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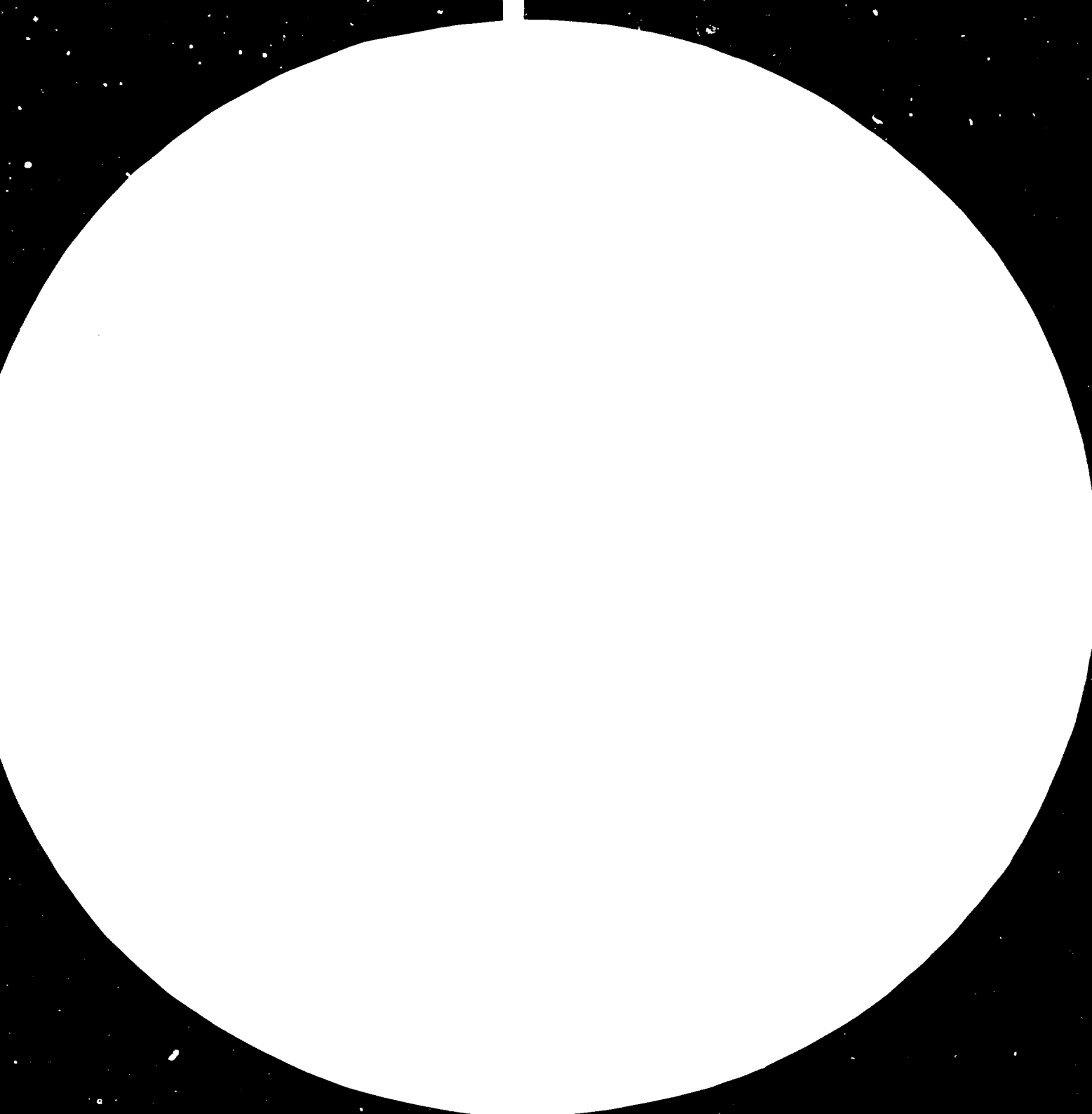
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Meeting on Exchange of Experiences and Co-operation
among Developing Countries in the Development
of Agricultural Machinery Industry

Beijing (China), 20-27 October 1980

COUNTRY SUMMARY - TOGO*

by

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* The views expressed in this paper are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the secretariat of UNIDO. This document has been translated from an unedited original.

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Rapid population growth and the economic development trend pose a number of socio-economic problems for the State. All the solutions being sought in the rural world are aimed at raising the living standard of the peasant masses and improving their living conditions.

With a view to achieving this goal, the Government has opted for long-term (1965-1985) programming of action.

Action by the State in rural areas aimed at increasing production will be continued during the new decade (1976-1985) on more clearly defined bases, such as the development of small mixed-production farms and large State-owned production units.

By 1985, the areas under cultivation can be expected to approach 850,000 hectares. Investments for the purchase of equipment are reflected in the following figures (in thousands of CFA francs):

Type of equipment	Total amount 1976-1980	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1985
Agricultural implements	3 602 400	635 800	687 900	720 400	759 700	798 100	4 503 000
Motorized cultivation equipment	432 100	70 900	115 600	83 800	81 300	80 500	540 100
Rice-growing infrastructure	86 000	7 000	15 800	21 700	15 800	25 700	107 500

2. Estimated demand and current use

- I. Manual agricultural tools;
- II. Other agricultural and soil-preparation machines;
- III and IV. Others, and harvesting equipment.

Details

- I. Hoes, hay or straw cutters;
Other manual agricultural implements (machetes), animal-drawn carts, etc.;
- II. Ploughs and similar implements; seeders, planters, trans-planters, fertilizer spreaders and distributors, etc.;
- III and IV. Machinery and equipment for threshing agricultural products: motor-mowers, harvesters, threshers and binders, and similar machines; earth-moving machines for agricultural development, for rural engineering work (caterpillars D4 - D6 - D9).

3. Manufacture and import

Category I

There is as yet no real production in Togo. Pilot production lines are being set up under the auspices of the National Centre for the Promotion of Small-Scale and Medium-Sized Enterprises. These refer in particular to simple agricultural machines:

- Rice threshers;
- Solar-powered water heaters;
- Solar-powered dryers for agricultural products;
- Rice harvesters;
- Windmills for pumping water;
- Seeders;
- Carts, etc.

Category II

(Same as for category I.)

Categories III and IV

(Not envisaged.)

3.1 Category I (tools and instruments)

(a) No local production. However, hoes, small carts and some machetes are locally manufactured by the country's blacksmiths.

(b) In the design and adaptation of products, problems arise regarding engineering and the production of prototypes.

The National Centre for the Promotion of Small-Scale and Medium-Sized Enterprises (CNPPME) is the body which can develop these products.

It would not have enough master workmen able to produce prototypes or methods technicians for this purpose.

Additional equipment is required to enable it to carry out these tasks more effectively.

(c) Yes. It is essential to promote the transfer of licences and foreign investments.

3.2 Category II (intermediate equipment)

The problems described in part 3.1 are also relevant to intermediate equipment.

3.3 Categories III (motorized machinery) and IV (specialized equipment)

These two categories cannot be envisaged for the time being.

3.4 Basic installations and related industries - (a) and (b)

The basic installations are relatively makeshift. This would limit the choices of products.

(c) Most of the obstacles being encountered relate to the market, which is still very small. This would make it necessary to establish small production units.

4. Design and finalization, adaptation - testing and evaluation

The National Centre for the Promotion of Small-Scale and Medium-Sized Enterprises is for the time being the only body endeavouring to conceive of manufacture, still on an artisanal basis, of:

- Animal-drawn carts;
- Hand-carts;
- Seeders;
- Rice threshers, etc.

The central workshops of CNPPME at Lama-Kara and at Lomé are equipped with:

- Lathe;
- Guillotine shears;
- Grinding machine;
- Drilling machine;
- Hydraulic press;
- Bending machine;
- Point welding unit;
- Compressor;
- Full oxy-acetylene welding unit; etc.

Apart from CNPPME, maintenance workshops are fairly widely scattered in the towns where simple agricultural machinery is sold.

A possible way of strengthening this emerging structure would be by establishing genuine equipment workshops.

5. CNPPME is asked to advise, assist and promote enterprises. It needs more technicians and practical workers.

Intensive on-the-job training courses should be envisaged. It is strongly suggested that experts and counterparts should be provided in three or four branches of industry so as to establish a base of local specialists in order to fill these gaps.

6. Repair, maintenance and spare parts

The maintenance of equipment is very makeshift. Spare parts are sometimes not available. Maintenance and repair specialists need better facilities and more experience. Assistance would be welcome above all in the context of a partially State-owned commercial body which would be responsible for the regular supply of parts and raw materials quickly and at reasonable prices.

7. Policies, planning, strategies and co-ordination

Ministry of Rural Development

The functions of the Ministry of Rural Development lie in the sphere of real increase in agricultural production both in the traditional peasant sector and in the context of sectoral and specific programmes.

Ministry for Rural Equipment

The main function of the Ministry for Rural Equipment consists of laying the technical foundation required for starting up production programmes. Its sphere of activity comprises agricultural development projects, rural engineering work (rice-growing infrastructure, real estate improvement, the opening up of new areas, construction of unsurfaced roads and bridges in rural areas, cultivation work and social infrastructure in rural areas), management of agricultural equipment and conservation of the country's heritage in respect of animal and plant life.

The Société Togolaise d'Exploitation des Matériels Agricoles was set up to rent agricultural machinery of all types to Togolese citizens engaging in agricultural work.

At the present time, however, this company falls far short of meeting all the country's real requirements, bearing in mind the diversity of terrains, the small size of areas under cultivation and the scattering of plots.

8. Inter-regional co-operation

- (a) The assistance which our country could offer would consist in rental of agricultural machinery to other countries in the sub-region, and in some cases exchange of experts.
- (b) The assistance which we could receive from the developed countries, on the other hand, would consist in:
 - Establishment of a factory for agricultural implements;
 - Training of workers specialized in the manufacture of implements;
 - Experts to provide advice on projects for the production of implements.

9. Role of UNIDO

UNIDO will be able to provide assistance at three levels:

- (a) Training of technicians on-the-job by an expert-trainer experienced in training and familiar with implement-manufacturing operations.
- (b) The establishment of a unit for applied research to adapt locally developed or copied products. This unit should be fairly independent in terms of equipment and staff in order to be able to achieve results quickly. It should be set up as quickly as possible so as to alleviate interruptions in supplies and, thus, to make possible steady production.

10. Specific proposals and recommendations

- (a) Development of simple machines which will be adapted to local terrains and used mainly by the peasants.

The cost should be low enough to place the machines within the reach of all.

- (b) Strengthening of CNPPME as regards equipment for the manufacture of agricultural implements and skilled staff.

- (c) Training of technical cadres in factories manufacturing implements abroad.
- (d) A small centre for on-going training of this specific staff.
- (e) A strengthening of the cadres in existing structures.

