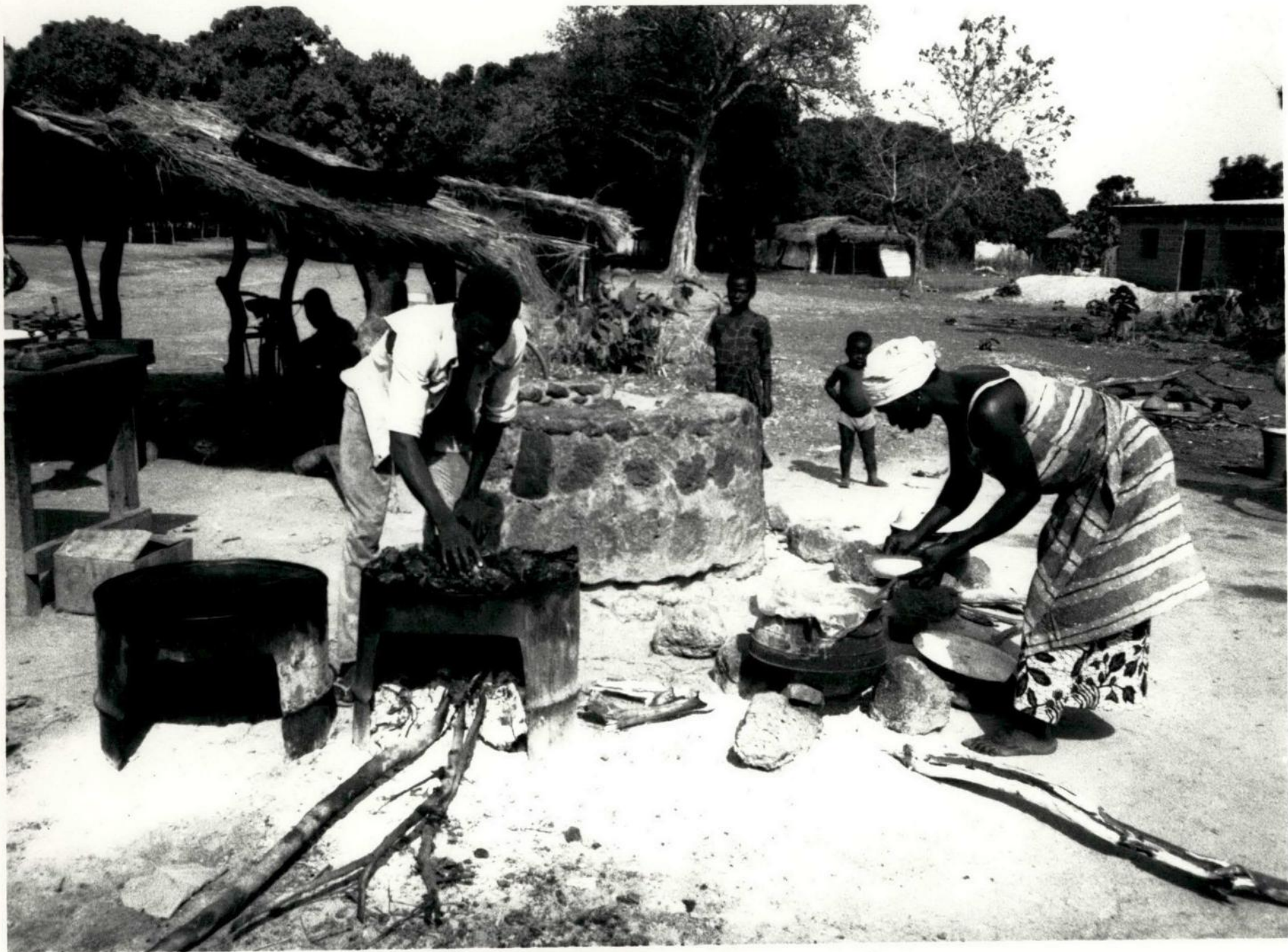
Please credit: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



IVORY COAST—Onchocerciasis 3

Healthy children in a recent spontaneous resettlement village on the bank of the Leraba river in the Ivory Coast where the black fly has been controlled by the Onchocerciasis Control Programme, and where the children are no longer in danger of contracting the disease.

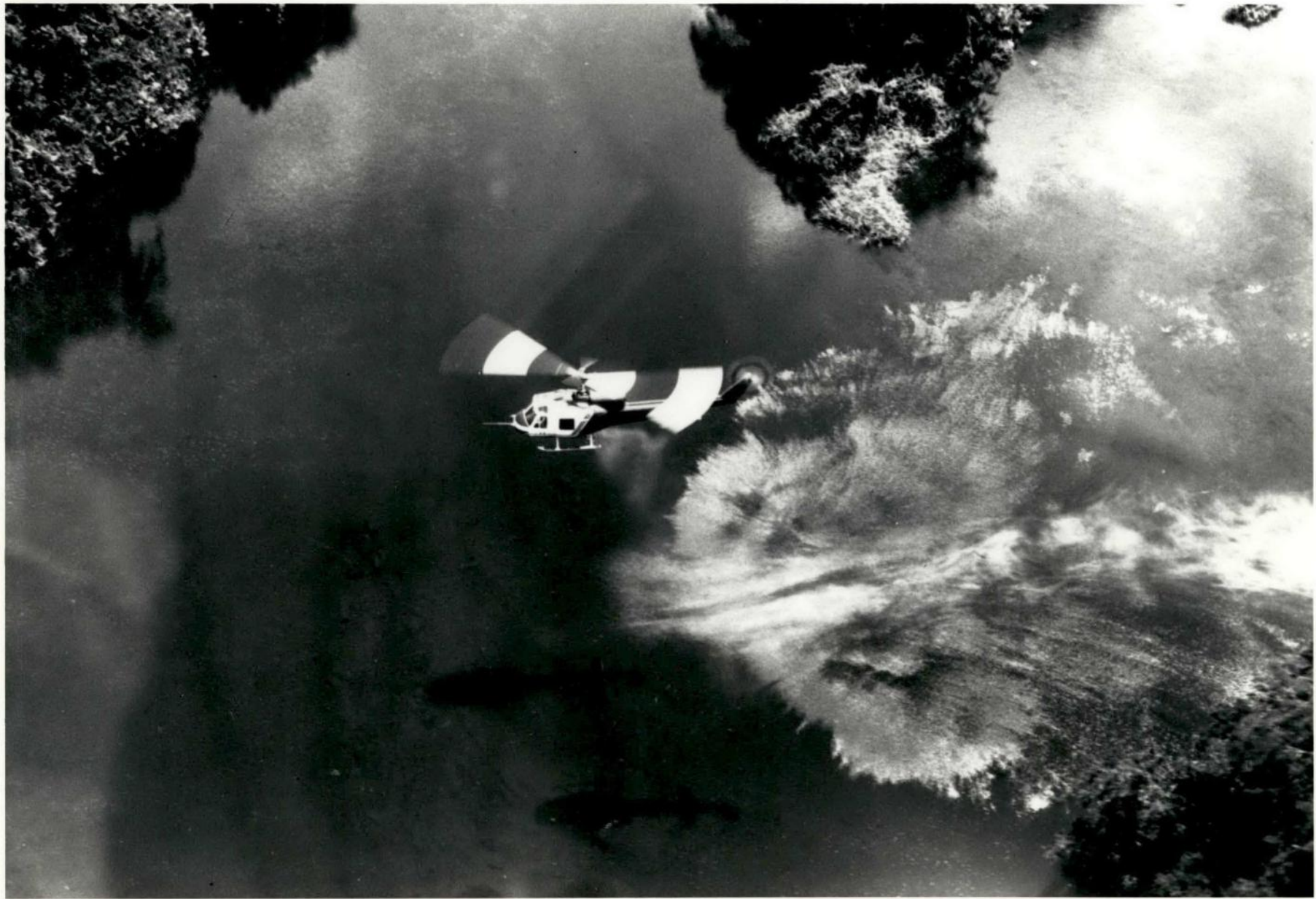
Please credit: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



IVORY COAST—Onchocerciasis 4

Cooking meat at Tawara, a new extension of a village on the Bandama River in the Ivory Coast.

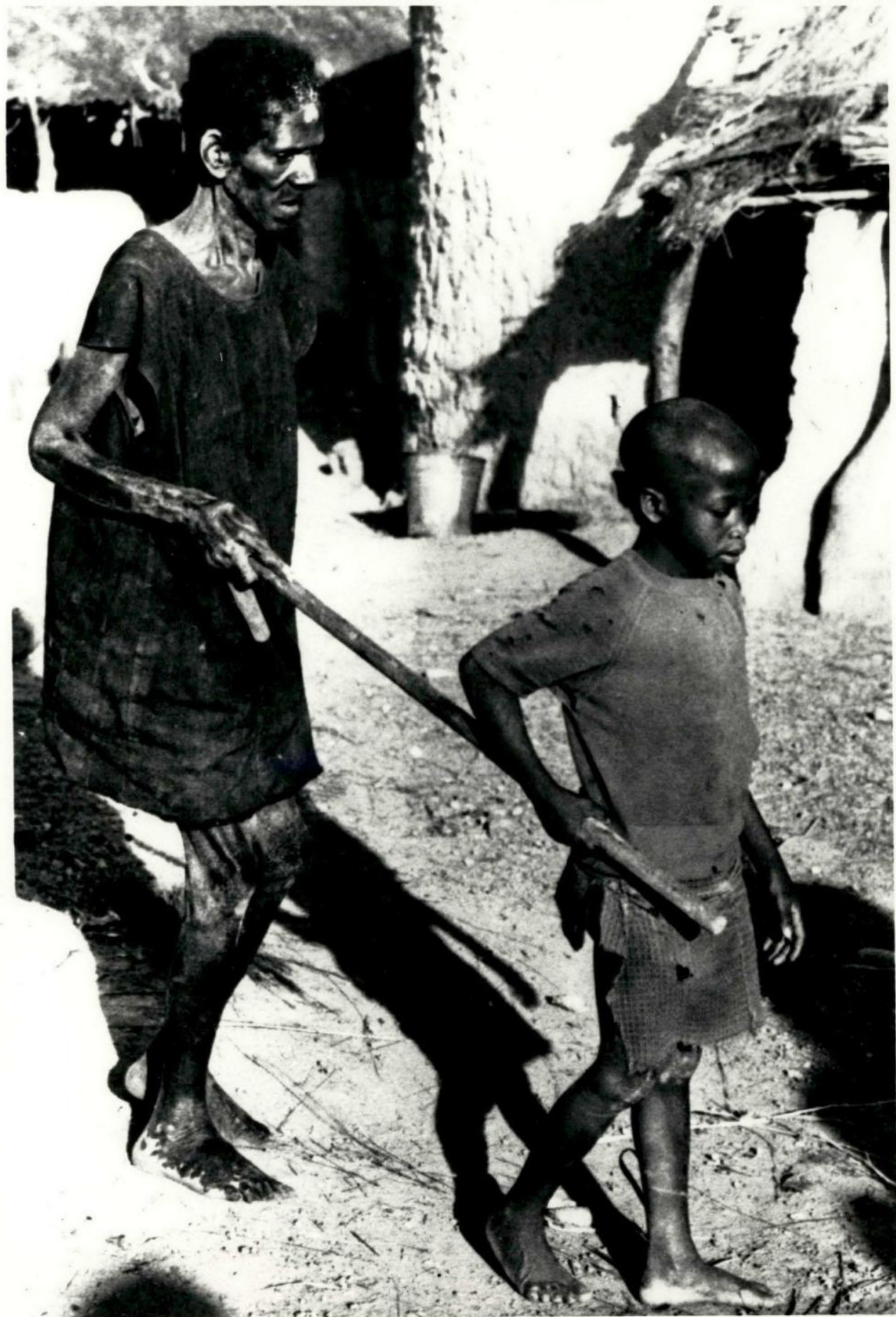
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IVORY COAST—Onchocerciasis 5

An Onchocerciasis Control Programme helicopter spraying larvicide on a river in the program area. The larvicide kills the blackfly larvae before they can mature.

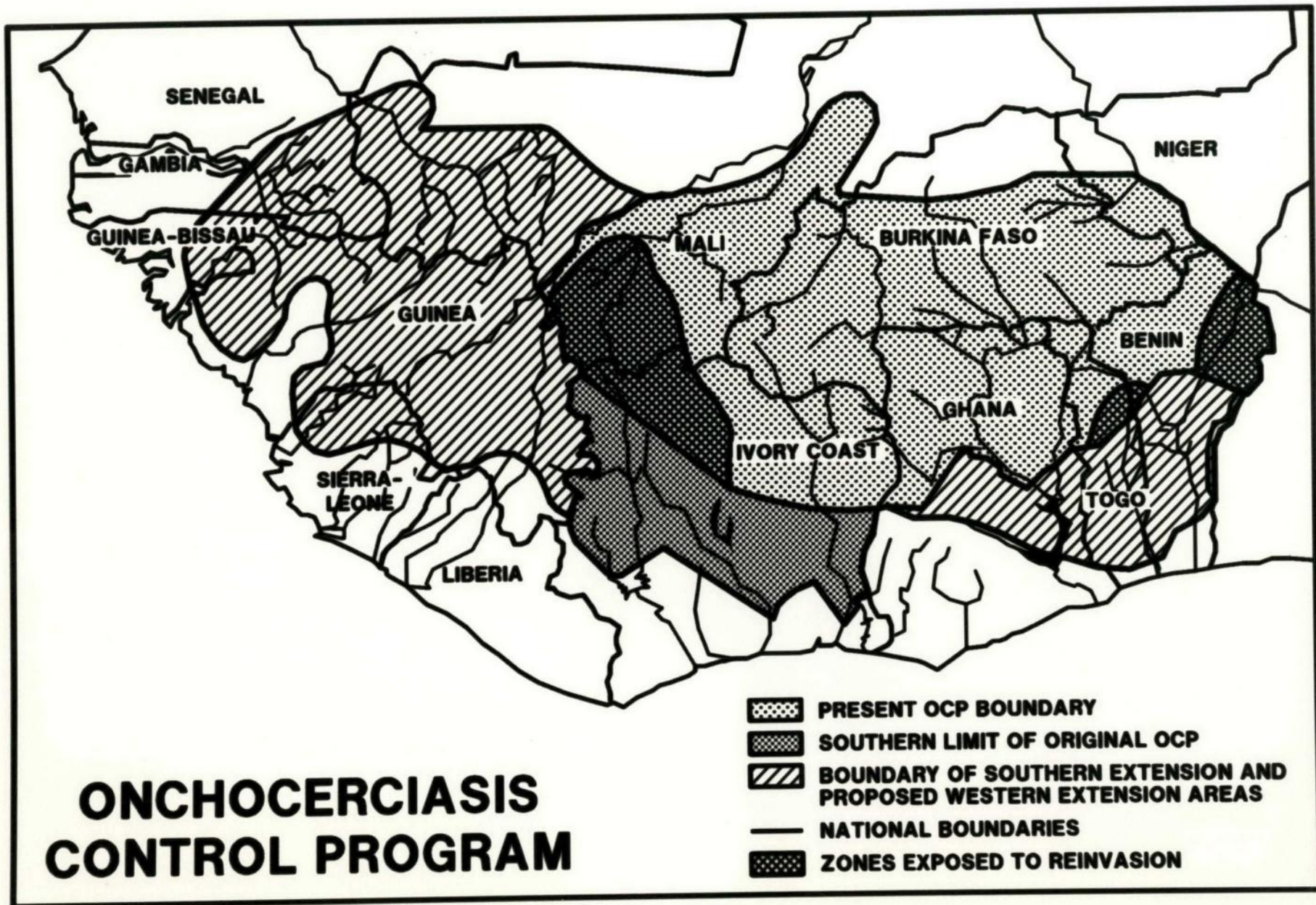
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IVORY COAST—Onchocerciasis 6

An elderly man, blind from onchocerciasis, is led by a young boy.

Please credit: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



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