

ACP-EC CONVENTION OF LOMÉ

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
ACP-EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
(1995)**

CONVENTION ACP-CL DE LOME

LE CONSEIL

LES SECRETAIRES

ACP- EC CONVENTION OF LOMÉ

THE COUNCIL

THE SECRETARIES

Brussels, 24 JUL. 1996

Lord Henry PLUMB
H.E. Sir John KAPUTIN

000092

Co-Chairmen of the ACP-EC
Joint Assembly,

European Parliament,
LUXEMBOURG

Sirs,

At its meetings in Apia, on 27-28 June 1996, The ACP-EC Council of Ministers examined the Annual Report which it has to publish pursuant to Article 342 paragraph 4 of the Fourth ACP-EC Convention and instructed the Committee of Ambassadors, in conjunction with the Secretaries of the Council of Ministers, to finalize this report and to forward it to the Joint Assembly.

As this report has now been finally approved, we are pleased to communicate the text thereof to the Joint Assembly in order that it may be examined by that body in accordance with Article 350 of the Fourth ACP-EC Convention.

The necessary copies of this text will be made available to your services as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,



Carl GREENIDGE



Flemming BJØRNEKÆR

Enc: 1

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Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 1996

ISBN 92-824-1385-3

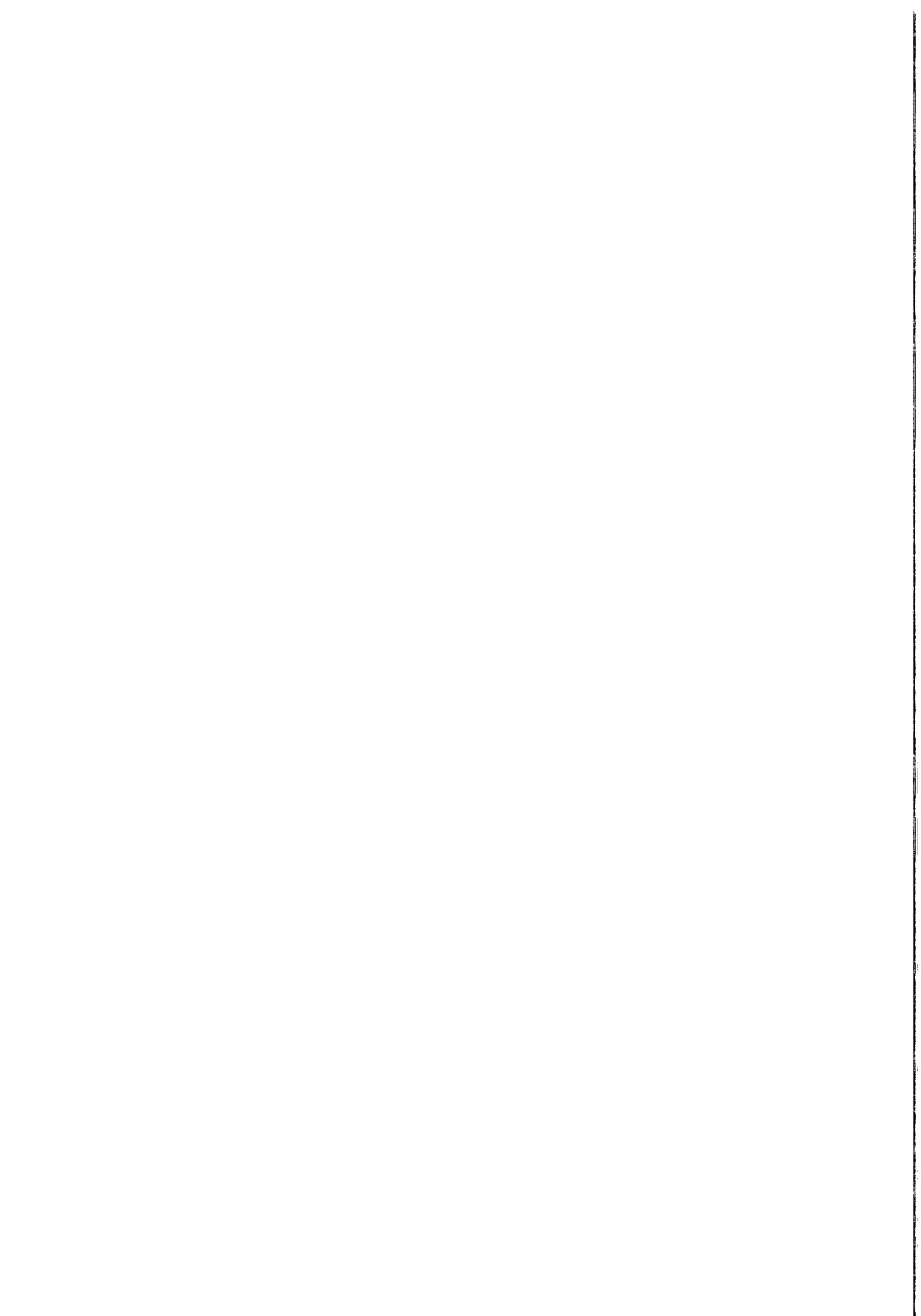
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Printed in the United Kingdom

Printed on white chlorine-free paper

CONTENTS

	<u>Pages</u>
I. Introduction	5
II. Overview of the work of the ACP-EC institutions	7
1. Council of Ministers	7
2. Committee of Ambassadors	10
3. Joint Assembly	10
4. Consultation of economic and social interest groups	10
III. Activities of the ACP-EC Council of Ministers in the various areas of cooperation	
1. Trade and customs cooperation	11
2. Stabilization of export earnings	14
3. Sugar	15
4. Cooperation on commodities	16
5. Development finance cooperation	17
6. Industrial cooperation	20
7. Agricultural and rural cooperation	21
8. Relations with the countries of southern Africa	22
IV. Mid-term review of the Fourth Lomé Convention	25
V. Enlargement of the European Union	27
Annex I	29
Annex II	35
Annex III	41



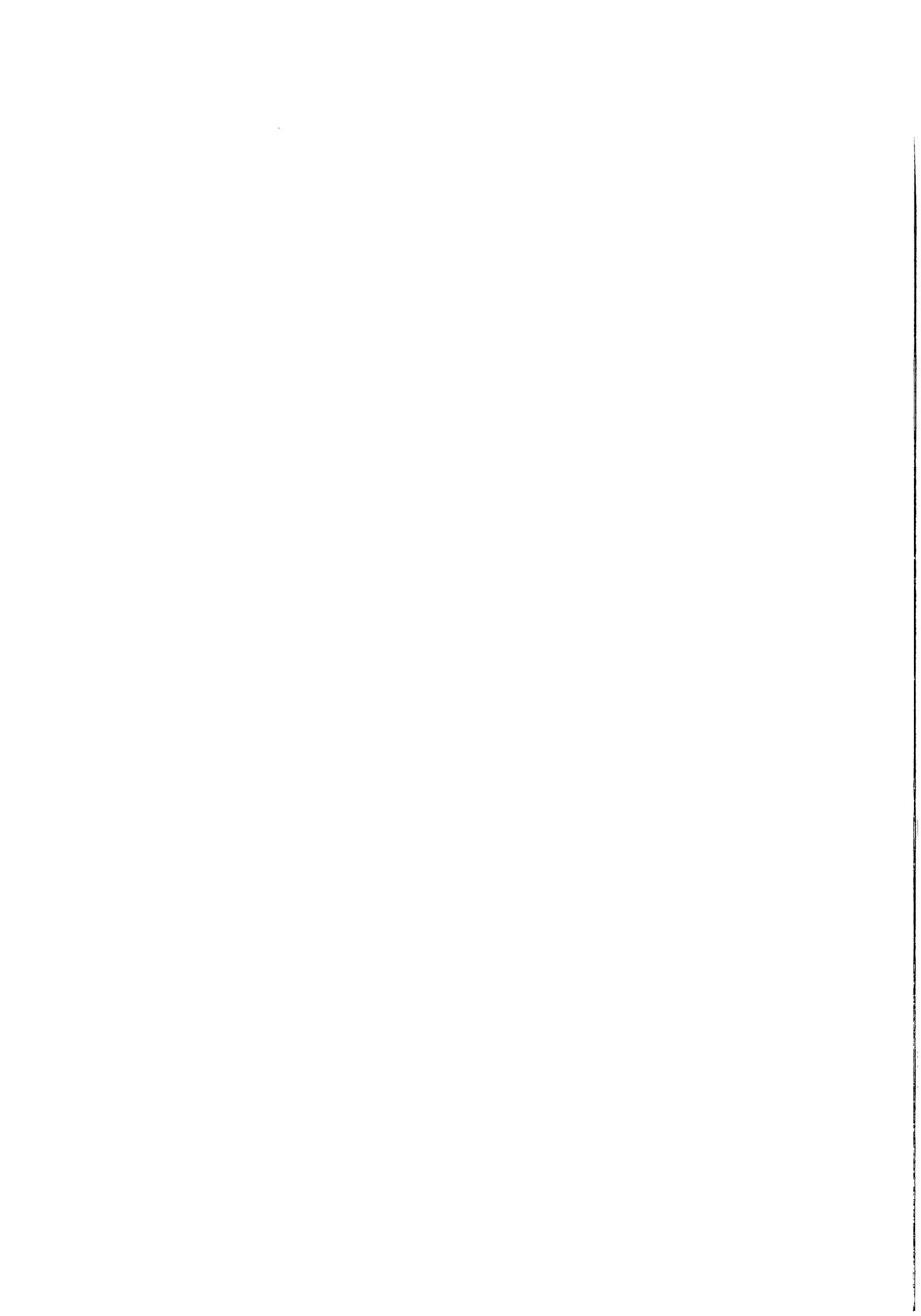
I. INTRODUCTION

1995 was marked above all by the successful conclusion of negotiations on the 8th EDF and subsequent agreement on the revised Lomé IV Convention which was signed at Mauritius on 4 November 1995 on the occasion of the 20th meeting of the ACP-EC Council.

In the course of the year the joint bodies of the Convention took stock of the progress made and the problems encountered in the different areas of co-operation.

The joint bodies considered the questions of trade co-operation (bananas and rum), Stabex (in particular transfers to Sudan and the possible addition of squash pumpkin to the list of qualifying products) and commodities (use of fat other than cocoa butter in chocolate). A resolution on development finance cooperation was adopted, as well as a decision on the revision of the list of least developed countries (Article 330 of the Convention).

The opening of the first phase of negotiations with South Africa in Brussels on 30 June, with a view to concluding a trade and co-operation agreement with the EC as well as a protocol on accession to the Convention was welcomed by the joint bodies. Finally the Protocol of accession to the Convention of Austria, Finland and Sweden was signed on 4 November on the occasion of the ACP-EC Council in Mauritius.



II. OVERVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE ACP-EC INSTITUTIONS

1. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

- a) The second Ministerial Negotiating Conference on the mid-term review of Lomé IV was convened in Brussels for 6 February, but was postponed due to the fact that the Community was not in a position to make a proposal on the level of the 8th EDF. Following agreement on this question at the European Council in Cannes on 26-27 June, a further Ministerial Negotiating Conference⁽¹⁾ took place in Brussels on 30th June to finalize the mid-term review.
- b) The ACP-EC Council of Ministers held its 20th ordinary meeting on 3 and 4 November in Reduit, Mauritius, under the chairmanship of Mr. Javier SOLANA, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Spain, and President-in-office of the Council of the European Union. The spokesman for the ACP states was Mr. MOI AVEI, Minister of Planning for Papua New Guinea, President-in-office of the Council of ACP Ministers. The Commission was represented by Mr. Joao de DEUS PINHEIRO, member.
 - i) Under the "A" points the Council
 - adopted a decision concerning transitional measures applicable from 1 March 1995 following the expiry of the financial protocol of the 7th EDF;
 - agreed to the Protocol to the 4th ACP-EC Convention following the accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden to the European Union⁽²⁾;
 - adopted a decision on the provisional application of this Protocol to avoid any discontinuity in the relations of the ACP States and the new Member States of the European Union.

(1) See under mid-term review of the fourth ACP-EC Convention p. 11.

(2) This Protocol follows up the decision taken by the ACP-EC Council of Ministers on 13 April 1995 adopting transitional arrangements for the application of the 4th ACP-EC Convention to Austria, Finland and Sweden. It was signed on 4 November by all contracting parties to the Convention.

- ii) In the first part of its proceedings the Council held a wide ranging discussion on a variety of aspects of co-operation between the EU and the ACP States under the Lomé Convention.

On the field of trade co-operation the discussions focussed on bananas, rum and Stabex. The Council noted in particular the concerns of the ACP States concerning bananas with respect to the accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden and the consequent enlargement of the Community market and recalled the Community's statement at the last ACP-EC Committee of Ambassadors that it would take into account the undertakings in Protocol n° 5 of the Convention in any adaptation of the common organisation of the market. The Council welcomed recent measures adopted by the Council of the EU concerning the import regime of ACP rum into the Community from 1996 leading to complete liberalization by the year 2000.

As far as Stabex was concerned, the principal point discussed was that of Stabex transfers to Sudan.

While taking note of the Sudanese request for the execution of Stabex transfer from 1990-1995, the Council also noted the European Union's statement recalling that co-operation with Sudan had been suspended in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention and that, as there was no tangible change in the respect for human rights, resumption of normal co-operation with Sudan was not foreseen. A further issue in the framework of Stabex concerned a request from Tonga for the inclusion of squash pumpkin in the list of qualifying products. The response from the Community was that although unable to accede to this request, all efforts would be pursued to enable Tonga to diversify its economy and to increase its exports.

In the commodities sector, the Council noted the report by the Committee on Commodities (Ministerial level). The one point at issue was the use of vegetable fats other than cocoa butter in the manufacture of chocolate and the concern by the ACP States that the Community legislation in force (directive 73/941) should be maintained as underlined by the conclusion unanimously adopted by the ACP Council on 2 November. The Council of the European Union indicated that the Community's position on this question had not changed and the European Commission confirmed that it had not submitted any new proposal to change the present legislation. The ACP States would be consulted in the event of any proposed modification to the directive.

The Council took note of the work done by the Development Finance Committee (Ministerial level) in the context of financial and technical co-operation and approved :

- the implementation report 1994;
- the joint evaluation report;
- the report on the least developed ACP States;
- the resolution on the implementation of financial and technical cooperation;
- the decision on the revision of the list of least developed ACP States (article 330 of the Convention).

The resolutions adopted by the Joint Assembly at Dakar (30 January - 2 February) and at Brussels (25-29 September) were noted. In this context the Council also agreed as a follow-up to the resolution on Somalia adopted on 28 September to mandate the Committee of Ambassadors to consider all appropriate measures to enable Somalia to take part in the arrangements provided for in the Convention and to report to the next meeting of the Council.

- (iii) Under other business the Council noted interventions by the Mauritian Minister of Agriculture concerning the Sugar protocol and by the representative of Zaïre concerning the restoration of cooperation with those countries suspended from the Convention. The Council also welcomed the invitation of the government of Western Samoa to host the next Council.
- (iv) Several Ministers took part in a wide ranging discussion on subjects such as rehabilitation, debt, South and Southern Africa and Somalia.

2. ACP-EC COMMITTEE OF AMBASSADORS

The Committee of Ambassadors held its 42nd meeting on 16 October 1995 to prepare for the proceedings of the abovementioned meeting of the Council of Ministers.

In accordance with the powers delegated to it by the Council on 4 November 1995, the Committee of Ambassadors agreed on 18 December on the basis of an exchange of letters to the Community's common position on the transitional measures to be adopted with a view to giving effect in advance to certain provisions of the agreement amending the fourth ACP-EC Convention applicable from 1 January 1996.

3. ACP-EC JOINT ASSEMBLY

The Joint Assembly held its 20th meeting in Dakar from 30 January to 2 February 1995. The session concentrated on the mid-term review of the Lomé Convention as well as the situation in Haïti and the humanitarian crisis in Burundi and Rwanda.

The 21st meeting of the Joint Assembly was held in Brussels from 25 to 28 September 1995. The principal themes that came up for discussion were the results of the mid-term review of the Convention relations between the EC and South Africa, the situation in Sudan and the nuclear tests in the Pacific.

The resolutions adopted by the Joint Assembly at these two meetings⁽³⁾ were submitted to the Council of Ministers.

4. CONSULTATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The 19th meeting of representatives of ACP-EU Economic and Social Interest Groups, under the aegis of the Joint Assembly, was held in Brussels on 6-8 December 1995 and discussed the "agri-food chain in the ACP Countries : the role of private initiative and of the economic and social interest groups".

A joint declaration was adopted after these discussions⁽⁴⁾.

(3) O.J. n° C 245, 21.9.95 and n° C 61, 29.2.96.

(4) See Annex I to this report.

III. ACTIVITIES OF THE ACP-EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IN THE VARIOUS AREAS OF COOPERATION

1. TRADE AND CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION

a) Bananas

In the banana sector, for which a common organization of the market has been functioning since 1 July 1993, 1995 saw full implementation of the rules applying the agreement concluded for imports of "third-country and ACP non-traditional" bananas within the framework of the Uruguay Round. Following the accession of the three new Member States, a number of rules were adopted⁽⁵⁾ to allow satisfactory supplies to these markets under the best conditions, no decision having been taken by the Council to increase the tariff quota. In order to simplify the banana import system, the Commission adopted, on 4 April, a proposal for a Council Regulation amending the two Regulations pertaining to the banana sector and fruit and vegetable sector respectively, and amending the Regulation on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff. The proposal provides for simplification of the system for allocating rights to importers; the possibility of a temporary transfer of quantities between ACP States to obtain supplies from other suppliers when, owing to exceptional circumstances, they are not in a position to deliver all or part of their quantities of traditional and non-traditional bananas; the exclusion of dwarf bananas from the scheme applicable to bananas and their inclusion on the same basis as other tropical fruit in the scheme applicable to fruit and vegetables.

Although there was no substantial disagreement on the part of the EU Council on the content of these proposals, it was felt that the opportunity should be used to deal with other aspects of the banana regime. In response to these concerns, the Commission adopted a report on the 11 October concerning the operation of the common organization of the market in bananas. A Commission proposal following the broad lines of the report was subsequently presented to the EU Council on 18 March 1996 and this is still under discussion.

(5) The question of the impact of the new EU Member States on the Community market in bananas was raised at the ACP-EC Council (see p. 5).

In order to help traditional ACP banana suppliers maintain their position on the Community market, an EC Regulation introduced a special assistance system to accommodate changes arising from the new common organization of the banana market in July 1993. The Regulation made provision for two types of assistance : earnings support to supplement Stabex payments (calculated retrospectively), and technical and financial assistance for projects to improve quality and competitiveness. In 1995, earnings support was calculated for 1994. However, no aid was paid out since Stabex payments covered losses in full. A number of projects were launched to take advantage of the ECU 30 million of technical and financial assistance still available.

b) Rum

Agreement was reached at the EU Council on 20 March 1995 on the following measures :

- the discontinuation, as from 1 January 1996, of the quota for ACP light rum ;
- the retention until full liberalization on 1 January 2000 of a tariff quota for ACP "traditional" rum ; this quota will be fixed at 58 000 HPA for 1996, 61 000 HPA for 1997, 64 000 HPA for 1998 and 67 000 HPA for 1999 ;
- the draft Decision authorizing the French Republic to apply a reduced rate of excise duty to "traditional" rum produced in its overseas departments.

The agreement also provided for simultaneous formal adoption of the measures. Such adoption was made possible following the Opinion of the European Parliament of 22 September 1995 concerning the Decision authorizing the French Republic to apply a reduced rate of excise duty.

With regard to the setting of quotas for ACP rum until full liberalization, the EU Council had moreover already agreed on 24 July 1995 to the measures concerning the administration of Community tariff quotas only for the second half of 1995.

As a consequence of this agreement and pursuant to Protocol 6 annexed to the Convention, the EU Council adopted on 30 October 1995

- a Regulation opening and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for rum originating in the ACP States (1996-1999);
- a Decision authorizing the French Republic to apply a reduced rate of the excise duty imposed on the consumption of "traditional" rum produced in its overseas departments (FOD).

2. STABILIZATION OF EXPORT EARNINGS

- a) As far as transfers for the 1994 application year were concerned there was no problem of insufficiency of resources for the first time under Lomé IV. The Commission's report to the ACP-EC Committee of Ambassadors on the 1994 application year shows that the available resources exceeded eligible transfers by some 50 MECU. It may be noted in this connection that in previous years there had been a serious shortfall in the rate of coverage attributable to a sharp drop in coffee and cocoa prices.

The total amount of transfers decided by the Commission for the 1994 application years came to 138 MECU. The 1994 report goes on to indicate that 30 transfers were granted to 26 ACP States on the basis of this decision, with two Caribbean islands being particular beneficiaries, one having suffered a drought, while the other had seen its banana plantations devastated by a hurricane.

Since the Committee of Ambassadors were not required to deal with the issue of insufficiency of resources (Art.194(4) of the Convention) the transfers for the 1994 application year were concluded by written procedure.

The report on the 1994 application year also addresses the question of the balance of 63 MECU remaining in respect of the 1994 year of application and indicates that a proposal for a Commission decision on this subject will be submitted in the near future. It states that "this proposal will be based on Article 195 of the Convention which lays down the procedure to follow for the distribution and payment to the ACP States of an outstanding balance at the end of the period covered by the first Financial Protocol annexed to the Convention".

3. SUGAR

- a) On 22 February the Commission adopted a proposal for a decision to allow Zambia to accede to the Protocol on sugar. Following an agreement in the form of exchange of letters between the EC and the ACP countries concerned the decision was adopted by the EU Council on 22 May.
- b) The Commission's proposal for a regulation to the EU Council concerning the amendment of the sugar COM (see Annual Report 1994 p. 19) was adopted by the EU Council on 24 April. This regulation takes into account the needs of the EU refining industry, especially that of Finland and Portugal, by allowing access to all unrefined sugar on the basis of balance sheets and having regard to certain priorities. In this context, and in conformity with the GATT agreements, it was agreed that the ACP States should be able to supply the sugar needed to make up the difference between the imports of preferential sugar and the needs of the refineries. The European Community's commitment to the sugar protocol was confirmed and the regulation was welcomed by the ACP States in a resolution of the Council of ACP Ministers held in Brussels on 29-30 May 1995.
- c) On the 17th July, the EU Council adopted a decision on the conclusion of agreements with ACP sugar suppliers and India on a special annual preferential import quota for unrefined cane sugar for the period 1 July 1995 to 30 June 2001. The new quota comes on top of the quantities fixed in the sugar protocol and will be set annually on the basis of the Community's refining needs.
- d) Negotiations on the guaranteed prices for the 1994/1995 delivery period were concluded in October 1995. These prices were set at ECU 52.37/100 kg for raw sugar and ECU 64.65/100 kg for white sugar. The agreement was approved by the EU Council on 29 November 1995.

With a view to the establishment of future prices for sugar in a basically depressed market the ACP Secretariat, on behalf of the ACP States signatory to the Sugar Protocol, submitted a memorandum to the Commission outlining the economic factors within the ACP States which it proposed should be taken into account by the EC when setting the range within which ACP guaranteed prices for the 1996/97 delivery period are to be negotiated.

4. CO-OPERATION ON COMMODITIES

The Committee on Commodities held its fourth meeting at ministerial level on the occasion of the Council of Ministers meeting on 3 November 1995 in Mauritius. In its report to the Council of Ministers the Committee noted that the sole item discussed was the use of vegetable fats other than cocoa butter in the manufacture of chocolate and that in this context the ACP States were unanimously in favour of the retention of the current legislation in the European Union, i.e. Directive 73/241/EEC.

The point was also made that the Council of the European Union, which was empowered to amend that legislation, had not up to now received any official proposal for the purpose from the Commission. The European Union confirmed that it would bear in mind contractual obligations under the 1993 International Cocoa Agreement, in particular the provisions of Articles 32 and 33 concerning cocoa consumption and cocoa substitutes.

In response to the ACP side's concern at the initiative by a Commission Directorate-General regarding Directive 73/241/EEC, the Council of the European Union confirmed that the Community's position on this point had not changed and the Commission representative again stated that the Commission had not submitted any new proposals and was continuing to look into the matter⁽⁶⁾. The Community would keep the ACP States informed of developments, when the matter had been considered by the appropriate bodies, and would hold consultations with the ACP States as provided by the Convention.

Realizing that consideration was being given to Directive 73/241/EEC within the Commission, the ACP Group reported the conclusions unanimously adopted by the ACP Council on 2 November 1995, stating that no amendments could be made to that Directive without taking account of the following preconditions :

1. The standard of quality of chocolate should be upheld by guaranteeing the purity of the end product made from cocoa butter by means of appropriate technical methods of detection and quantitative analysis making it possible to determine whether an end product, chocolate, contained cocoa butter only or fats other than cocoa butter in order to distinguish between the descriptions "pure chocolate" and "chocolate containing vegetable fats".

(6) On 17 April 1996 the Commission approved a draft directive to replace the 1973 directive.

2. An easier to read labelling system should be adopted, to enable consumers to be informed of the description and the composition of the ingredients contained in the end product.

In addition, with the aim of safeguarding the commercial interests of shea-producing countries, the ACP Group thought it necessary to promote shea butter at national, regional and international level through the carrying out of appropriate studies and the use of all instruments available under the ACP-EC Convention.

The Council of the European Union took note of the position stated by the ACP Group.

5. DEVELOPMENT FINANCE COOPERATION

a) Implementation in 1995

In 1995 EDF operations showed a decrease in the volume both of decisions and payments compared to the previous year, with decisions reaching 1995 MECU (1994 : 2449 MECU) and payments reaching 1538 MECU (1994 : 1762 MECU). As far as payments are concerned, 1995 followed a record year which was due partly to the resumption of Stabex operations.

Decisions showed a significant but quite normal decrease when compared to the three previous years. The 6th EDF can be seen to be in the final phase of execution, with 96.04 % of decisions and 81.35 % of payments out of the total envelope being attained. With respect to the 7th EDF, if a certain natural slackening in the rate of decisions made was predictable at this stage in the cycle (1995 : 74.09 %; 1994 : 61.68 % of the total envelope); the decrease in the volume of payments from 1321.94 MECU in 1994 to 1275.87 MECU in 1995 is more surprising. This may be attributed to various factors such as the political and economic situation in certain ACP countries (modification or suspension of aid) and the decline in Stabex and emergency aid disbursements. However this diminution also affected traditional projects and programmes, and this phenomenon will have to be examined closely so that remedies can be found that will bear fruit in 1996.

Whereas 1995 saw a high level of payments for Stabex following the record year of 1994, the level of payments under the Sysmin facility was relatively low, but this is expected to pick up in 1995.

As a general comment it may be observed that the financial year 1995 has shown a continuation of the trend already seen in 1994 away from investment projects and towards rapid disbursement aid.

b) Joint Development Finance Committee

This Committee, provided for in Article 325 of the Convention, held its fourth meeting at authorized representative level in Brussels on 10 October 1995.

It also met at ministerial level on 3 November 1995 in Reduit (Mauritius) in the margins of the ACP-EC Council of Ministers to which it submitted a report.

The Council

- took note of the work done by the Development Finance Cooperation Committee and of the following points contained in the report submitted by the Committee :
 - . the performance of the Third and Fourth Convention in the various sectors of financial and technical cooperation (Under Lomé IV 80 % of the national allocation had been assigned to about 20 countries);
 - . the progress on joint evaluations in the areas of urban development, mining sector and SYSMIN operations, CTA operations and regional programmes in West Africa.
 - . the report on the revision of the list of least developed ACP States in Article 330 of the Convention in line with the resolution adopted by the ACP-EC Council in Mbabane in May 1994.
- adopted the reports submitted by the Committee on 1994 implementation of financial and technical cooperation, joint evaluation and the revision of the list of least developed ACP States as well as the resolution on the 1994 implementation of financial and technical cooperation;
- adopted a decision⁽⁷⁾ on the update of the list in Article 330 (I) of least developed ACP States. A joint declaration concerning those countries graduating from the list was entered in the Council minutes.

(7) O.J. L 327 of 30.12.95, p. 31.

c) EIB activities in the ACP States

EIB operations under the Lomé Convention (loans from own resources together with an interest subsidy financed by the EDF, and operations involving risk capital from EDF resources) attained ECU 430 million. The year was marked by a consolidation of the level of activity achieved in 1994 which represented a twofold increase compared to the previous year. Disbursements totalled ECU 250 million during this period.

From its own resources the Bank concluded new loans totalling over ECU 203 million (with interest subsidies) in 1995 and disbursed nearly ECU 140 million.

From the risk capital which it manages on behalf of the Community, commitments last year reached ECU 224 million (compared with ECU 236 million in 1994), while transfers amounted to ECU 111 million.

At the end of 1995 commitments represented 87 % and 80 % of the total foreseen under Lomé III and IV respectively and payments amounted to 80 % and 30 % respectively of the two Conventions.

New EIB loans were granted in 1995 to 30 ACP States. The principal beneficiaries of the Bank's interventions were infrastructure and the industrial sector, including small and medium size enterprises, representing respectively 43 % and 32 % of all operations. A slight decline was noted in the energy sector which covered 25 % of operations.

The rebalancing between various geographical areas started in 1994 continued, with a marked increase in assistance to West Africa and Central Africa (ECU 130 million). In Southern Africa, financing amounted to ECU 125 million. Significant amounts were also granted to the Caribbean, including Haiti for the first time, (ECU 61 million) and the Pacific (ECU 54 million).

6. INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION

In 1995 the joint bodies responsible for ACP-EC industrial co-operation continued their task of helping to achieve the ACP State's industrial development objectives, in such a way as to improve this form of cooperation and assist the industrial development of the ACP States⁽⁸⁾. They reviewed the progress of industrial co-operation and the development of industrial policy in the ACP States.

In the Course of 1995 the Committee on Industrial Co-operation adopted the following Decisions:

- Decision No 1/95 of 20 April 1995 on the appointment of members of the executive board of the Centre for the Development of industry
- Decision No 2/95 of 28 April 1995 on the appointment of the director and the deputy director of the Centre for the Development of industry
- Decision No 3/95 of 28 April 1995 of the appointment of a member of the executive board of the Centre for the Development of industry
- Decision No 4/95 of 24 October 1995 on the adjustment of the remuneration and the tax brackets not laid down in the conditions of employment of the staff of the Centre for the Development of industry
- Decision No 5/95 of 20 December 1995 approving the budget of the Centre for the Development of industry (1995)

(8) An overview of the CDI's activities in 1995 will be found in Annex II.

7. AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL COOPERATION

In 1995 the joint institutions and bodies responsible for ACP-EC agricultural and rural cooperation continued their work concerning agriculture, livestock breeding, fisheries and forestry. Their work was aimed in particular at the continued and systematic promotion of the viable and sustainable development of the ACP States and support for their efforts to increase their degree of food self-sufficiency and food security while guaranteeing the rural population levels of income that would enable their standard of living to be significantly improved. ⁽⁹⁾

In the course of 1995 the ACP-EC Committee of Ambassadors adopted the following Decisions:

- Decision No 1/95 of 28 April 1995 on the appointment of the director of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation
- Decision No 2/95 of 22 December 1995 adopting the budget of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation (1996)

In 1995 the ACP-EC Sub-committee for Co-operation on Agriculture and Rural Development adopted the following Decisions:

- Decision No 1/95 of 6 March 1995 concerning approval of the roles of procedure applicable to staff of the TCA
- Decision No 2/95 of 22 December 1995 giving a discharge to the director of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation in respect of the implementation of the Centre's budget for the financial year 1993
- Decision No 3/95 of 22 December 1995 concerning the adjustment of the remuneration and the tax brackets laid down in the conditions of employment of the staff of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation

(9) An overview of the TCAs activities in 1995 will be found in Annex III.

8. RELATIONS WITH SOUTHERN AFRICA

1. SOUTH AFRICA

Following up upon the request presented by South Africa in November 1994 to the EU to open negotiations with a view to establishing the closest possible relationship with the Lomé Convention, the Commission presented to the EU Council in March 1995 a proposal for a negotiating directive. This proposal was based on a dual approach, on one side authorising the Commission to negotiate an Agreement for Trade and Cooperation between the European Community and the Republic of South Africa and on the other side to negotiate a Protocol to the Lomé Convention covering the terms and conditions of the South African accession to the Convention.

On 19 June 1995, the EU Council adopted the negotiating directives both for the Trade and Cooperation Agreement and the Protocol. The directives for the Trade and Cooperation Agreement did however charge the Commission to establish whether South Africa was prepared to initiate a process leading to progressive and reciprocal liberalization of trade with a view to establishing a free trade area with the EU.

The Commission started technical negotiations with South Africa on 30 June 1995 and on the basis of information gathered during several rounds of negotiation and the positive attitude from the South African side concerning the establishment of a free trade area, the Commission presented a supplementary draft negotiating mandate to the EU Council on 26 October 1995, concerning the trade aspects of the negotiations. After detailed examination the EU Council adopted this proposal on 25 March 1996.

It may be recalled that South Africa was invited to be present as an observer at both the Joint Assembly in Brussels in September 25-28 and the ACP-EC Council in Mauritius on November 3-4 and that the EU-South African negotiations were discussed on both occasions.

In the meantime the European Programme for Reconstruction and Development (EPRD) in South Africa continues. In response to a declaration adopted by the EU Development Council in November 1994, the Commission on 12 May 1995 presented a proposal for a Council Regulation on development cooperation with South Africa. The aim of the proposal is to create a legal framework for implementing financial, technical and economic cooperation with South Africa through the EPRD. The EU Council adopted a Common Position on 20 December and the proposal is now submitted to the European Parliament under the cooperation procedure.

2. EU/SADC

As a follow up to the Berlin Conference held in September 1994 (cf. Aperçu 1994, page), it had been decided to create a High Level Working Group of officials from the EU and SADC sides. This Working Group met in Malawi on 5 February 1995 immediately after the SADC Consultative Conference. The Group had an exchange of views on the political dialogue foreseen in the Berlin declaration as well as on other themes concerning regional integration and development and the Conference on Illicit Drugs Trafficking to be held in South Africa on 30 October - 2 November. Finally the Group decided to continue the discussion on the institutional follow-up to be prepared following the Berlin Conference in a restricted group made up of the Troika from the EU side and South Africa, Namibia and Zambia from the SADC side. This restricted Group met in Paris on 16 June 1995 where the so-called "Paris non-paper" was drafted. This paper set out the procedures for the meetings of the High Level Working Group and the Ministerial sessions. This was adopted by the High Level Working Group at its meeting on the 18-19 December 1995 in Madrid which also dealt with the themes of drugs (conclusion of the EU/SADC Conference), mine clearance and regional integration. It was finally agreed that a Joint Steering Committee should be held in the first half of 1996 with a senior officials meeting and possibly a ministerial meeting at a subsequent date.

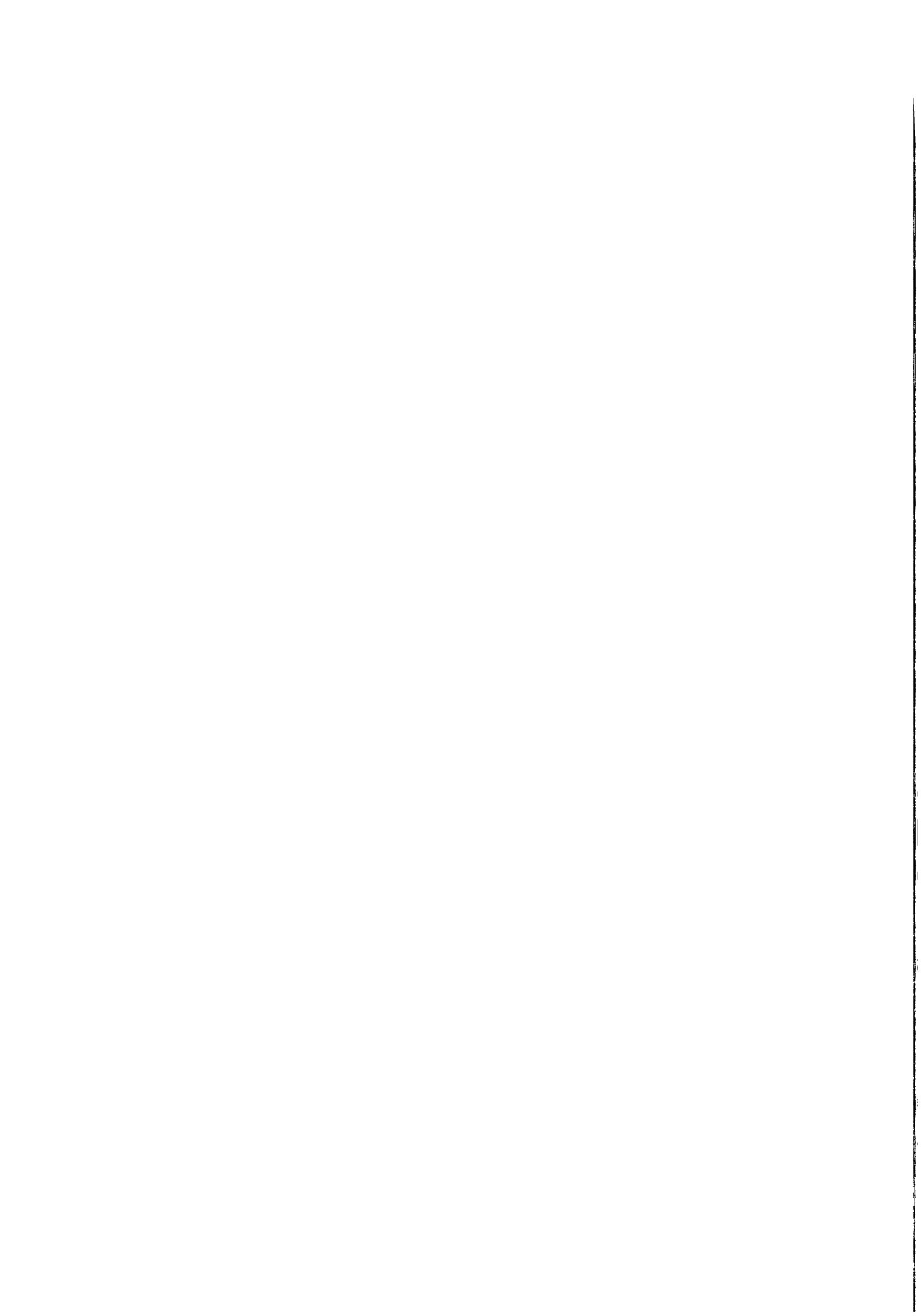
IV. MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE FOURTH ACP-EC CONVENTION

As the result of the breakthrough at the European Council in Cannes on 26 and 27 June on the financing of the 8th EDF the final ministerial negotiating session took place in Brussels on 30 June. The 8th EDF was fixed at 13,307 MECU for the period of the 2nd financial protocol of the fourth Lomé Convention. If the EIB loans are included the total amount of Community financial aid comes to 14,625 MECU for this period.

The agreement amending the fourth Lomé Convention together with the second Financial Protocol was signed in Mauritius on 4 November 1995 on the occasion of the 20th ACP-EC Council.

In addition to the new Financial Protocol, this agreement contained various innovations :

- the reinforcement of the political and institutional aspect of the Convention, in particular through the affirmation of democratic principles and the rule of law to be considered as "essential elements" of the Convention; the introduction of a clause for the total or partial suspension of cooperation after due consultation in the case of non respect for one of these essential elements, unless there is a special urgency, as well as the extension of dialogue between the parties to cover problems of a political nature and seeking a greater democratic representativeness in the ACP-EC Joint Assembly;
- recognition by the two parties that trade development is at the heart of ACP-EC Cooperation. The agreement also provides for greater access for ACP farm produce to the Community market as well as certain modifications of the rules of origin.
- adopting the Conventions' instruments with a view to achieving greater efficiency and coherence, in particular by making the procedures for programming aid more flexible; taking into account the principles and priorities of Community policy in the sphere of development cooperation in ACP-EC dialogue; improvements in the method of structural adjustment support and emphasizing the development of decentralized cooperation and the promotion of the private sector.



V. ENLARGEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

A vital step concerning the relationship of the three new Member States of the European Union to the Lomé Convention was taken on 4 November on the occasion of the ACP-EC Council by the signing by the contracting parties to the Convention of the Protocol on the accession to the Convention of Austria, Finland and Sweden, following the enlargement of the EU on 1 January 1995. The Council also adopted a decision ⁽¹⁰⁾ on the provisional application of the Protocol pending the coming into force of the Protocol, which is being ratified simultaneously with the Convention. In this way any discontinuity in the relations of the ACP States and the new Member States of the EU may be avoided.

(10) Decision 4/95 of the ACP-EC Council of Ministers O.J. L 317, 30.12.95



**19th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF
ACP/EU ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

**The agri-food chain in the ACP countries -
the role of private initiative and of the economic and social interest groups**

**The representatives of the economic and social interest groups
of the ACP States and of the European Union,
meeting at the Economic and Social Committee, Brussels,
on 7 and 8 December 1995,
under the auspices of the ACP/EU Joint Assembly
adopted the following**

FINAL DECLARATION

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 8 December 1995



1. The representatives of the ACP/EU economic and social interest groups, at their 19th annual meeting on 7 and 8 December 1995 in Brussels, welcome the contents of the two introductory documents on the agri-food chain in the ACP countries and the role of private initiative and of the economic and social interest groups (CES 489/95 fin and DI 63/95 fin), which provided a basis for discussion.

2. From the start, the participants stress the role played by **small producers**, in conjunction with women and with farmers' associations and cooperatives, in ensuring food self-sufficiency and food security in the ACP countries, as well as the importance of supporting their action. Here they call for land ownership reform taking account of women's right to own land.

3. The participants note that **farmers' cooperatives and organizations** have historically played a leading role in championing and protecting producers' interests and they stress the need to strengthen these institutions further in line with initiatives such as the IFAP Worldwide Action for the Strengthening of Farmers' Organizations. However, these efforts must be supported by governments through policies that enhance autonomy of these organizations and, in the case of rural associations of workers and self-employed, in compliance with the ILO Convention on Rural Workers' Organizations (No. 141, 1975), which recognizes the right of workers and the self-employed to set up **independent associations** without prior authorization and free of outside interference or coercion.

4. The representatives are convinced that to be successful the transformation of a peasant agricultural sector requires a far more sophisticated network of services (e.g. research, storage, roads and transport facilities, marketing infrastructures, credit, inputs and other physical facilitating factors) which is at once more diversified, decentralized and entrepreneurially intensive than that generally required in the modern sector. In rural or peripheral urban areas where poverty is rife, the aim must be to finance or reactivate joint initiatives and service activities by local economic and social interest groups, in such areas as primary health care, primary education, training, irrigation and water supply, the small business sector, local industries and transport.

5. The participants recognize that the practice of **dumping** constitutes a grave threat to ACP efforts to improve agricultural production, marketing and the efficiency of the agri-food chain by bankrupting agricultural enterprises and causing job loss. Therefore they recommend the setting-up of a data bank of incidents of dumping by product and by ACP State so that trend analyses can be determined. They also recommend the establishment of a pool of experts on which ACP States could

.../...

draw to assemble evidence on dumping to the point where countervailing actions can be instituted in accordance with the provisions of the World Trade Organization and assistance in institution building in ACP States, e.g. Bureau of Standards and Labelling, so as to eliminate the incidence of unfair trading.

6. In many ACP countries, the private sector is very limited both in operation and capital. Where it has been facilitated, manufacturing enterprises have become dynamic and have increasingly entered into the small- and medium-scale processing sector. The participants stress the need that this process must be underpinned by a series of positive measures such as: a) a credit system with reduced transaction costs, b) local facilities providing advice and disseminating information on international and domestic market, technology, cooperation opportunities and c) decentralized technical and managerial training bodies, to provide training and in-service training for male and female workers and would-be small entrepreneurs. This process could also be furthered by encouraging small businessmen to join forces and set up service undertakings. These might take the form of cooperatives or of joint public/private enterprises.

7. The participants are convinced that European small- and medium-sized enterprises could play an effective role in the implementation of development programmes and boost the socio-economic advancement of ACP communities by passing on their organizational and business know-how.

8. It is underlined that food security, poverty alleviation and social security are important objectives in many ACP countries, especially in Africa, where low income food deficit countries predominate. Cooperation initiatives must seek to boost agricultural production systems and to strengthen the food chain, in order both to meet a larger proportion of ACP food needs and cut back expensive imports and to increase exports, thereby bringing in more foreign currency and making it possible to acquire supplies on the world market without incurring further debt.

9. The participants urge that agriculture will have to play a greater role in development processes. The emphasis should be on local processing of traditional products for the export market, because these products, when of high quality, are more profitable if they are exported after undergoing one or more processing stages, since the long-term world-price trend for unprocessed products has been downward.

.../...

10. The ACP countries, in varying degrees, know the value of joint cooperation, but until this is achieved in practice very little influence can be brought to bear on the global food chain. Therefore the participants ask the concerned governments to make it an absolute priority to reach agreements on regional and international economic cooperation. They stress the need for cooperation policy to offer pragmatic assistance at each link in the food chain.

11. Local people must be given a role in the shaping and implementation of decisions, and in the adaptation of suitable techniques and organizational arrangements to their managerial capacity. The aim should be to extend markets and increase the diversity of occupational and social groups.

12. Bearing in mind that, in the past, development cooperation has often financed large-scale projects which have had unsatisfactory results, it might be helpful to devise alternative mechanisms for channelling funds into smaller initiatives of more immediate benefit to decentralized private players. The Lomé Convention already includes provision for promoting cooperation with the private sector and economic and social interest groups, under the heading of "decentralized cooperation". Generally speaking, the participants recognize the major function served by decentralized cooperation in the development of the ACP countries; however, they cannot fail to observe that the approach followed to date does not allow economic and social interest groups to play a sufficiently effective or decisive role.

13. Recalling previous Final Declarations the representatives of the economic and social interest groups urge the European Commission to instruct and equip its Delegations in order to facilitate the effective implementation of decentralized cooperation. To foster the development and mobilization of initiatives by all those working in the field, the mechanisms for access to decentralized cooperation must be sufficiently straightforward and clear cut to allow ACP economic and social players to implement their projects in a pragmatic fashion, tailored to their resources.

14. They reiterate their demand that national liaison committees should be set up, consisting of representatives of the economic and social interest groups, and a representative of government and the Commission delegation, to maintain effective contact between the Commission and economic and social bodies as part of the development cooperation drive and to make programmes more transparent.

.../...

15. The participants express appreciation for the role played by the Follow-up Committee and ask this Committee to review the format and timing of the Annual Meeting of the representatives of the ACP/EU economic and social interest groups. This review should take place early in 1996 so that any changes can be implemented at the 20th Annual Meeting.

16. Lastly, they recall that development depends on peace, social stability and the elimination of corruption; they therefore call on the ACP States to guarantee responsible and transparent government, public participation and respect for human rights and rights of association in the framework of international conventions.

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THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE 19TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ACP/EU ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INTEREST GROUPS AGREE THAT THE PRESENT FINAL DECLARATION SHOULD BE SENT, FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION, TO THE ACP/EU JOINT ASSEMBLY, TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, TO THE ACP AND EU COUNCILS, TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND TO THE COMMISSION'S DELEGATES IN THE ACP STATES.

ANNEX II

CDI

1995 ANNUAL REPORT

SUMMARY AND RESULTS OF ACTIVITIES

N.B. The complete text of the Report exists in English and French

FIGURES AT A GLANCE

	1994	1995
Requests and Interventions		
Requests	575	1,248
Total number of active interventions during the year (including those carried over from previous year)	229	367
N° of interventions started during the year	143	284
Value (current year budget only) of interventions started in current year (in '000s ECU)		
Total contract value	5,933 (100%)	8,511 (100%)
CDI share	2,565 (43%)	4,088 (48%)
Co-financing share	1,086 (18%)	1,392 (16%)
Partners share (ACP + EU)	2,282 (39%)	3,031 (36%)
Industrial fora and workshops		
Number organised or co-sponsored	8	12
ACP companies assisted	169	317
EU companies assisted	94	171
Consultants contracted for active interventions (including those carried over from previous year)		
Number engaged ACP (including antennae)	107	160
Number engaged EU	187	261
Value - ACP (in '000s ECU)	1,242	2,097
Value - EU (in '000s ECU)	3,547	5,516
Annual statement of expenditure		
Total subvention (European Development Fund) (millions of ECU)	13,42	10,76
of which:		
Staff costs	6,13	6,22
Operation costs	1,94	1,86
Interventions	5,35	8,68

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FOR 1995

The CDI's activities can be summarised under 4 main headings:

1. the requests for assistance and their evaluation;
2. the companies and projects supported;
3. the interventions in support of these projects;
4. other activities and services including the development of its networks in the ACP and EU countries.

1. THE REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE AND THEIR EVALUATION

The total number of requests received in 1995 amounted to 1,248 up from 575 in 1994, an increase of 117% from one year to the other. Currently, 66% of all requests come from the ACP sponsors or the network of CDI contacts in ACP countries; the rest originate from the CDI's EU network or its own initiatives. The share of requests regionally varies depending on the size of the respective regions, with the exception of Central Africa which, though improved from 1994 to 1995, still lags behind other African regions due to the difficult conditions in some of its member States.

Over 400 of the requests received in 1995 were approved for intervention, after evaluation. Selectivity has to be high in view of the tight operational budget situation.

2. THE ENTERPRISES AND PROJECTS SUPPORTED

The total number of ACP enterprises or projects which received intervention assistance from the CDI in 1995 was 286, up by 49% from the 1994 number of 192 and by 86% from the 1993 number of 154 (see Table 1).

Year	1995	1994	% of change on 1994	1993	% of change on 1993
Number	286	192	49%	154	86%

Table 1

DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS DEPENDING ON THE NATURE OF COMPANIES' EQUITY

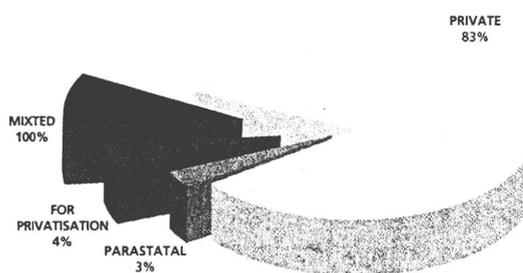


Figure 1

GÉOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

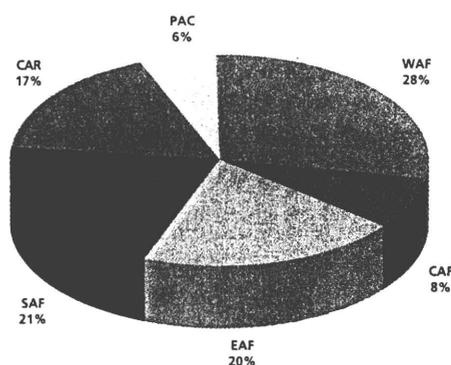


Figure 2

It is interesting to note the main characteristics of the enterprises that benefitted from the CDI's interventions during the year, as follows:

- predominantly from the private (83%) or mixed (10%) sectors with only 7% being State owned, of which 4% were candidates for privatisation (see figure 2);
- predominantly new (33%) or expansion (37%) projects with only 30% of projects requiring rehabilitation or consolidation;
- divided equally between projects involving an ACP/EU form of partnership (full joint venture, marketing, technical) and those not involving any form of partnership;
- amongst those involving partnerships, heavily biased towards full equity joint venture partnerships with 66% versus 34% involving other forms of partnerships;
- predominantly originating from West Africa (28%) and Southern Africa (21%) totalling 49%, with East Africa (20%), the Caribbean (17%), Central Africa (8%) and the Pacific (6%) making up the remaining 51% (see figure 1);
- for each project an average of 1.3 specific interventions were carried out;
- predominantly in the agro-industrial (41%), construction materials including wood and metal (34%) and textiles and clothing (9%) sectors, with all other sectors representing together only 16% of projects assisted (see figure 3);
- overwhelmingly in the SMI size with over 90% of the projects being in the range of investment below ECU 500,000 (30%) and ECU 500,000 to 2 million (64%) (see figure 4).

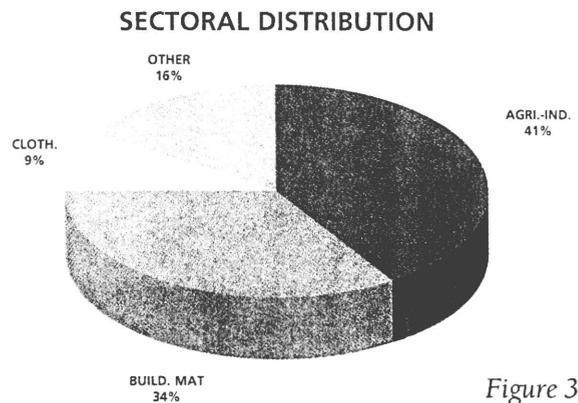


Figure 3

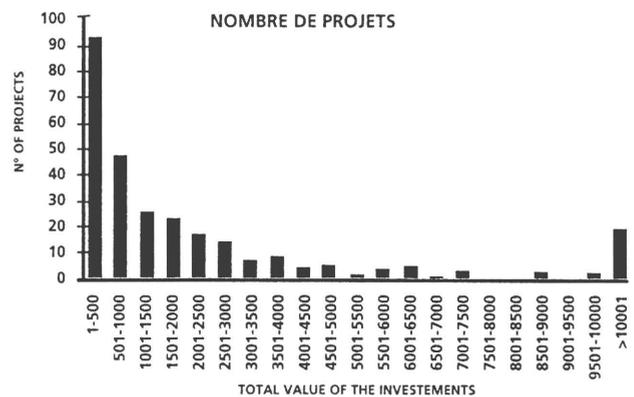


Figure 4

3. THE INTERVENTIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE PROJECTS

The total number of major interventions in support of projects grew in 1995 by 60% from 229 in 1994 to 367 in 1995. The change from 1993 amounted to 177, up from 190, a 93% increase between 1993 and 1995. The interventions were concentrated mainly on direct assistance to projects (49%) in terms of training, technical and start-up assistance and marketing assistance, as well as on studies (including diagnostics, expertise

Table 2

Number of major interventions in favour of enterprises					
	1993	1994	% change on 1993	1995	% change on 1993
Total of active interventions	190	229	+21%	367	+93%
Interventions completed during the year	104	146	+40%	227	+118%
Interventions not yet completed at end of year	86	83	-3%	140	+63%

on equipment, partial or market studies and full feasibility studies) which accounted for 38% of interventions. The remaining interventions represented assistance for first contact between partners and pilot project assistance.

4. THE CDI'S OTHER ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT OF ACP AND EU NETWORKS

4.1 MEETINGS, SEMINARS AND FORA

Amongst the other activities conducted and services provided by the CDI, the main ones concerned the preparation and implementation of ACP-EU Industrial Partnership Meetings organised by the CDI and Fora organised by the European Commission with the CDI's collaboration.

The CDI organised or co-sponsored 10 ACP-EU Industrial Partnership Meetings or Seminars, and collaborated with the European Commission for the organisation and implementation of the "Mat Construct 95" Forum in Central Africa and the "Agro Ind 95" Forum in West Africa. A total of 317 ACP promoters received assistance from the CDI to participate in these meetings, while the number of EU partners assisted was 171.

4.2 THE ACP AND EU NETWORKS

The CDI further extended its network of contacts in ACP countries with 93 antennae, correspondents and specialised consultants actively collaborating with the CDI for the promotion of its services and the screening and preparation of requests to the CDI. A new decentralised unit for private sector project assistance started full operation in Trinidad and Tobago in the first semester of 1995.

Another such unit was formed and located in Côte d'Ivoire in the last quarter of the year. The CDI utilised the services of some 160 ACP consultants (including its antennae) during the year.

By the end of 1995, the EU network comprised 32 national and regional institutions which had signed cooperation agreements. 20 other institutions in EU Member States are active members of the network although they have not yet signed a co-operation agreement with the CDI. Additionally, during the year, new co-operation agreements were signed with the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with FINNFUND, and draft co-operation agreements with the Chamber of Commerce of Austria, the Swedish SIDA and SWEDFUND were approved for signature in 1996. The CDI also utilised the services of 261 EU consultants during the year, including the 12 associate consultants who are its main sectoral specialised advisers.

A drive to increase the number of consultants registered with the CDI was launched in 1995 with the result that 690 EU and 530 ACP consultants are now listed in its database.

The CDI's links with Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) were clearly evidenced by the fact that out of 43 projects assisted for investment promotion during 1995, there were 37 co-ordinated with, or geared for mobilisation of investment funding from specific EU or international finance institutions.

4.3 THE CDI PUBLICATIONS

The CDI publications produced or available at the end of 1995 numbered 16 ranging from the "Technology" series (7), the "Contracts and Partnerships" series (2), "Tax and Business" (1) "Project Evaluation and Financing" (3), to "Export Development and Sectoral Guides" (3). These are now distributed through a network of official distributors in the EU and through the CDI antennae and correspondents in the ACP countries.



SUMMARY OF CTA's ACTIVITIES IN 1995
--

During 1995, CTA witnessed two significant events. First, the joint ACP-EU External Evaluation of CTA which began in 1994, was presented to CTA in June 1995. It emphasized that "the considerations that led to the decision by the ACP and EU Communities of nations to establish a joint information management institution, CTA, were even more relevant in 1994 than they were when the decision was made to establish the Centre in 1979". Furthermore, while warmly applauding CTA's activities, the report recommended that it was time for the Centre to move from its current annual planning to a mid-term strategic planning process. This should reflect the evolving needs of ACP partners.

Subsequent to this was a consultative seminar bringing together CTA's partners in ACP and EU states to review 10 years of cooperation and provide guidelines for the future; the specific theme being the changing role of information in agricultural and rural development.

These two major events will influence the way CTA operates in future in the programming of its activities and the emphasis it will place on strengthening partnerships, monitoring evolving capacities of ACP partners in managing information, and assessing effectiveness and impact of its operations.

This summary report presents the various activities which were carried out in 1995, classified according to the four specific objectives of CTA:

Specific Objective No. 1 : Promoting contact and exchange of experience

In pursuance of this objective the Centre organised a few international and regional seminars and collaborated with other institutes to fund joint workshops. Furthermore sponsorship was granted to 184 ACP participants to enable them to attend 56 meetings. A study visit was also organised in Zimbabwe from 13-23 November for the benefit of 25 ACP agricultural extension experts.

Specific Objective No. 2: Providing Agricultural Information on request

Activities undertaken to achieve this objective are the publishing activities of CTA, including *Spore*, the Question/Answer Service (QAS) and the Selective Dissemination of Information Service (SDI) to agricultural research.

During the year 40 new books and manuals were published, which included three co-publications with ACP publishers and seven new titles in the *Tropical Agriculturist/Le Technicien*

d'agriculture tropicale series. *Spore*, CTA's own bi-monthly news bulletin has appeared regularly and has a combined readership of over 50,000 in English, French and Portuguese. The number of books distributed rose to 72,800, 10% higher than in 1994; 89% of these were sent to ACP countries.

The QAS has contracts with several European information services for the supply of documents and advisory services arising from the 995 requests received by CTA in 1995.

CTA's Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) service in 1995 focused directly on research programmes (643) rather than on individual researchers (297) thus enabling the service to be shared among many more users. With a view to assisting ACP centres to develop their own capacities in managing their own SDI service, initial contacts have been made with the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), the South Pacific Commission (SPC) and some national centres in Africa.

Specific Objective No. 3 : Strengthening Agricultural Information and Documentation Services

The main activities in this area are training in scientific and technical writing and in information management; supply of reference books and CD-ROM abstracts and examining the potential of utilising radio and electronic networks for strengthening communications.

Training courses in scientific and technical writing were held in West Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. A course in the production of agricultural extension materials was held in Ghana. In agricultural information management the focus of training was in training trainers. Two such courses were held, one for English-speaking and the other for French-speaking states. A training course in the use of CD-ROM was held in Nairobi.

CD-ROMs and reference books in agriculture have been supplied on a continuing basis. CTA financed a study on the potential of installing e-mail facilities in agricultural research centres in East Africa. The programme launched by CTA in 1990 to support radio broadcasters with information resource packs was reviewed at a meeting in 1995 in Ouagadougou. A directory of rural radio stations "Radio at the service of the Rural World in ACP countries" was published in 1995; it contains over 400 entries of rural radio producers, journalists and broadcasters.

Specific Objective No. 4 : Developing appropriate strategies for improving the effectiveness of providing information to the ACP States

The activities relating to the definition of the agricultural information needs of the 6 ACP regions were continued. The national studies and regional overviews indicated that the strengthening of national agricultural information systems is essential. CTA therefore assisted the regional organisations in the formulation of regional programmes containing specific integrated agricultural information projects which will facilitate the flow of information by providing equipment, training in information management, and by promoting resource sharing between information specialists, researchers and extension services.

In 1995 the following events took place:

West Africa

- . The project document for the strengthening of information centres to facilitate the flow of agricultural information has been submitted for funding by ECOWAS.

Central Africa

- . The project document is being drawn up following a consultation meeting attended by agricultural and rural development experts and policy makers of the region. The CEEAC (Communauté Economique des Etats d'Afrique Centrale) and UDEAC (Union Douanière et Economique de l'Afrique Centrale) will coordinate the programme and submit it for funding to donor agencies.

East Africa

- . A proposal drawn up by consultants was discussed at a meeting in December in Nairobi. Further work is in progress to refine the programme for its submission in 1996 to donor agencies by the two regional bodies: Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (ASARECA) and the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC).

Southern Africa

- . The proposal for the programme for Southern Africa was discussed at a consultative meeting held in Mbabane, Swaziland in April. The Southern African Development Community (SADC) has assumed the responsibility of refining the project ready for submission to donors for funding.

Caribbean

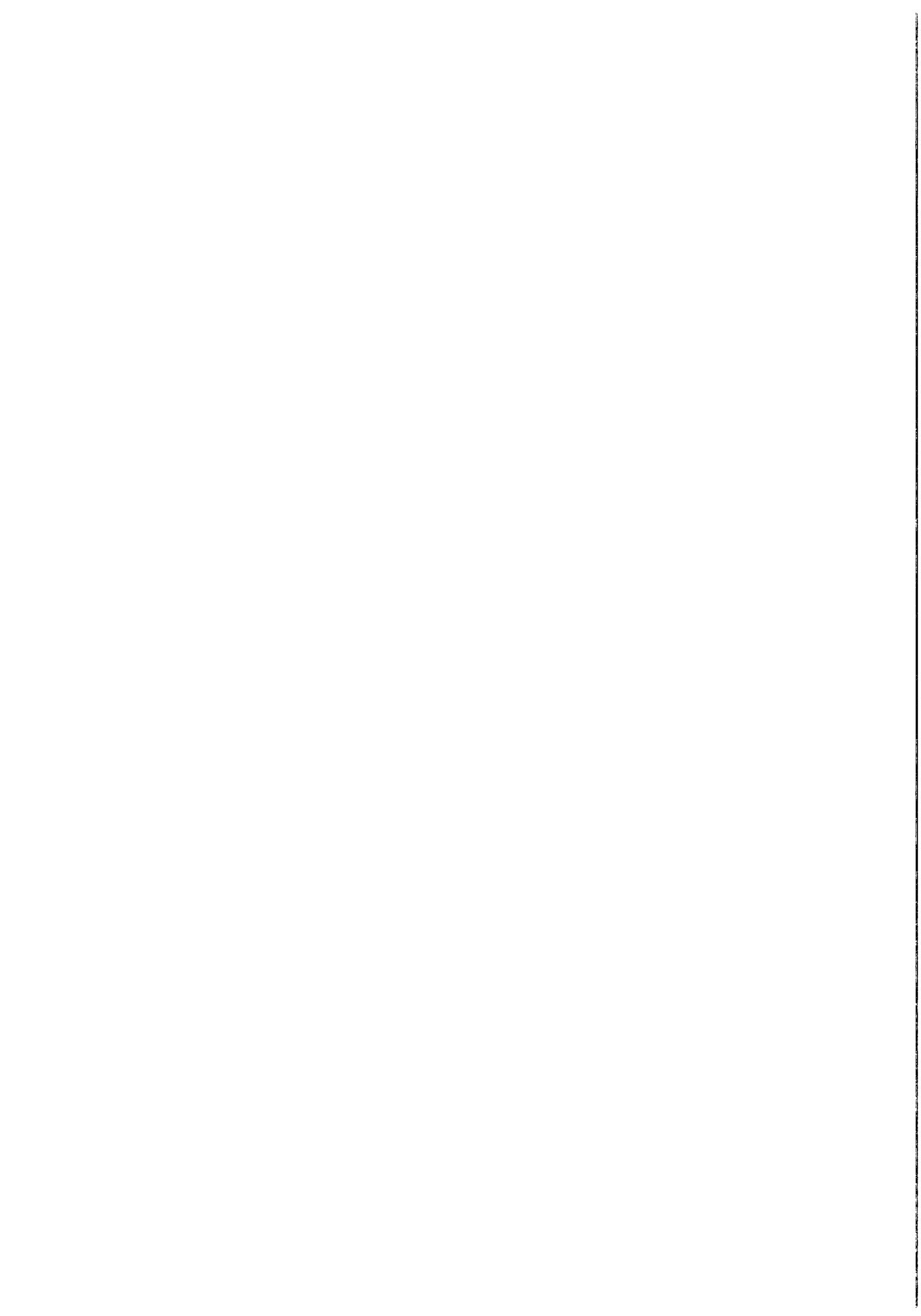
- . The regional body CARDI has with CTA's assistance carried out country monographs and a regional overview, the results of which will be submitted at a regional meeting in 1996. As in other ACP regions, the objective is to prepare a proposal for an integrated information programme.

Pacific

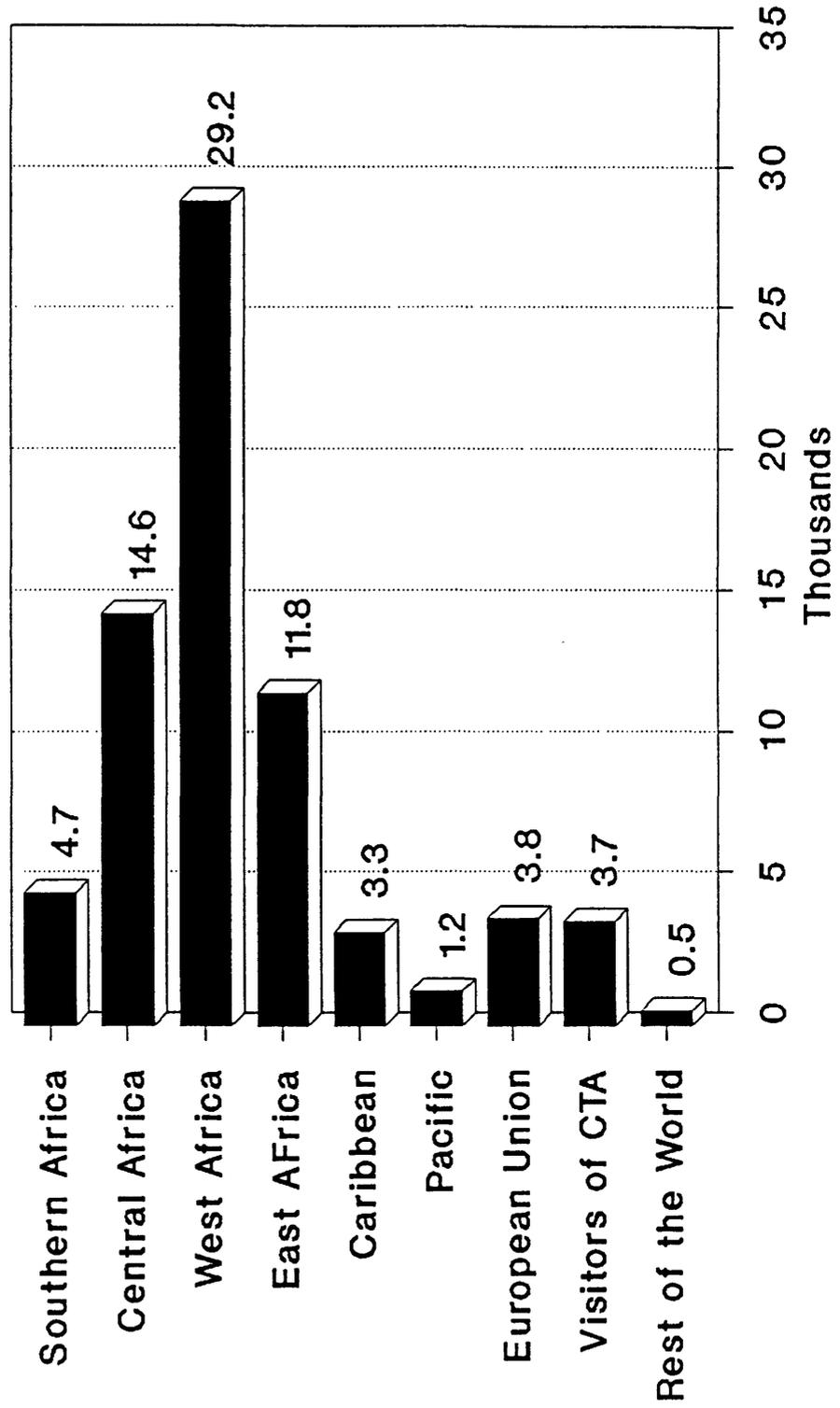
- . The Institute for Research Extension and Training in Agriculture (IRETA) is the coordinating agency operating in the Pacific. Its Regional Board of Management (RBM) met in November to review the activities that CTA undertook in the region and those planned for 1996. It also approved the conduct of an evaluation study of the Agricultural Liaison Officers network with a view to strengthening the agricultural information services of individual countries and to develop a more effective system of information management.

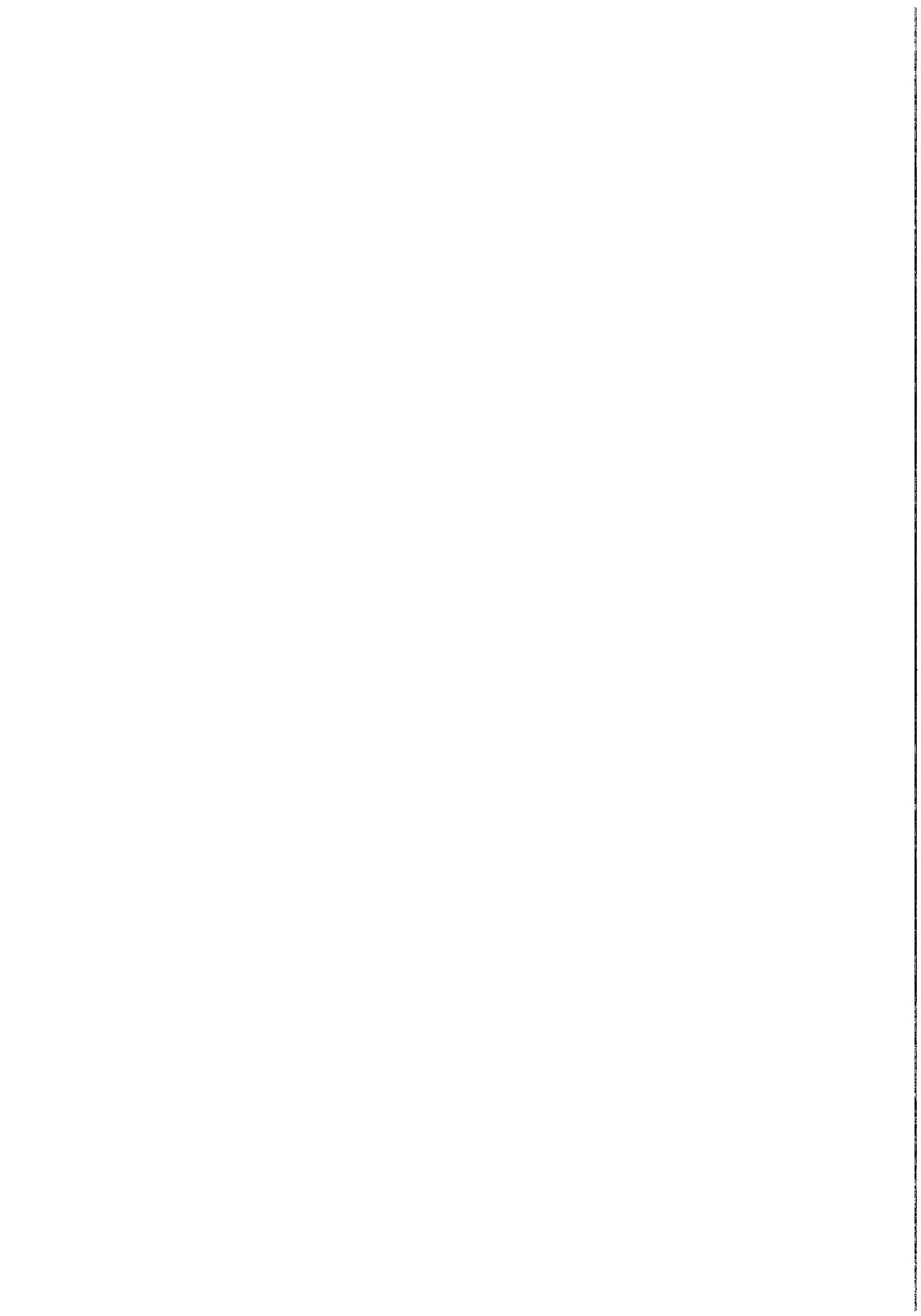
ANNEX 1

CTA SEMINARS HELD IN 1995						
<u>Participants</u>						
TITLE	VENUE	ACP	EU	Int.	Other	Total
Livestock policies for the Caribbean	Port of Spain Trinidad	65	1	3	1	70
The role of information in the rural development of ACP countries	Montpellier, France	31	24	8	12	75
Workshop on Management training for research directors	Suva, Fiji	8	-	-	-	8
Insect pest control for small-holders: integrating biological control and host plant resistance breeding	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	34	5	7	1	47
Farmer strategies for market orientation in ACP agriculture	Dublin, Ireland	25	15	7	1	48

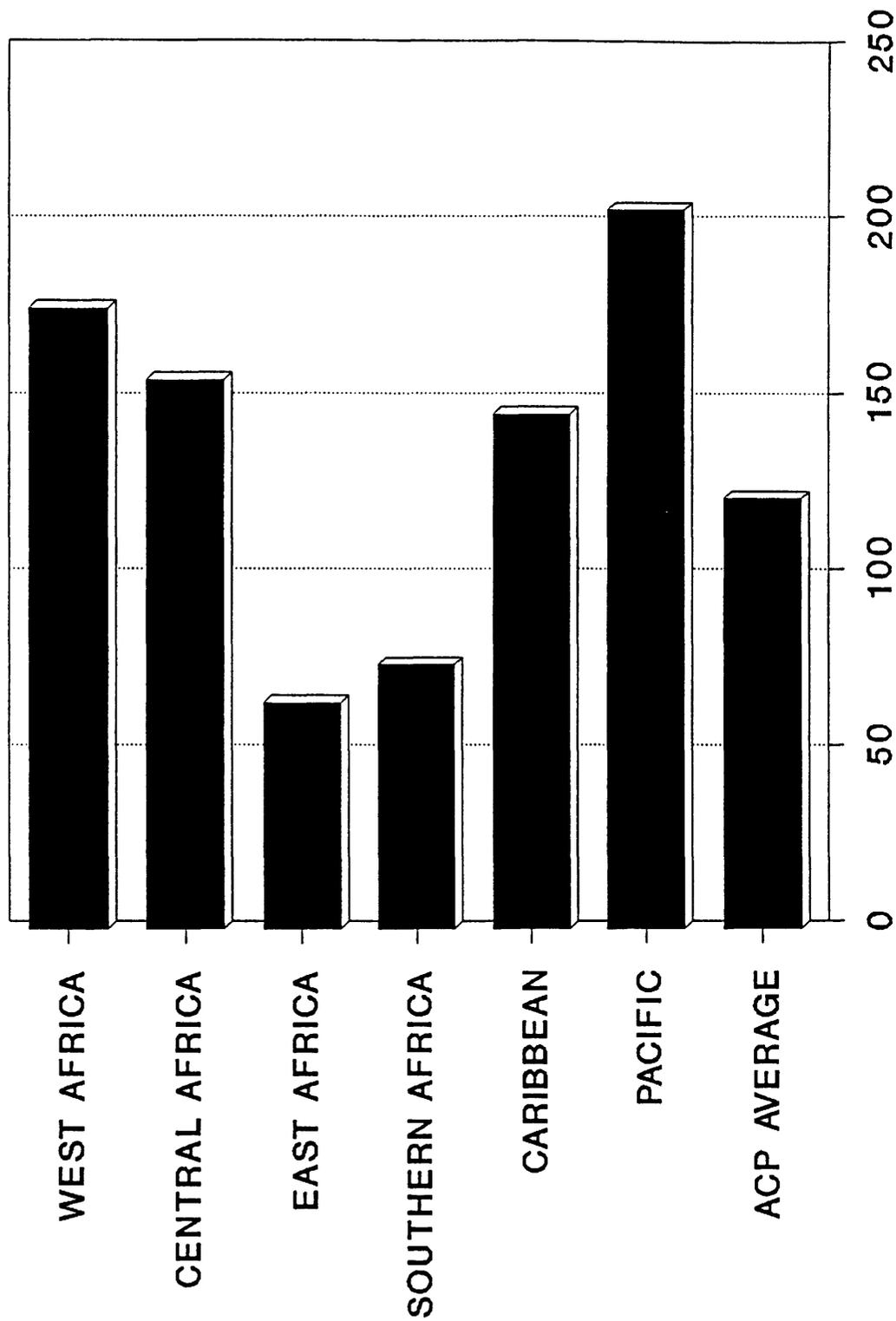


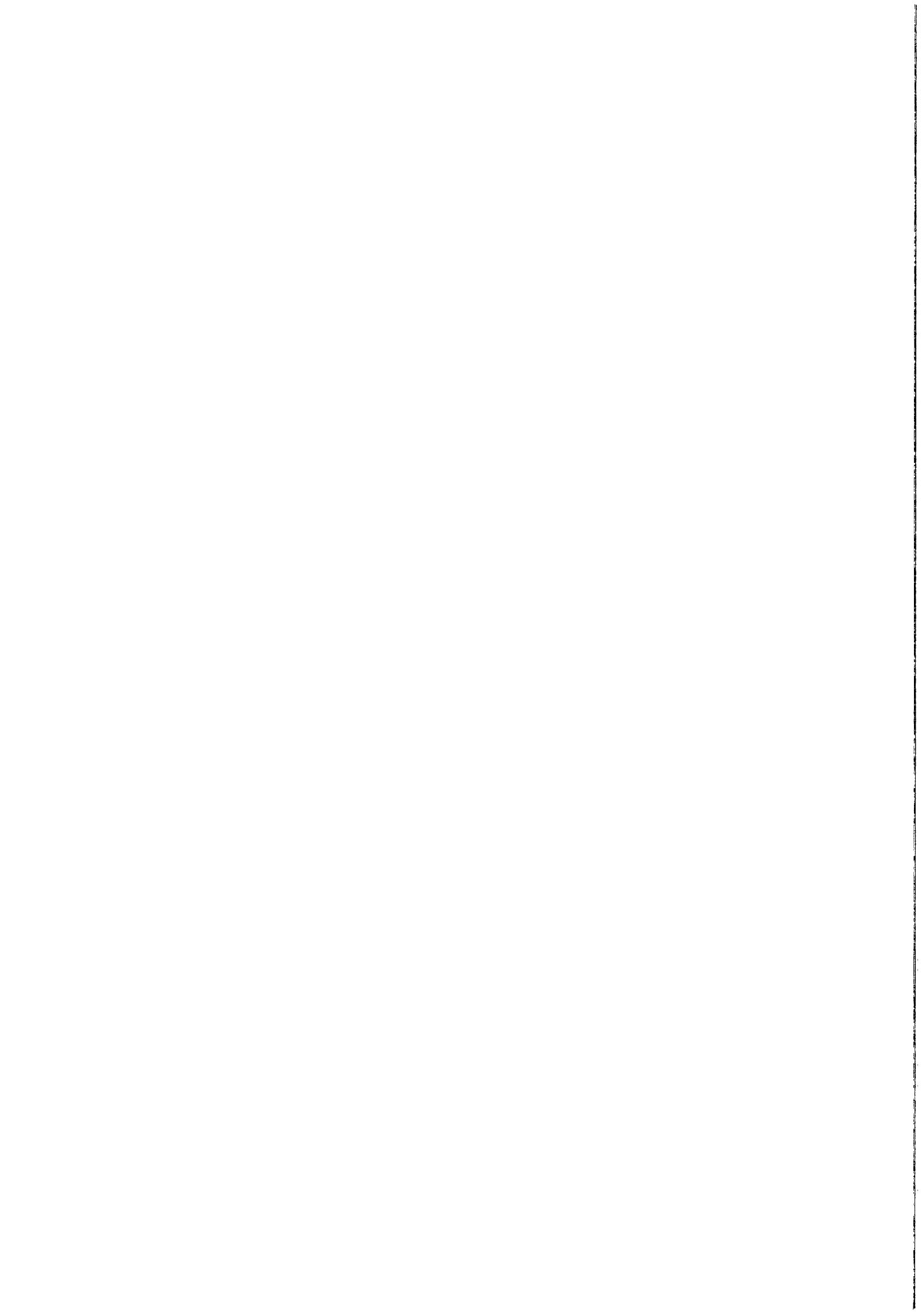
ANNEX 2
PROVIDING INFORMATION ON DEMAND
Destination of Publications distributed
by CTA in 1995



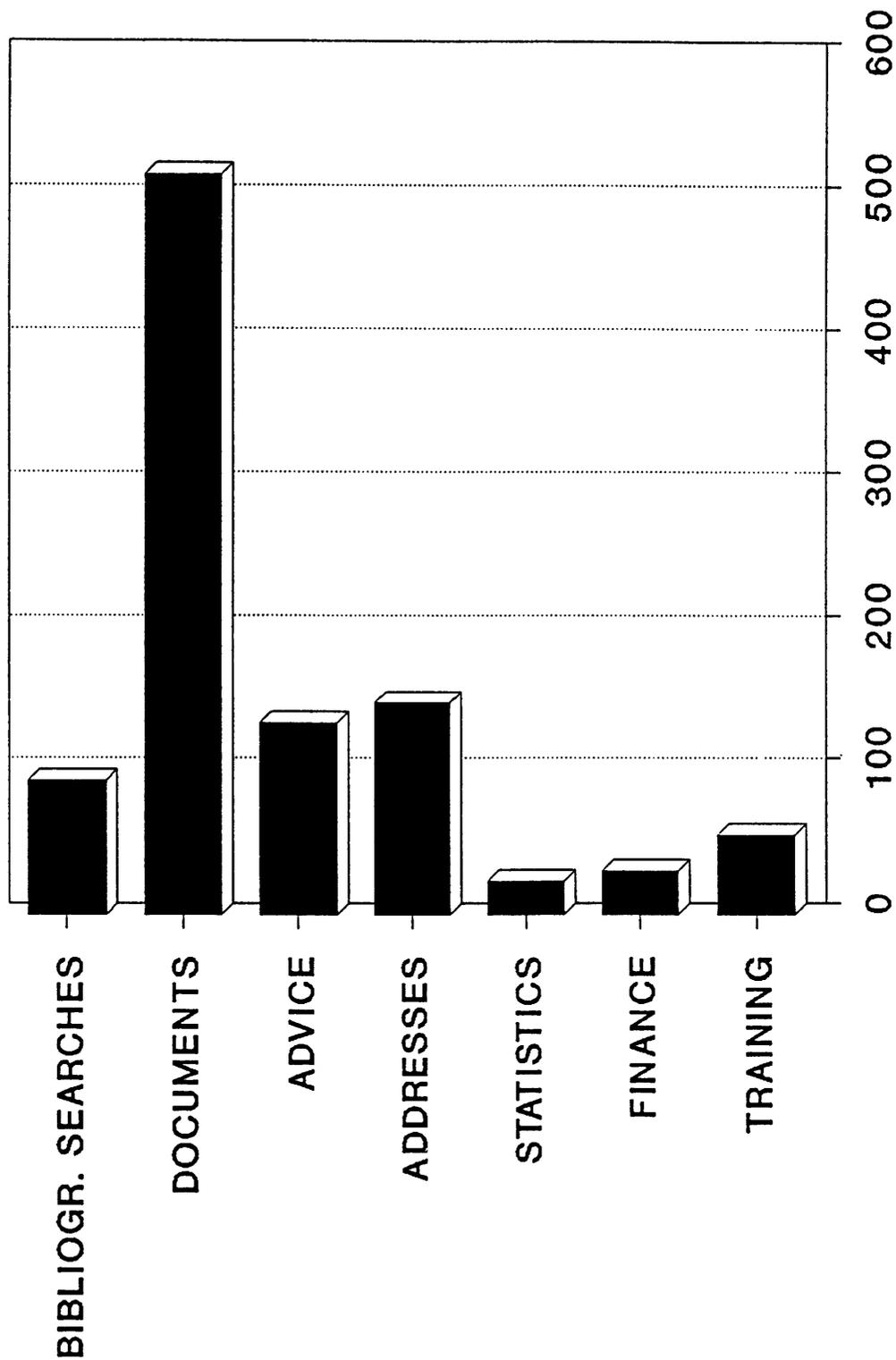


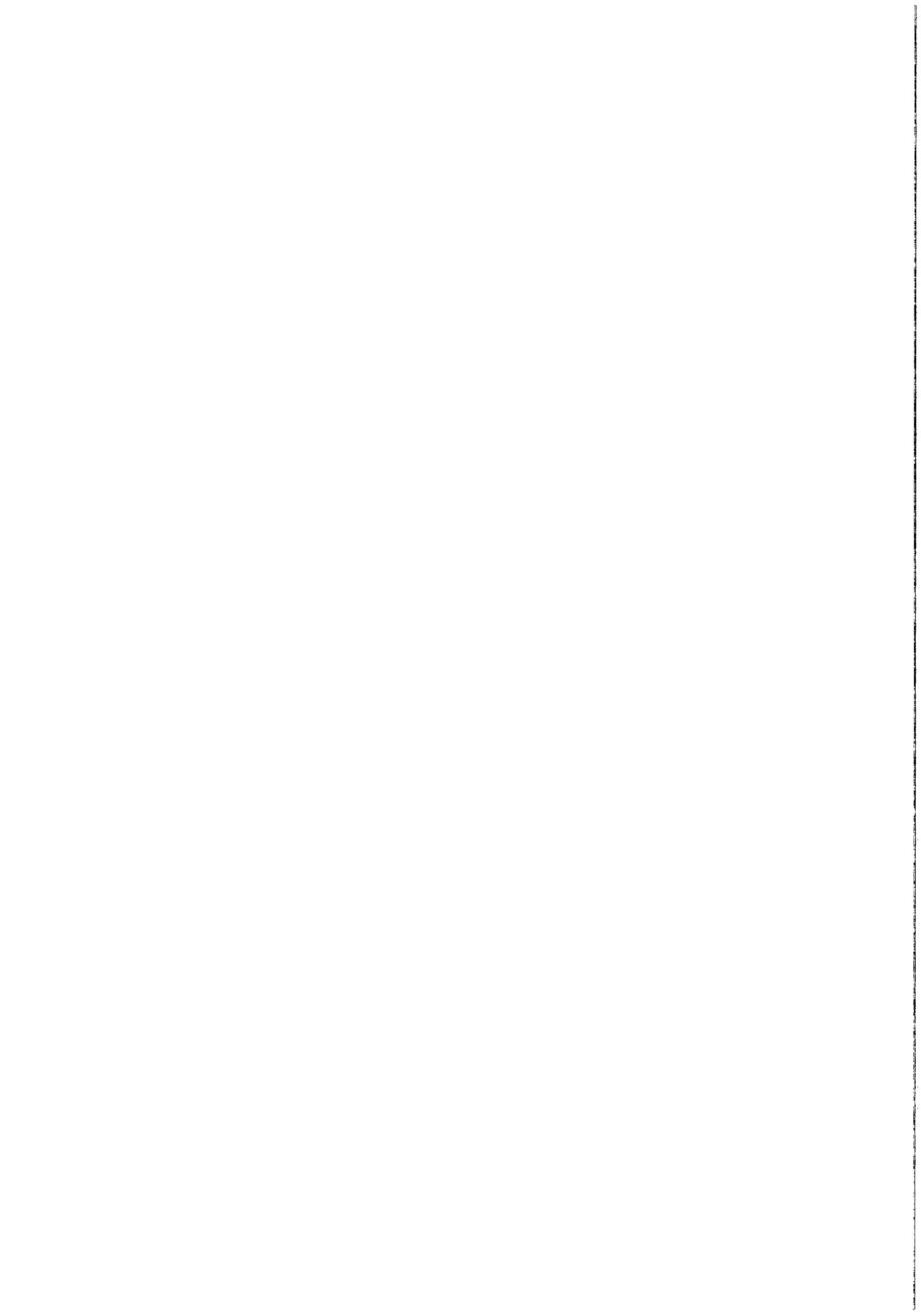
ANNEX 3
NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS SENT PER REGION
PER MILLION INHABITANTS IN 1995



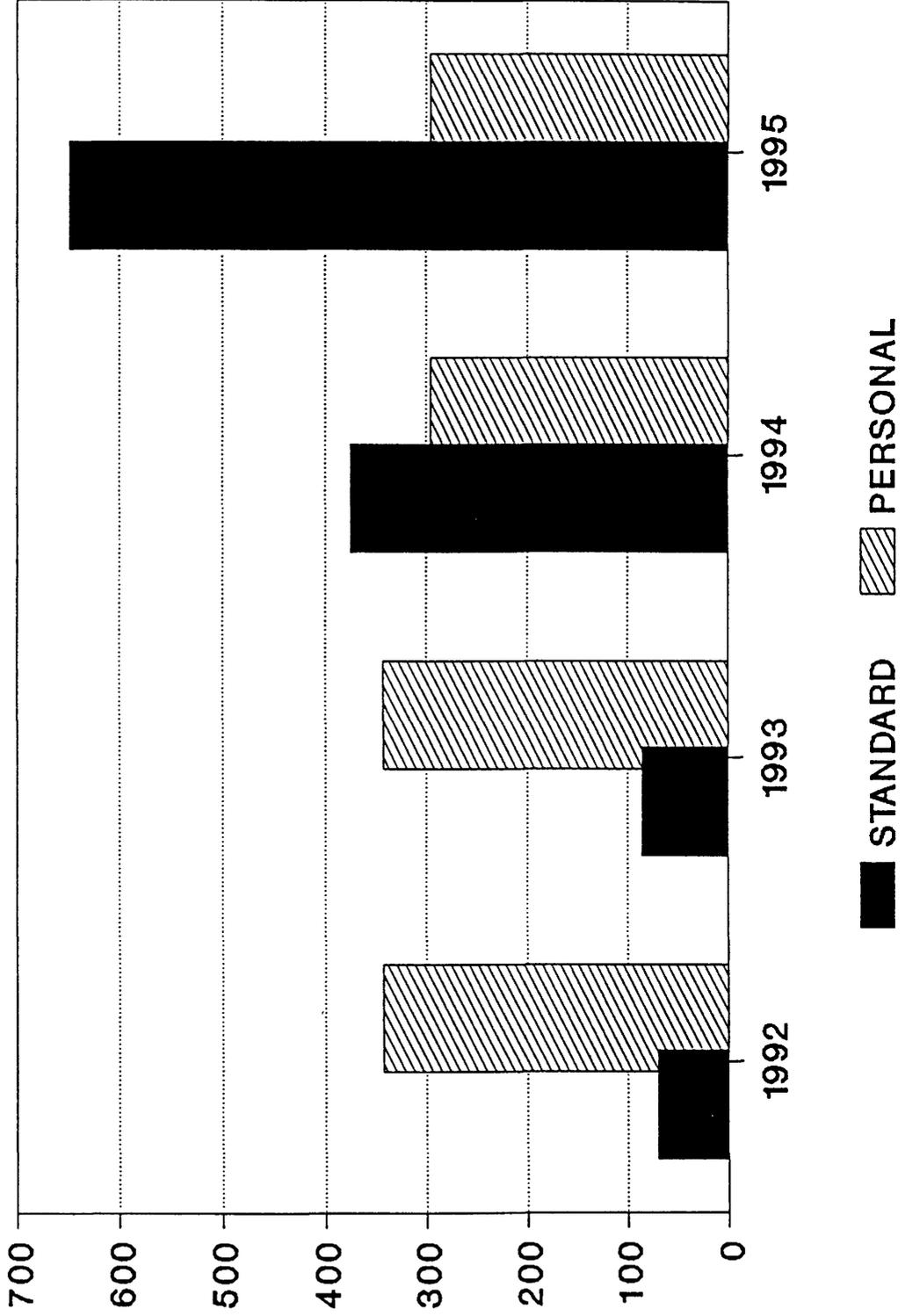


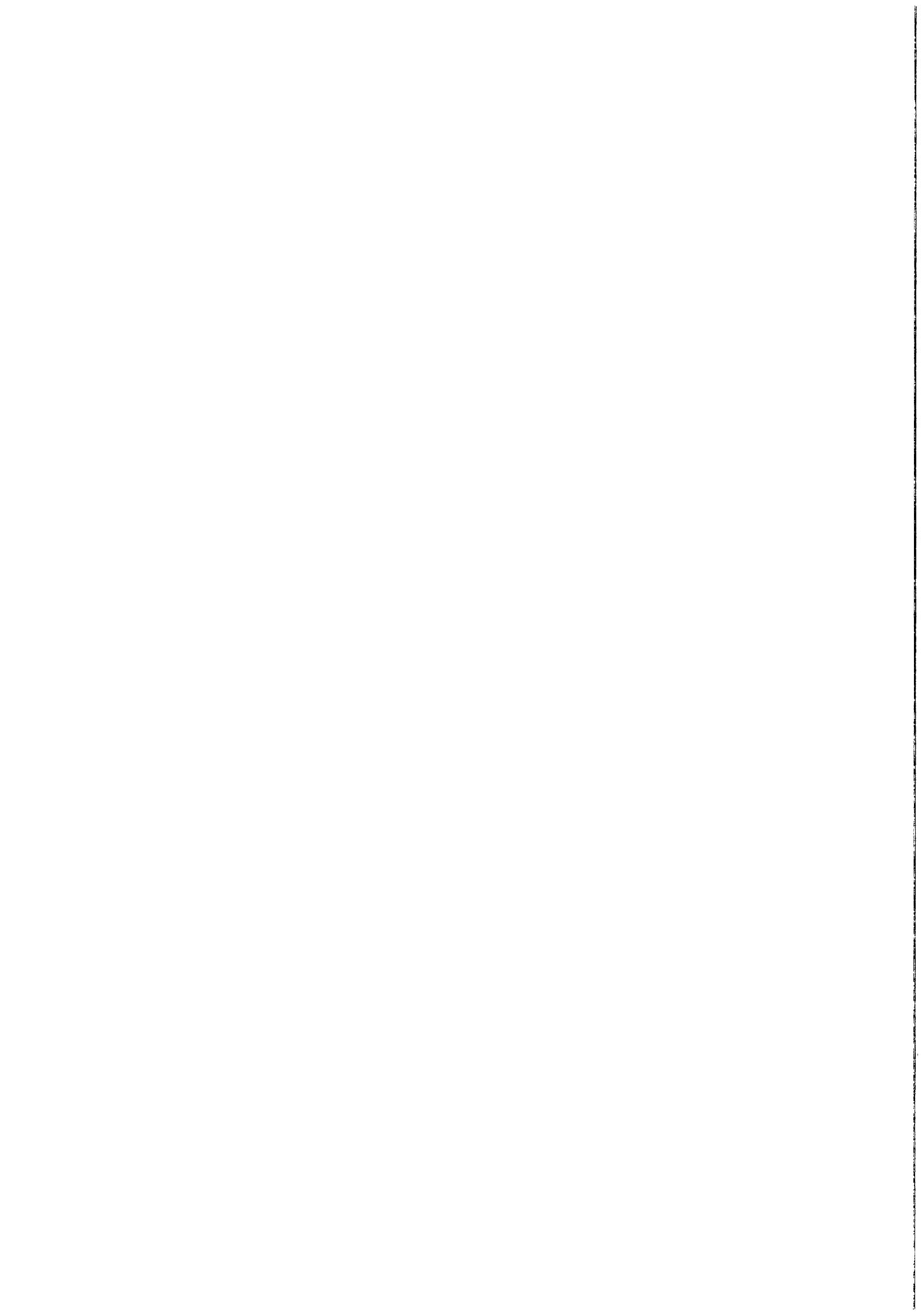
ANNEX 4
TYPES OF REQUESTS RECEIVED BY THE QAS IN 1995





ANNEX 5
SELECTIVE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION
Changing Emphasis in the Supply of Profiles, 1992-1995





ANNEX 6
Income and budget allocation for CTA in 1995, in '000 ecus

	Amount		Percentage of Total
Income			
EDF contributions	9975		
Interest and other income	160		
Total	10135		
Expenditure			
Staff	3265		32
Operating expenses	770		8
Core activities	6100		60
Total	10135		100

European Union — Council

Annual report of the ACP-EC Council of Ministers (1995)

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities

1996 — 55 pp. — 21 x 29.7 cm

ISBN 92-824-1385-3

Price (excluding VAT) in Luxembourg: ECU 7

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