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McNamara Papers

Statements
1973

The World Bank Group
Archives



1772442

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Robert S. McNamara Statements / Speeches - Statements 06

DECLASSIFIED

WBG Archives

1973

1. Remarks on arrival in Togo, January 10, 1973
2. Remarks on arrival in Dahomey, January 12, 1973
3. Remarks on arrival in Sierra Leone, January 14, 1973
4. Remarks on arrival in Liberia, January 16, 1973
5. Remarks on arrival in Lebanon, February 7, 1973
6. Remarks on arrival in Kuwait, February 9, 1973
No airport statements made in Qatar, Saudi Arabia or UAE
7. Remarks on arrival in Tunisia, May 14, 1973
8. Remarks on arrival in Jamaica, July 2, 1973
No arrival statement made in Trinidad and Tobago
9. "Message to Africa" taped by Voice of Kenya.
10. Message to 6th World Conference of the Judiciary and Legal Profession meeting in Abidjan - August 1973
11. Remarks on arrival in Madagascar, September 30, 1973
12. Remarks on arrival in Mauritius, October 2, 1973

1974

13. Press release on IDA Replenishment, January 24, 1974
14. NBC TODAY Show, January 28, 1974
15. Press Conference, Tehran, Iran - February 21, 1974
With: PM Hoveyda, FinMin Amuzegar, and Mr. Witteveen
Pacific Trip: February 5-19, 1974. No airport statements made
16. Statement on need of developing countries for additional financial resources. World Bank, IMF, I-ADB, AfDB, ADB
17. MEET THE PRESS, March 24, 1974
- 17A Supplements of Japanese Newspapers for Annual Meeting Venezuela, August 14, 1974 - No statement
18. Jordan, October 25, 1974 (Statement not delivered as written; no verbatim text)
Syria - No statement made

1975

19. David Spanier Interview (London Times & EUROPA), February 4, 1975
20. Bill Moyers' Journal, February 6, 1975 (Taped January 23, 1975)
March 5 - 16, 1975: No airport statements on Middle East trip.
21. Arrival Statement in Turkey, April 24, 1975
April 29-May 4, 1975: No airport statements in Yemen Arab Republic or People's Democratic Republic of Yemen
22. Remarks on Signing of Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement, May 7, 1975
23. Remarks on approval of loan to Chile, May 8, 1975
24. Remarks on Visit of President Senghor of Senegal to the Bank, May 22, 1975
25. Opening Statement to Development Committee, June 12, 1975
26. Arrival Statements - Colombia and Costa Rica, November 1975
(Handed to press)
27. Christmas Message to the Staff of the Bank
1976
28. Statement at Signing of the Ingavi Rural Development Project, March 8, 1976
in Jalsuri, Bolivia
March 2-12, 1976: No statements made at airports in Peru, Paraguay, Bolivia.
29. Remarks to the Bank's Press Seminar, May 19, 1976
30. Remarks on Signing of Manila Urban Development Loan - June 9, 1976
31. Remarks at luncheon at the Department of Commerce - June 18, 1976
32. Remarks at the University of the Philippines - October 1, 1976
33. Airport Statements: Burma; Bangladesh, India, Pakistan
October-November 1976
34. Christmas Message to the Staff - December 23, 1976



Tomé Lubat 11/07/73

REMARKS UPON ARRIVAL IN TOGO

It is a great pleasure indeed for me to be here, and I particularly look forward to meeting President ^{Adama} Eyadema. Since I came to the Bank I have visited many West African countries and I have been able to gain some knowledge of the particular problems which are faced in the development of this part of the world. From my forthcoming talks with the President and other Togolese leaders, I am anxious to acquire a deeper understanding of your problems in the quest for economic development.

Since Togo became a member of the Bank Group in 1962, we have maintained a continuing dialogue with the Government on its development objectives. We have financed a road maintenance project, ^{and} ~~the objectives of which have been substantially achieved.~~ A second road project ~~has been recently appraised and will be~~ soon negotiated.

My hope is that our program for Togo will increase in line with your growing capacity to prepare and implement sound, high-priority projects, and with your readiness to take the difficult decisions that constitute the foundation of any serious development effort. For our part, we look forward to being able not only to provide a larger volume of assistance, but also to provide it for a broader range of purposes within the framework of Togo's programs for rehabilitation and further development.

In the years to come we hope to participate in further development in the transportation sector, as well as in agriculture, industry, and water supply.

In providing assistance, our aim is to forge a closer partnership dedicated to assisting the people of Togo to achieve the goals that they themselves have chosen. We believe, as I hope you do, that cooperation between the Bank Group and yourselves has an important role to play in your efforts to overcome your problems and to realize the potential that Togo has.

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REMARKS AT AIRPORT UPON ARRIVAL IN DAHOMEY

1/17/73

It is a great pleasure indeed for me to be here, and I particularly look forward to meeting President Major Kerekou. From my talks with him and with other Dahomean leaders, I hope to acquire a deeper understanding of your development problems and how they can be tackled. The World Bank Group has already made some contribution to Dahomey's own efforts to rehabilitate and develop its economy for the benefit of its people. During this visit, I hope to learn how we can support these efforts more fully and more effectively.

The World Bank Group is greatly expanding its activities around the globe. Under our five-year program 1968-1973, we shall have doubled our lending. In Africa we planned to increase our lending threefold, and we expect to accomplish that objective. I am pleased that Dahomey has had a significant share in this achievement.

My hope is that our program for Dahomey will increase in line with your growing capacity to prepare and implement sound, high-priority projects, and with your readiness to take the difficult decisions that constitute the foundation of any serious development effort. For our part, we look forward to being able not only to provide a larger volume of assistance, but also to provide it for a broader range of purposes within the framework of Dahomey's programs for rehabilitation and further development.

Our first operation in this country was a credit of \$4.6 million in 1969 for the Hinvi agricultural development. The next credit was made for a highway maintenance program. The most recent credit, which was signed early this year, is for the cotton development program in the Zou Borgou region which I am looking forward to visiting tomorrow morning. In the years to come we hope to participate in further development in the rural sector, as well as in transportation, education and tourism.

In providing assistance, our aim is to forge a closer partnership dedicated to assisting the people of Dahomey to achieve the goals that they themselves have chosen. We believe, as I hope you do, that cooperation between the Bank Group and yourselves has an important role to play in your efforts to overcome your problems and to realize the potential that Dahomey has.

3

Mr. McNamara's Visit to Sierra Leone

Airport Statement (On Arrival)

11/73
14/15

Mrs. McNamara and I are delighted to be in Sierra Leone, and we are most grateful for the ~~kind~~ invitation that has been extended to us to visit your beautiful country.

The major purpose of our visit is, ^{to learn} ~~to learn to understand~~ at first hand the development potentials and needs of your country, and, to find out how we in the World Bank can assist you more effectively in the task of raising the standard of living and the quality of life for the people of Sierra Leone. Development is a complicated and difficult task, and, as you know, involves very hard choices. I do not wish to pretend that we at the World Bank know all the answers. We certainly do not. Development, after all, is not an exact science. But we have found, through our experience in Africa and elsewhere in the world, that we can contribute to what is surely one of the momentous human endeavors of our time -- the quest for a better life by the peoples of the developing countries.

In Sierra Leone our contribution has been so far, ^{been} relatively modest, ^{but it has been} but we have loaned ~~for~~ a total of a little more than \$23 million since the first loan was made in 1964 for expansion of the electricity system; other loans have gone for education, highways and agriculture. This last field -- agriculture -- is a most important sector, as President Stevens has so often emphasized. We hope, in the future, to be able to expand our assistance in this vital area.

A main objective of our lending in agriculture and other sectors is to help provide better opportunities for progress and advancement for the common man in Sierra Leone. The improvement of the individual lives of the great mass of people is, in the final analysis, the most real and central function of development activity. Development, ^{as you know,} ~~I should hasten to add,~~ is not simply an occasional World Bank operation, a road project here or a power facility there. Rather it is hard work, sacrifice, and strenuous effort to mobilize scarce resources -- both financial and human, and then careful deployment of those resources in a manner that will gain maximum benefits to the economy. These ~~vital~~ tasks can only be performed by the governments and peoples of the developing countries themselves. We in the World Bank can ~~only~~ ^{but} be a minor partner in this immense undertaking, ~~at best we can be catalysts.~~ When a government and its people show that they are united in their determination to promote long-term development -- and not interested in sacrificing it for merely short-term and temporary benefits -- then we can provide meaningful assistance.

^{Your govt has stated that its objective is}
We wish to explore ways of helping ^{to} create a better and more productive life for all the people of this nation. As you show that you can move ahead on that course, we in the World Bank stand ready to assist you in that mission. It is ~~for the purpose of seeking to find means of improving~~ that assistance that I have come to Sierra Leone. ~~Thank you.~~

4

LIBERIA

16-18
1/73

ARRIVAL STATEMENT BY MR. McNAMARA

This is our first visit to Liberia and Mrs. McNamara and I are delighted to be here. We have been looking forward to this visit - to a country which has played such a unique role in the history of Africa and which today holds such a distinguished position in Africa and world affairs. We also look forward to our visits with President Tolbert, his Ministers, and other government officials. During our visit we are anxious to see as much of your country as ~~time will permit.~~

The main purpose of my visit is to obtain a better understanding of your development potentials and needs, and of your plans for the future. We in the World Bank wish to expand our assistance to Liberia and hope thereby to be able to extend the benefits of growth and development to all of Liberia's people.

I have been following with interest events in your country, particularly in the year that has passed since President Tolbert was inaugurated. It has been a momentous year, ~~and~~ We at the World Bank are impressed indeed with what you have accomplished. You appear to have made a vigorous start towards the objectives of reaching "higher heights" which President Tolbert ~~so firmly~~ has established for your nation in its quest for faster and more broadly based development.

This past year has also been a satisfying one for World Bank Group operations in Liberia. Our first lending operations in the fields of agriculture and education were approved last spring. In fact, almost a third of our total lending to Liberia since the first loan was made in 1964, was approved in the year 1972. We hope we can accomplish more in the future -- in helping you develop through priority projects in transportation, agriculture, education, port development and industry.

In Liberia, as elsewhere, our aim is to help to accelerate development, and at the same time spread the benefits of that development as widely as possible. This is a difficult task, but it is a vitally important one, for development that merely benefits the few, but ignores or overlooks the many, is no development at all.

This is the noble task which President Tolbert has set for Liberia. It is a task to which we, in the World Bank, feel honored to be able to make a contribution. ~~Thank you~~

5

BEIRUT AIRPORT STATEMENT 7/7/73

This is my first stop in a series of visits to Middle Eastern States, during which I will discuss the Bank's expanding program of ^{operations} activity in the Arab World.

Since 1968, the World Bank has both initiated borrowing ~~operations~~ in the Middle East and vastly increased ^{its} ~~our~~ lending and technical assistance programs in the ^{Region}. During the ^{several} period we have borrowed a total of \$400 million from the countries of the area, the latest borrowing operation being ^{the} a sale of a 75 million ^{Lebanese} ~~Libyan~~ pound bond issue here in Lebanon two weeks ago. And in the five fiscal years ending next June, our lending to the Arab World will ^{approximately} exceed \$1 billion for over 60 development projects in 11 different countries. That volume of lending is four ~~to five~~ times the level of lending during the previous five years. Of equal significance is the large number of economic and other technical assistance missions which have been requested by the countries of the area -- in total they will exceed fifty, ^{amounting} ^{to about} 17 ^{nations}.

So the scale of our interest and the level of our operations in the Middle East is both large and growing. The purpose of my visits is to learn how we can serve the area better.

In Lebanon I shall be particularly interested in learning more of your six-year development program and of those investment projects within it -- especially infrastructure projects and projects directed toward achieving a more equitable distribution of income -- for which you will be seeking long-term funds, the type of financing supplied by the World Bank.

This is my first visit to Lebanon. I am delighted to be here and I am most grateful to your Government for the invitation to come.

6

REMARKS AT AIRPORT UPON ARRIVAL IN KUWAIT 2/9/73

It is just over three years since I last came to Kuwait. Much has happened in that time in this country, particularly in the field of economic development, [and the quality of life of the people.] I am looking forward to renewing old friendships and making new ones and to learn more about your goals and strategy for further economic diversification.

As partners in development, we in the World Bank have taken a special interest in Kuwait's progress. The¹⁵ current visit will provide me with an opportunity to discuss with your leaders the problems and prospects for development in the region and ways to further improve the effectiveness of assistance for such development.

Since 1968, we in the World Bank Group have been pleased to see a strengthening of relations with countries in the Arab World as a whole. There has been a substantial increase in the amount of loans to Arab countries which, in the five-year period 1969-73, will total ~~over~~^{almost} one billion dollars compared to \$230 million in the previous five-year period. Not only has there been a fourfold increase in lending, but also the loans have been made for projects of increasing scope and complexity. From our earlier emphasis on transportation and electric power projects, we have increasingly ventured into the fields of agriculture, education, industry and tourism. [Most of this expansion has been possible only through the close cooperation with the member states. We hope to continue to increase programs for technical assistance which will serve as the base for expanding activity in the Arab World in the years ahead.]

We are proud of our long association with the Government of Kuwait and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development. I look forward to similar cooperation with the newly established Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.

I am particularly pleased that my visit here will provide the occasion for the signing of a bond issue which has recently been concluded with the Kuwait Investment Company as underwriter and with participation by a group of prominent investors.

In the past Kuwait has ~~been~~ performed a great service for the cause of development in the Arab world. I have no doubt that Kuwait will continue to provide leadership in the future in efforts directed toward meeting the great challenge of all mankind - ending poverty & want thru the process of economic development.

7

STATEMENT UPON ARRIVAL IN TUNISIA

This is my first visit to Tunisia and I am delighted to be here. Tunisia and the World Bank have had a long and fruitful relationship. I believe our continuous dialogue has proven to be of great mutual benefit. We in the World Bank have taken great interest in the evolution of your Government's new policies, which have been followed up by a program of action covering most sectors of the economy. We strongly support this systematic approach.

During my stay, I will have the opportunity to see for myself the progress which is being made and gain a better understanding of the problems which remain. I very much look forward to meeting with your President, the Prime Minister and other Ministers to discuss with them the direction of your economic and social development efforts.

The World Bank has been involved in many parts of Tunisia's economy. As of May 1973, our lending commitments to Tunisia have reached \$230 million. We have supported investment projects in transport (railways, ports, gas pipeline and highways), education, agriculture (fisheries, wheat, dairy and date production), industry, family planning, public utilities (water supply and power) and tourism. We hope to continue to be of assistance in these sectors and in new ones as well.

The rapid advance of the Tunisian economy in recent years will no doubt help establish the basis for sound and continuing growth. There lies great hope and potential for Tunisia in the determination of your President, your Government and the Tunisian people to mobilize human and material resources in the most efficient way possible towards the goals of economic well-being and social equality. We are optimistic about the results and stand ready to further assist in your efforts.

* * *

8

7/2/73

STATEMENT UPON ARRIVAL IN JAMAICA

I am delighted to be in this beautiful country. Though I am not a stranger to Jamaica, this is my first visit as a representative of the World Bank.

Last year I had the pleasure of meeting with Prime Minister Manley in Washington. I am now looking forward to seeing him again,

and meeting with other Ministers, ^{to} ~~to continue our dialogue on~~ ^{as well} ~~development~~ and to learn more about ^{your} the Government's economic and social policies and ^{in particular to learn how} ~~the plans for action~~ where the World Bank might ^{a more} be a useful partner ^{in your development.}

^{As you probably know,} The World Bank is already involved in a number of projects in Jamaica, through loans for transportation, agriculture, water supply, ^{and} and education. We are working ^{and} together on new projects in several sectors, including urban development, which should contribute to the well-being of all Jamaicans. In the last five years the Bank has made loans to Jamaica totaling more than \$33 million. We hope that over the next few years our lending can be continued and increased ^{substantially.}

Like most developing nations, Jamaica faces ~~some~~ difficult problems in its development efforts, but your Government and people are showing great determination to overcome them. We in the World Bank hope to play ^{an increasingly significant role} ~~a part~~ in helping Jamaica to achieve greater economic and social well-being for ^{all of your} ~~its~~ people.

9

MR. ROBERT S. McNAMARA'S MESSAGE TO AFRICA

I am delighted that this year's meeting of the Governors of the World Bank and IMF will be held in Nairobi in September. It demonstrates the importance that the two institutions attach to both the potential and the problems of economic development on this continent.

In the past five years since becoming President of the World Bank, I have visited 21 African countries to learn at first hand from your heads of State, ministers, economists and planners what your requirements are and how we -- with both funds and technical assistance -- can assist you in achieving your development goals.

In the Five-Year Program we have just completed, the Bank Group has tripled its lending in Africa as compared with the previous five-year period. Those funds have assisted your nations in increasing their rates of economic growth but, as is true elsewhere in the world, an urgent task remains to spread the benefits of that growth more equitably among all of your people.

A large number of countries in Africa -- 16 of them -- are among those classified by the United Nations as "least developed". We are giving special attention to the needs of this group for both technical assistance and financial assistance.

In summary, I believe the Bank and its African members are working together with growing confidence and mutual respect and I am sure that as a result of the forthcoming meetings in Nairobi our cooperative efforts will be further strengthened.

will be held in Nairobi in Sept.

MR. ROBERT S. McNAMARA'S MESSAGE TO AFRICA

I am delighted that this year's meeting of the Governors of the World Bank & IMF will be held for the 1st time in Africa. It demonstrates the importance that the 2 institutions attach to both the potential & the problems of economic devel. on Africa. The African continent has both the potential and the ~~problems~~ ^{problems} -- central to the international development effort.

In the past five years since becoming President of the World Bank, I have visited 21 ^{African} ~~countries~~ ^{countries} on the continent to learn at first hand from your ^{Ministers} ~~Ministers~~, economists and planners what ^{your} ~~the~~ requirements are and how we -- with both funds and technical assistance -- can assist you in achieving your ~~own~~ development goals.

In the Five-Year Program we have just completed the Bank Group has tripled its lending in Africa as compared with the previous five-year period. *Those funds have assisted in increasing their rates of growth but a serious drawback in the world is an urgent task remains to spread the benefits of that growth more equitably among all your people.* The urgent task remains to achieve economic growth for the benefit of as many individual people as possible. I am also keenly aware that a number of our member countries in Africa -- 16 of them -- are among those classified by the United Nations as "least developed". We will continue to give attention to the special needs of this group of ^{countries} ~~countries~~. *essential & financial assistance.*

I am delighted that Kenya will be host for the Annual Meeting this year.
The Bank and its African Members are working together with growing confidence and mutual respect, ^{and} I am sure that as a result of ^{our} ~~our~~ ^{the forthcoming mtgs} ~~deliberations~~ in Nairobi our cooperative efforts will be ^{greatly} ~~greatly~~ strengthened.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Robert S. McNamara

DATE: August 8, 1973

FROM: John E. Merriam

SUBJECT: Message to Africa as requested by the Voice of Kenya

In your meeting last week with African radio journalists you agreed with the suggestion of the representative of the Voice of Kenya, Mr. Sammy Lui, that you would record a message to Africa in connection with the Annual Meeting. We have scheduled the taping session for 4:15 p.m. on Thursday, August 9, in Sir Denis Rickett's office to record a short (one minute) message.

8/8
A suggested statement is attached. It emphasizes the appropriateness of the African setting for the Annual Meeting and the Bank's recent efforts in behalf of the development of the continent.

Procedure

Prior to recording your message we propose that we play for you the introduction recorded here by Mr. Sammy Lui for presentation of your message over the Voice of Kenya. We expect that the Voice of Kenya will make wide use of this tape. We also intend to send the tape with our own introduction to other African networks for their use. In journalistic terms the Voice of Kenya will have a "beat", i.e. a time lead, but not an "exclusive" on this item.

We should be able to accomplish the recording in 15 minutes time. Mr. Jaime Martin will operate the recording equipment and I will accompany you to Sir Denis's office.

Attachment

JEM:rgw

AUG 14 1973

Dear Mr. Rhyne:

Thank you for your letter inviting me to send a message to the Sixth World Conference of the judiciary and legal profession in Abidjan at the end of August.

I am delighted to do so. Please find the message attached.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Robert S. McNamara

Robert S. McNamara

Mr. Charles S. Rhyne, President
World Peace Through Law Center
400 Hill Building
Washington, D.C. 20006

JIMaddux/rca; August 13, 1973
Attachment

On the occasion of the Sixth World Conference of the Judiciary and Legal Profession, meeting in Abidjan under the sponsorship of the World Peace Through Law Center and the World Association of Judges, I want to express my best wishes and warm support for the success of your deliberations.

We in the World Bank Group, concerned with the problems of economic progress in more than a hundred developing countries, are deeply aware that without an environment of respect and cooperation among nations, the development process is seriously hampered. That respect and cooperation can clearly flourish best in the context of sound international law which recognizes both the rights and obligations of all the members of the world community.

Your collective experience and judgment will lend valuable insight into the complexities involved, and your efforts to seek broader implementation of the central concept of peace through law are not only encouraging, but immensely important.

Robert S. McNamara

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15 71 143

REMARKS UPON ARRIVAL IN MADAGASCAR

9/30/73

My arrival in Madagascar brings me to a part of the ^{world} Indian Ocean which it has long been my desire to see. I am particularly ^{pleased} ~~delighted~~ that this visit will provide me with the opportunity to meet ^{your Head of Government} ~~General Ramanantsoa~~, under whose leadership your country has dedicated itself to achieving economic progress through your own efforts. Over the next few days, my ~~main~~ aim ~~here~~ will be to meet with your leaders, to acquire a better understanding of your problems and your potential for economic progress, and to see how much more we in the World Bank Group can do to help transform your potential into reality.

During the last five years we have ~~greatly~~ increased our assistance for Madagascar's economic development, keeping pace with the target we set in 1969 which was the doubling of our lending in the World and tripling the volume of our lending commitments in Africa and Madagascar. Apart from studying the sectors for which we have already provided assistance, such as education, transportation, agriculture, I look forward while ^{your future?} here to seeing something of your beautiful country and ^{discuss with your leaders} the scope for further ~~investment~~ ^{cooperation}.

Africa and Madagascar are part of the ^{world} ~~continent~~ of the future. I am convinced that this is where many of the greatest development opportunities of the coming years are going to be found. In 1969 the conviction had inspired us to prepare for a very major increase in our activities in the continent. I am happy to see that we have achieved that goal. However, the

remaining task which lies ahead is bigger than ever. We must increase our effort in order to spread equitably the benefit of growth among the nations and among the population within the nations.

Over the next few days, I look forward to becoming better acquainted with ~~the problems and prospects~~ of your country. ~~From~~ ^This ~~there~~ will, I hope, be developed a basis for closer and more fruitful cooperation in moving towards our common goal: enabling the people of Madagascar to achieve a better, happier and fuller life.

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<u>63</u>	<u>64-68</u>	<u>69-73</u>	<u>74-78</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>13 1/2</u>	<u>26</u>
1	1	34	18
			5

REMARKS AT AIRPORT UPON ARRIVAL IN MAURITIUS

15/1/73

It is a great pleasure indeed for me to be here, and I particularly look forward to meeting your Prime Minister. From my talks with ^{him} and with other Mauritian leaders, I hope, to acquire a deeper understanding of your development problems and how ^{we can assist you in tackling them.} they can be tackled. The World Bank Group has already made some contribution to Mauritius' own efforts to adapt and develop its economy for the benefit of its people.

4 former General

During this visit, I hope to learn how we can support these efforts more fully and more effectively.

^{as you may know,} The World Bank Group has greatly expanded its activities ^{in recent years.} around the globe. Under our five-year program 1968-1973, we have doubled our lending ^{and} In Africa we increased our lending threefold. ~~I am pleased that~~ Mauritius has had a significant share in this achievement.

^{we are} I am also pleased to ^{see} notice that the development policy of Mauritius ^{places} shares our emphasis on full employment and better distribution of income. ~~We look therefore forward~~ to being able not only to provide a larger volume of assistance ^{in all features} but also to provide it for a broader range of purposes within the framework of Mauritius ^{development} programs for further development.

Aside from the power project financed in 1963, our first operation in this country was a credit of \$5.2 million in 1971 for a small holder tea development. The next credit was made for a development bank. The most recent ^{projects are} credits ~~were~~ for the industrial development program at Coromandel and a rural development program. IFC an affiliate of the Bank has made a

A 2 providing assistance, our aim will be to help the people of Mauritius achieve the goals they themselves had chosen

followed by investments in the tourism sector. In the years to come, we hope to participate in the further development of your infrastructure as well as in industry & tourism.

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