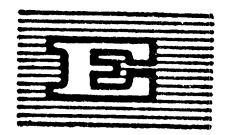




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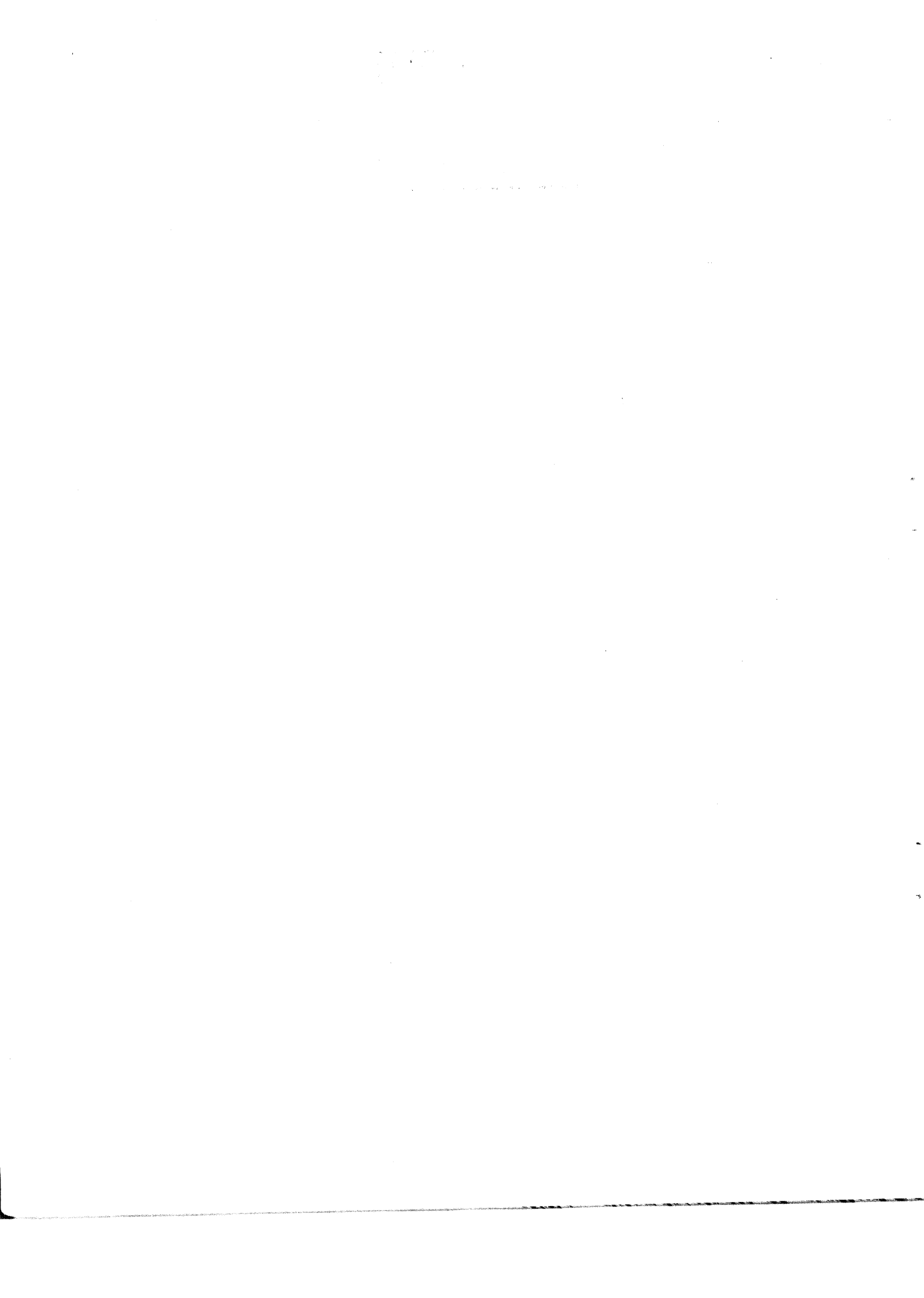
Item 7(b) of the Provisional Agenda

WORLD CONFERENCE ON AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(Note of the Executive Secretary)

80-3137

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The World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD) held in Rome from 12 to 20 July 1979 adopted a Programme of Action which was adopted by the General Assembly in Resolution 34/14. In this resolution, the General Assembly "invites the organizations, organs and bodies concerned within the UN system to implement, as appropriate, the conclusions and recommendations set forth in the Programme of Action" and further "invites the governing bodies of the United Nations and other specialized agencies to consider favourably the possibility of providing to them the necessary resources for complementary action to be implemented under their own specialized competence and also to work fully together with FAO in the elaboration and preparation of joint programmes and activities which might be financed from further extra-budgetary resources".

In follow-up to resolution 34/14 the secretariat proposes a draft action programme for the ECWA region, strengthening rural development programmes and activities in the countries of the region.

The annexed draft programme of action for the ECWA region constitutes a strengthening of ECWA's 1980-1981 activities in the area of rural development. Although the secretariat will carry out a number of activities in this field (see table 1), the scope of these activities directly having a bearing on rural development is still limited because of resource constraints. The proposed regional programme of action would allow for more in-depth research in this area, introduce supplementary activities as a follow-up to the World Conference while it would further allow for greater emphasis on technical co-operation activities.

Although the secretariat will endeavor to incorporate some of the proposed projects in the programme budget 1982-1983, the greater part of the resources required will need to be made available from extra-budgetary sources.

Table 1. Summary of ECWA's rural development and related activities included in Programme Budget 1980-1981 (regular work programme)*

Programme	Programme Element and Page No. in ECWA's Work Programme and Priorities 1980-1981, E/ECWA/90	Prof. w/m	G.S. w/m	Cons. w/m	Travel (\$)	Meetings (\$)	Total in (\$)
a) Social Development and Human Settlement	P.E. 532.1, National, Community and Rural Development (page 141).	24	18	1	1,750	10,000	110,000
	P.E. 291.4, Appraisal Rural Settlement Planning and Housing Schemes (page 47).	42	24	-	4,000	--	165,000
b) Agriculture	P.E. 213.1, Farm Organization, Farm Planning and related factors (page 26).	36	18	2	2,700	--	195,000
	P.E. 213.2, Appraisal of marketing systems and policies (page 27).	14	18	-	1,500	--	80,000
c) Transport, Communications and Tourism	P.E. 551.5 (a), Feeder roads and rural transportation (page 168).	12	6	-	1,200	--	52,000
d) Natural resources	P.E. 461.5, Renewable energy for rural development (page 86).	21	20	-	2,500	--	107,000
Resources available		149	104	3	13,650	10,000	709,000

* E/ECWA/90 Revised Work Programme and Priorities, 1980-1981

Draft Programme of Action in Agrarian Reform and
Rural Development for the ECWA Region

The draft programme of action for the ECWA region should, in the view of the secretariat, be based on the need to:

1. Enhance, in the ECWA region, the development of appropriate government policies, machineries, and administrative structures for more effective planning, execution and co-ordination of integrated rural development and land reform programmes. Without the development of such policies and machineries not much progress in the field of rural development can be achieved.
2. Monitor and evaluate land reform and other development programmes in the ECWA region. An attempt here should be made to find out among other things:
 - a) the effectiveness of the on-going programmes as reflected in farm income, organizations and farming systems;
 - b) the extent to which the integrated approach to rural development has been followed and the effectiveness of achieving the basic objectives of such an approach;
 - c) the role of rural women and youth in such programmes and ways and means to strengthen their participation;
 - d) the problem of the farming systems in the reformed areas and ways and means to increase income and productivity;
 - e) the role and effectiveness of the various rural institutions (co-operatives, credit institutions, agricultural extension, etc...) in the reformed areas and how to strengthen such a role.
3. Initiate and conduct training programmes, workshops and expert-group meetings in countries of the region on various matters related to integrated rural and community development.

4. Render technical assistance which might be needed by member countries in the field of rural development. Specific pilot projects should be identified in selected member countries with a view to providing them with the necessary inputs needed for improving different aspects of these projects. These projects may also be used as demonstration and training centres for officers dealing with rural development problems in the region.

Taking the above as point of departure and in addition to the 1980/1981 programme activities contained in table 1 above, the following projects could be envisaged for implementation in the ECWA region and constitute the element for the regional programme of action:

Proposed Projects

Project No. 1 Alternative national policies, plans and machineries required for integrated rural and community development in countries of the ECWA region.

a) Description: Examination and analysis of national IRD policies, plans and machineries in the ECWA countries with the aim of helping member Governments to formulate the appropriate policies and organizational structure at the national, regional and community levels which can effectively deal with IRD programmes which would ensure the participation and involvement of people in planning and implementation of such programmes and help improve the standard of living of small farmers. The output (a report) will be used for Activity No. 12.

b) Expected starting and completion dates: Work is expected to start in September 1981 and terminate in September 1983.

c) Estimated work-months required for 1981-1983:

- Professionals: 24 WM
- General Service: 12 WM

d) Other resources required: Travel funds should be available for one professional to visit member countries for a period of 10 days in each in order to collect the necessary information related to the subject from various government ministries and departments concerned.

e) Total resource requirements: \$ 99,800

Project No. 2: Provision of direct technical assistance and experts to member countries in the region to assist in the planning and implementation of the various rural and community development projects and programmes and related institutions.

a) Description: Direct inputs - in the form of providing technical assistance and experts - to the formulation and implementation of rural development projects and related institutions are very often needed in the region as to ensure their success. This kind of assistance should be provided to projects at governments' request and on a continuing basis.

b) Expected starting and completion dates: It is continuing activity during 1980-1983.

c) Estimated work-months required:

- Professionals: 8 WM
- General Service: 4 WM

d) Other resources required: A sum of \$ 10,000 will be required to cover cost of travel and per diem of professionals who may be travelling in the region, upon governments' request during 1980-1983.

e) Total resource requirements: \$ 40,200

Project No. 3 Required government policies and practices for improving the performance of agricultural co-operatives in selected countries of the ECWA region.

a) Description: The activity will consist of a survey of factors affecting, from members' point of view, the functioning of co-operatives within programmes of rural development in six countries of the region

namely Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, YAR and PDRY. Preliminary work, based on secondary sources, will be required for an assessment of the situation. The output (a report) will be used for Activities No. 5 and 12.

b) Expected starting and completion dates: Starting date is March 1981, and expected completion date is September 1983.

c) Estimated work-months required for 1981-1983:

- Professionals: 18 WM
- General Service: 9 WM

d) Other resources required: Travel funds to allow two professionals to visit the countries proposed and to spend 15 days in each country for the collection of the needed information from government officials and institutions concerned.

e) Total resource requirements: \$ 79,500

Project No. 4 Role of communication in integrated rural development.

a) Description: This activity, which will be carried out with the co-operation of FAO and ICARDA, will consist of a regional training workshop (in Syria or Jordan) in experiential training methodologies for trainers of rural development workers. Twenty-four development trainers (2 from each member of the Commission) in the field of agricultural extension, social work, family planning, population, education or rural development etc. will be invited to participate in this workshop. The objective of the workshop will be to increase the understanding and skills of the participants in the planning, management and evaluation of new - training methodologies aiming at improving the communication skills of village workers at person to person level. Participants will be taught the basic principles of rural communication and exposed to field experiences relevant to the training of rural development workers.

b) Expected starting and completion dates: The workshop is tentatively planned to be held during May or June 1980 for a period of three weeks.

c) Estimated work-months required:

- Professionals: 4 WM
- General Service: 2 WM

d) Other resources required: Preparatory trips to Syria and Jordan for one professional to determine location of workshop and discuss its logistics with government officials concerned. Travel funds will be required to cover 4 days in Syria and 4 days in Jordan.

- Per diem and round trip economy air tickets for two participants from each member country for a period of 22 days.

- Consultancy fee for 4 weeks (\$ 3,000)

e) Total resource requirements: \$ 15,100

Project No. 5 Expert working-group meeting on co-operatives.

a) Description: About 12 co-operative experts from selected countries of the region and concerned international agencies will be invited to deal with various issues affecting the performance of co-operatives and local development associations in rural and community development programmes. The recommendations of the experts will be used for Activity No. 12.

b) Expected starting and completion dates: The meeting is expected to convene in Baghdad, Iraq during July 1982 for a period of five days.

c) Estimated work-months required:

- Professionals: 3 WM
- General Service: 2 WM

d) Other resources required: A sum of \$ 10,000 will be required to cover per diem and travel expenses of 12 experts in Baghdad for a period of 5 days each.

e) Total resource requirements: \$ 21,800

Project No. 6 Required Government policies and practices for increasing agricultural productivity in land reform areas in selected countries of the ECWA region.

a) Description: An attempt will be made to study in Iraq, Syria, PDRY and Jordan, the effectiveness of the on-going land reform programmes as reflected in farm-income and farm organizations; the extent to which the IRD approach has been followed; the role of rural women and youth in such programmes; the problems of

the farming systems in the reformed areas and the role of the various rural institutions in the reformed areas with the view of identifying major bottlenecks affecting land-reform programmes and suggesting appropriate measures to strengthening these. The output (a report) will be used for Activities No. 8 and 12.

b) Expected starting and completion dates: This is a continuing activity during the period 1980-1983.

c) Estimated work-months required for 1980-1983:

- Professionals: 18 WM
- General Service: 9 WM

d) Other resources required: Travel funds to allow two professionals to visit selected land-reform areas in the four countries proposed, for 20 days in each country in order to collect the necessary information needed from the beneficiaries themselves (the farmers) and from the government officials concerned.

e) Total resource requirement: \$ 76,500

Project No. 7 An assessment of the interrelationships between rural social services and rural exodus in selected countries of the region.

a) Description: The activity will consist of a study of the causes of rural exodus in Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, YAR and Lebanon and the relationships between the exodus and inadequate rural social services. Concrete output will be a study on the subject to be used for Activities No. 8 and 12.

b) Expected starting and completion dates:

- Starting date October 1980
- Completion date July 1983.

c) Estimated work-months required for 1980-1983:

- Professionals: 18 WM
- General Service: 9 WM

d) Other resources required: Travel funds to allow two professionals to visit the countries selected for a period of 15 days each in order to collect the needed data from selected rural areas and government officials concerned.

e) Total resource requirements: \$ 77,900

Project No. 8 Expert working-group on land reform.

a) Description: 12 experts on land reform from the region as well as other regions will be invited to deal with the various issues involved in land reform programmes in order to suggest appropriate measures to strengthen land-reform programmes. The recommendations will be used for Activity No. 12.

b) Expected starting and completion dates: The meeting is expected to convene in Damascus, Syria during December 1982 for a period of five days.

c) Estimated work-months required:

- Professionals: 4 WM
- General Service: 2 WM

d) Other resources required: A sum of \$ 10,000 will be required to cover per diem and travel expenses of 12 experts in Damascus for a period of 5 days.

e) Total resource requirements: \$ 25,100

Project No. 9 Required government policies and practices for improving the performance of agricultural extension services in IRD in selected countries of the ECWA region.

a) Description: An attempt will be made to study, in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, PDRY and YAR, the effectiveness of their agricultural extension services from government officials' point of view as well as from the point of view of the client farmers with the view of identifying major bottlenecks affecting the performance of extension workers and suggesting to government officials concerned specific measures to improve the situation. The output will be used for Activities No. 10 and 12.

b) Expected starting and completion dates: This is a continuing activity during the period 1980-1983.

c) Estimated work-months required for 1980-1983:

- Professionals: 24 WM
- General Service: 12 WM

d) Other resources required: Travel funds to allow two professionals to visit the countries selected for 15 days each in order to collect the necessary information from concerned government officials and from selected farmers groups benefiting from extension activities in selected IRD programmes.

e) Total resource requirements: \$ 106,300

Project No. 10 Expert working group meeting on agricultural extension and home-economic education.

a) Description: About 12 agricultural extension and home-economics experts from within and outside the region will be invited to deal with various problems and issues affecting the performance of agricultural and home economics extension workers with the view of suggesting measures to increase their effectiveness particularly in IRD programmes. The recommendations will be used for Activity No. 12.

b) Expected starting and completion dates: The meeting is expected to convene in Amman, Jordan during July 1983 for a period of five days.

c) Estimated work-months required:

- Professionals: 4 WM
- General Service: 2 WM

a) Other resources required: A sum of \$ 10,000 will be required to cover per diem and travel expenses of the 12 experts in Amman for a period of 5 days.

e) Total resource requirements: \$ 25,100

Project No. 11 Policies, practices and problems of involving the rural population, at the local level, in decision-making and rural community development in selected ECWA countries.

- a) Description: An attempt will be made to investigate in Iraq, PDRY, YAR, Jordan, Syria, Bahrain and Oman the extent of farmers' participation and involvement in selected rural community development programmes; the problems limiting such participation with the view of identifying measures and practices that can make farmers' participation more effective and real. The output, a report, will be used for Activity No. 12.
- b) Expected starting and completion dates: This is a continuing activity during the period 1980-1983.
- c) Estimated work-months required:
- Professionals: 20 WM
 - General Service: 10 WM
- d) Other resources required: Travel funds to allow one professional to visit the seven countries proposed for 15 days in each in order to collect the necessary information from government officials concerned, farmers' organizations and individuals in selected rural and community development projects.
- e) Total resource requirements: \$ 90,700

Project No. 12 A regional intergovernmental meeting for high level policy-makers on IRD.

- a) Description: High-level policy-makers in agriculture and other ministries will be invited to attend this meeting in which issues resulted from all of the above activities and related to various IRD components will be presented and discussed. The aim of the meeting would be to improve, in the countries of the ECWA region the existing policies, administrative structures, machineries, institutions and organizations dealing with rural development.
- d) Expected starting and completion dates: The meeting is expected to convene in Baghdad, Iraq in December 1983 and for a period of seven days.
- c) Estimated work-months required:
- Professionals: 8 WM
 - General Service: 4 WM

d) Other resources required: Funds will be required to cover per diem and travel expenses, in Baghdad, for two experts from each member country for a period of seven days.

e) Total resource requirements: \$ 48,100

Resource Requirements for completion of all projects \$ 706,100