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Committee on Trade and Development
Integrated Framework for Trade-Related
Technical Assistance

TRADE-RELATED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS-ASSESSMENT
AND INTEGRATED RESPONSES BY IMF, ITC, UNCTAD,
UNDP, WORLD BANK AND WTO¹

MADAGASCAR

* A previous version of this document was circulated as WT/LDC/HL/12/Add.6

¹The first part of this document, which includes the needs-assessment for trade-related technical assistance, prepared by Madagascar, is contained in document WT/LDC/HL/12/Add.6 and is not reproduced in this document.

INTEGRATED RESPONSE BY IMF, ITC, UNCTAD, UNDP, WORLD BANK
AND WTO TO THE NEEDS-ASSESSMENT OF MADAGASCAR

| Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire | Organization | Reply |
|--|--------------|---|
| In reply to question A(k): <u>Technical assistance requirements with regard to compliance with the WTO Agreements</u> | | |
| Madagascar requires technical assistance to train economic agents and civil servants and also trade information | UNCTAD | A national programme of training and awareness raising on the functioning of the new multilateral trade framework, for both the civil servants concerned and the private sector, will be implemented.* This activity was programmed during the joint UNCTAD/ITC mission in July 1997 within the framework of the Integrated National Programme approved by the Trade and Development Board (MP1997). |
| | WTO | - Specialized regional seminars will be organized for the French-speaking least developed countries (1998 and 1999). - A three-week trade policy course will be organized for the French-speaking least developed countries (1998 and 1999). |
| | UNCTAD/ UNDP | A programme for training trade trainers and strengthening trade training institutions will be carried out in the period 1998-2000. |

*Financing to be requested.

| Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire | Organization | Reply |
|---|----------------------------|---|
| In reply to question A(k) (cont'd): | ITC/ World Bank/ WTO | A regional seminar on the institutions and economic logic of international trade will be organized in the context of the joint World Bank/WTO initiative. At the end of the seminar, specific subjects will be selected for follow-up in greater depth (February/March 1998). |

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| In reply to question A(l): <u>Technical assistance in specific areas of the WTO Agreements</u> | | |
| | WTO | Specific assistance will be given by WTO to enable Madagascar both to obtain a better knowledge of the various areas of WTO and to implement the multilateral Agreements, particularly with regard to establishing its notification requirements (1998-2000). |
| Market access | World Bank/ WTO | A regional seminar on the institutions and economic logic of international trade will be organized in the context of the joint World Bank/WTO initiative. At the end of the seminar, specific subjects will be selected for follow-up in greater depth (February/ March 1998). |
| | WTO | During the proposed activities, improved dissemination of information on matters relating to market access and agriculture will be ensured. See A(k). |
| Agriculture | UNCTAD | This subject will be included in a national training programme for the civil servants concerned and the private sector.* See A(k). |
| | WTO | See WTO reply regarding market access above and A(k). |

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|---|--|---|
| Question A(1) (cont'd): | ITC/ UNCTAD/ UNDP (<i>WIPO</i>) | The RAF/96/001 programme also provides for support to the African countries (including Madagascar) in carrying out sectoral studies so as to help the countries to obtain a better understanding of international trade issues and thus prepare them more effectively for future negotiations. |
| | World Bank/ WTO | A regional seminar on the institutions and economic logic of international trade will be organized in the context of the joint World Bank/WTO initiative. Agriculture will form the subject of a particular module of the seminar. The cooperation of FAO will be requested (February/ March 1998). |
| Rules (anti-dumping, subsidies, rules of origin and safeguards) | UNCTAD | Technical assistance (advice and training) concerning the implementation of the new competition act will be supplied. |
| | WTO | Assistance will be given by WTO to help the country formulate/revise its trade legislation on anti-dumping, subsidies and safeguards. (1998-2000). |
| | World Bank/ WTO | A regional seminar on the institutions and economic logic of international trade will be organized in the context of the joint World Bank/WTO initiative. At the end of the seminar, specific subjects will be selected for follow-up in greater depth (February/ March 1998). |

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|--|--------------------|---|
| Question A(l) (cont'd): TBT and SPS | UNCTAD | The subject will be included in a national training programme for the civil servants concerned and the private sector.* See A(k). |
| | WTO | Information concerning the Agreements will be disseminated through the specialized seminars to which representatives will be invited (1998 and 1999). |
| | World Bank/ WTO | A regional seminar on the institutions and economic logic of international trade will be organized in the context of the joint World Bank/WTO initiative. At the end of the seminar, specific subjects will be selected for follow-up in greater depth. (February/ March 1998). |
| Services | UNCTAD | Technical assistance to strengthen capacity to develop the trade in services and prepare a development strategy for services is being supplied in the context of the CAPAS programme. |
| | WTO | A technical assistance mission will be sent in 1998 for the purpose of ensuring that information is disseminated on the legal framework and the services negotiations. |
| TRIPS | WTO | In accordance with the Technical Cooperation Agreement between the WTO and WIPO, assistance will be given for the training of Malagasy personnel in the form of the dissemination of information and the supply of teaching material. |

*Financing to be requested.

| Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire | Organization | Reply |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Question A(l) (cont'd): Dispute settlement | World Bank/ WTO | A regional seminar on the institutions and economic logic of international trade will be organized in the context of the joint World Bank/WTO initiative. At the end of the seminar, specific subjects will be selected for follow-up in greater depth. (February/ March 1998) |
| | WTO | See A(k) above. |

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| In reply to question A(m): <u>Assessment of trade analysis and negotiating capacities</u> | | |
| Our trade analysis capacities are still very limited. | UNCTAD/ UNDP | UNDP intends, through the RAF/96/001 programme, to engage in activities at the subregional level (particularly training) which will make it possible to strengthen the trade analysis and negotiating capacities of the African countries, including Madagascar. |
| | World Bank (COMESA) | Establishment of the committee for the regional dimension of adjustment (CODRA) and provision of technical assistance on the subjects of: (i) international trade problems and (ii) negotiating capacities. |
| Our capacities for multilateral negotiations and bilateral negotiations are still inadequate, both in areas already covered by the WTO Agreements and in other trade-related areas (competition, environment, etc.) | UNCTAD | Technical assistance (advice and training) will be supplied in 1998.* (MP1997) See A(k). |
| | WTO | During the short trade policy courses (cf. A(k)), a training module will be included in the programme so as to familiarize the participants with multilateral trade negotiations. |

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|--|--------------------|--|
| In reply to question B(g): <u>Technical assistance needs with respect to supply constraints</u> | | |
| Study and identification of buoyant markets | ITC/ UNDP | <p>A programming and advisory mission was carried out in the summer of 1997 to define the components of a technical cooperation project to develop exports.</p> <p>This project will provide support to the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institutional support; - trade information; and - quality strengthening.* (MP1997) <p>In addition, export market studies and buyer-seller meetings will be organized within the framework of the projects currently being implemented for the development of intra-African trade.</p> |
| Assistance in the area of standardization and certification and quality control of products. | ITC/ UNDP | Assistance by the Institute for Standardization is provided for in project MP 1997.* |
| | World Bank | Technical assistance of this kind will be given in the framework of the private sector development project. |
| Installation of a standardized information system (connection to the Isonet and Internet networks) | UNDP | The RAF/96/002 Internet project, to be developed by the UNDP Regional Office for Africa, will cover part of the activities relating to this request. The practical ways and means of this UNDP assistance will be determined later. |
| | World Bank/ WTO | This system could be supplied by the Joint Bank/WTO website. |

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|---|----------------|---|
| In reply to question B(q): <u>Technical assistance needs in the area of trade promotion and support services</u> | | |
| Assistance to revitalize the Chambers of Commerce | ITC | See B(g). |
| | UNDP | UNDP assistance for revitalizing the Chambers of Commerce is provided for in the private sector development programme. |
| Trade information (connection to the international networks) | ITC | See B(g). |
| | UNCTAD | Assistance to establish a Trade Point in Madagascar (and several trade points later) will be supplied within the framework of the Integrated National Programme and the TRAINS CD-ROM. (MP1997) |
| | UNDP | See B(g). |
| Need for a consultant to define a promotion strategy and programme | World Bank | The private sector support project will include promotion programmes. |
| Trade representation abroad | UNDP | In the context of its regional programme for the strengthening of trade capacities, UNDP plans to provide training for commercial attachés of African embassies abroad. |
| | ITC/ UNCTAD | Developing the competence of Malagasy trade diplomacy abroad is one of the purposes of the national training programme for the development of trade. See A(k). |

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| <p>Question B(q) (cont'd):</p> <p>Assistance to improve the quality and diversification of export products</p> | ITC | <p>Assistance activities for the diversification of exports, particularly with regard to the products of agro-industry and leather, will be organized in the framework of the regional and interregional projects currently in progress. In addition, see B(g).</p> |
| | UNDP | <p>UNDP plans to provide assistance to improve the quality of export products in the case of essential oils, fruit and vegetables, furniture and wood and made-up textiles, as well as support for market research on growth markets for these industries.</p> |

| Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire | Organization | Reply |
|---|---------------------|---|
| In reply to question B(v): <u>Technical assistance needs with respect to market access</u> | | |
| Seminar on market access and other problems, training in certain instruments of the WTO Agreement | UNCTAD | This subject will be included in the national training programme and will be additional to direct technical assistance concerning SGP, rules of origin, etc.* See A(k). |
| | World Bank | The private sector support project will include promotion programmes. |
| | WTO | See A(k) and A(l). |
| | UNCTAD/ UNDP | UNDP intends to organize seminars at the subregional level to make national officials more aware of this aspect. |
| Establishment of a national standardization and certification system | ITC | See B(g). |
| | UNDP | See B(g). |
| | World Bank | The private sector support project will include support programmes for the adaptation of the international standardization and certification systems. |
| Establishment of a trade information centre | ITC | See B(g). |
| | UNCTAD | See reply to question B(q) on the Trade Point. |
| | UNDP | See B(g). |
| | World Bank (COMESA) | The regional/CODRA site and the Internet networks mentioned above could meet these requests. |
| Training of economic agents | UNDP | UNDP intends to carry out many training activities for economic operators under its private sector development programme. |

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| Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire | Organization | Reply |
|--|----------------|--|
| Question B(v) (cont'd): | World Bank | Seminars supplied by IDA(?) in the context of the private sector support project. |
| | ITC/ UNCTAD | Strengthening of international trade training institutions is provided for in the framework of the project mentioned under A(k). |
| Establishment of a Trade Point | | |

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| In reply to question C(b): <u>Summary of technical assistance needs in order of priority</u> | | |
| In order to formulate its trade policy mechanism, Madagascar would like to participate in the TPRM (of WTO) and would like to receive technical assistance in this area. To date, it has not been possible to submit any trade policy project to the WTO Secretariat. | UNCTAD | Assistance will be supplied as far as the part of the review relating to the Government is concerned.* (MP1997) |
| | WTO | WTO will help Madagascar to prepare a review of its trade policy within the framework of the Trade Policy Review Mechanism (TPRM). |
| | UNDP/ UNCTAD | Through the RAF/96/001 programme, UNDP will supply subregional support to help countries in their efforts to formulate a trade policy. |
| | ITC/ World Bank/ WTO | See A(k). |
| Establishment of a specialized training centre | | The agencies have indicated their desire to cooperate with the Government in identifying specific operational needs and establishing priorities. Further consultations with the Government will be needed to develop specific projects and programmes and explore ways and means of financing them. |
| | ITC/ UNCTAD | See A(k). |
| Improving the quality of and diversifying export products | ITC | See B(g) and B(q). |
| | UNDP | See B(q). |
| Establishment of a Trade Point | UNCTAD | See B(g). |

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| Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire | Organization | Reply |
|--|----------------|--------------------|
| Question C(b) (cont'd): Establishment of an adequate trade information system | UNDP | See B(g) and B(q). |
| | World Bank | See B(g). |
| | WTO | See B(g). |
| | ITC/ UNCTAD | See B(g). |

| Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire | Organization | Reply |
|--|--------------------|--|
| In reply to question C(d): <u>Technological capacity and human resources to make use of the new information/communication technology tools</u> | | |
| Madagascar has the technological capacity and the human resources to make use of the technology tools, but technical assistance in this area still needs to be strengthened. | WTO | WTO will be able to supply a computer and a laser printer for the Government's focal point for questions relating to the multilateral trade system. (1998). WTO will also be able to establish the necessary connections of the focal point with the Internet and to supply Madagascar with CD-ROMs. Training in the use of the computer and electronic equipment provided will also be ensured by WTO. (1998). |
| | World Bank/ WTO | See B(g). |
| | ITC/ UNDP | See B(g). |