

Canadian farm aid to Tanzania

Canada has signed a \$37-million aid agreement with Tanzania to help it move towards self-sufficiency in wheat production.

Large areas of Tanzania resemble the Canadian prairies and hold great promise for wheat production. The new five-year agreement is a continuation of a program started ten years ago to develop that potential.

The program is expected to put in operation a 10,000-acre wheat farm in each year of the new agreement and provide research facilities and technical expertise to train Tanzanians to manage the farms. The program has already developed two wheat farms and a third is close to completion.

Farms now in operation supply about one-quarter of Tanzania's wheat needs. It is estimated that it will take another ten years to make the country self-sufficient in wheat.

Under the program, \$6 million is slated towards the building of a new research station near Arusha, in the north. The station will make it possible for Tanzania to study the feasibility of growing other crops, such as oil and field crops.

About \$17 million of the \$37-million-project funds will be put towards technical aid including research and training.

Forest industry forecast

By the year 2000, the forest industry can double the value of its production, create 100,000 more jobs and supply 10 per cent of Canada's primary energy demand, according to a recently-released federal discussion paper.

The paper was prepared by the Canadian Forestry Service of Environment Canada as part of a cabinet submission setting out a proposed federal policy on the forestry sector.

Federal involvement in forestry, and the complementary actions which the federal and provincial governments may take, were discussed at a meeting of forestry ministers in Toronto on January 29 and 30, sponsored by the Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers.

CCREM has set a 50 percent increase in the harvest from Canada's forests as a goal for the year 2000, based largely on

more intensive forest management. The Federal Government is expected to examine various measures to support its achievement.

A federal forestry sector strategy committee is expected to be established to co-ordinate federal policies and activities relating to forestry. An assistant deputy minister may also be appointed as head of the Canadian Forestry Service and chairman of the new committee.

In its review of the forestry sector, the discussion paper pointed out that nearly a million jobs depend on Canada's forest resources. In 1978, the forest industry produced \$1.8-billion worth of goods and contributed nearly \$9 billion to Canada's net balance of payments — more than that of agriculture, mining, fisheries and fuels combined.

International trade relations studied

The University of British Columbia will undertake a four-year study focusing on Canada's international trade relations.

A \$275,000 grant from the Donner Canadian Foundation of Toronto will enable the UBC Institute of International Relations to sponsor a wide range of research studies on issues of Canada's trade policy and some external economic developments which will have important implications for Canada's future.

Dr. Mark Zacher, a political scientist who heads UBC's multi-disciplinary international relations institute, said a total of 23 experts from three faculties — Arts, Law and Commerce, and Business Administration — would be involved in 18 separate research studies to produce an estimated 50 publications.

He said that in designing the project, a major effort had been made to include studies of Canadian trade relations with Asia and the Soviet Union, and Eastern Europe, two areas which are becoming increasingly important in international economic relations and in which UBC has considerable expertise.

Dr. Zacher said the economic character of most countries and international economic relations are undergoing fundamental changes which will profoundly affect both the welfare and security of Canada as well as other nations.

He said a number of factors, including the emergence of Japan and the EEC as economic superpowers, the dramatic rise of the oil-exporting nations, the increase

in Soviet international economic ties, the chronic balance-of-payments deficits of the U.S. and the growth of protectionism in many countries have all combined to upset the post-World War II international economic order, which was built on the predominance of the North American and Western European states and close policy co-ordination between them.

He said a major aspect of the project would be establishment of links with relevant sectors of government and private industry so that results of the UBC studies will have impact in Canada and abroad.

Assistance for Ugandan university

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will co-operate with Canadian universities in helping to restore higher education in Uganda.

Canadian assistance, co-ordinated by the International Development Office of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), will consist of the short-term services of a number of senior, experienced Canadian scholars and scientists who will help to rebuild certain faculties of Makerere University and bring curricula and techniques up to date. CIDA will contribute \$99,190 towards the project.

Makerere, once considered one of the best universities in tropical Africa, suffered disruption, injury and neglect through most of the 1970s, and has been isolated from contact with the outside world for several years. It is operating under adverse conditions, including severe under-staffing (only 30 per cent of established posts are filled, for example, in the faculty of medicine). Makerere remains the main training-ground for the skilled people needed to carry out all aspects of Uganda's development, and has a traditional role to fulfill also as an advanced training centre for talented students from other parts of Africa.

Past Canadian assistance to Makerere has focused on agriculture and veterinary science, and has benefited from close co-operation with the Universities of Saskatchewan and Guelph. The new project, by allowing a flexible Canadian response as the most urgent needs are identified, should help Makerere develop a variety of linkages with Canadian institutions as it goes through a difficult period of rebuilding in the next couple of years.