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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
APPROVED FOR CHAD REPUBLIC

WASHINGTON, D.C., JUNE 3 -- Two irrigation projects costing a total of \$2,977,000 have been approved for the Republic of the Chad, one of the 18 African countries associated with the European Economic Community. Announcement of the new development programs was made in Brussels following approval by the Community's Council of Ministers of details of the projects as submitted by the Chad Government through the Common Market Commission.

Financing will come from the Community's Development Fund for Overseas Countries and Territories, which is capitalized at \$581.25 million of contributions from the six member countries. To date, more than \$60 million of the fund has been authorized, principally for basic development programs such as highways, port facilities, schools, hospitals and irrigation. Funds are appropriated in the form of grants.

The Chad projects include construction of 125 wells in the regions of Mayo-Kebbi, Logone, and Middle Chari. By providing numerous villages with sufficient water supply, the operation is expected to improve living conditions and increase productivity.

The second project calls for the construction of 60 wells equipped with watering troughs in the Batha and Kanem regions. This project is part of a program to establish a network of wells in pasture land which presently lacks adequate water supply. It is expected that completion of the program will increase the number of livestock and improve their quality, will have a stabilizing effect on nomads, and will raise the standard of living in the area.

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