

Z I M B A B W E

BASIC INDICATORS (ECONOMIC/DEMOGRAPHIC/CONSUMPTION)

Economic classification: Middle Income economy		
Oil exporter or importer (net): Importer		
Annual per capita income:	US\$398	1985
Annual per capita GNP	US\$254	1985
Average annual growth	2.2%	1975-85
Annual inflation rate	8.9%	1975-85
Annual inflation rate	17%	1986
Volume of imports	0.619 billion US\$	1985(9 months)
Of which food	2%	1985(9 months)
Of which fuels	17%	1985(9 months)
Principal foreign exchange earning export: Agriculture/Mining		
Debt service as % of GNP	5.5%	1985
Debt service as % of exports	28.4%	1985
Population	8.7 million	1985
Annual population growth	3.2%	1982-85
Annual Consumption:		
Flour	240,000 tonnes or 27.5 kg/capita	1985
Meat	80,000 tonnes or 9 kg/capita	1985
Vegetable Oil	62,000 tonnes or 7.12 kg/capita	1985

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Crop Situation and Outlook

With the exception of wheat, Zimbabwe has a large surplus of grains. Wheat demand is approximately 300,000 tonnes per annum while production in 1985/86 will be about 215,000 tonnes. Projections for 1986/87 will be about 235,000 tonnes. Large surplus in maize, stockpile of 2 million tonnes forecast for January 1987. Farmers are being advised to swing from maize and sorghum crops to cotton, soya and groundnuts for which there is a ready market.

2. FOREIGN EXCHANGE SITUATION

Country has a favourable balance of trade situation of US\$88 million first nine months of 1985. However, servicing of foreign debts (US\$336 million) per annum is throwing a burden on the Treasury. Zimbabwe's external debt now stands at (US\$2.3 billion) in 1985. As a result, foreign exchange is limited for expansion projects. Only imported food requirement is wheat.