

FRANCOPHONE SUMMITS

Quality Control of Agri-food Products

This project, conducted in co-operation with the Quebec Food Processors Association, is intended to support the efforts of southern firms to implement effective quality control systems. Improvement in the quality of these firms' food products will promote acceptance of the products on domestic and foreign markets.

The Quebec Food Processors Association conducted two 30-hour seminars on the topic "Quality control of food products" in Tunis in October 1996 and, more recently, in Port-au-Prince early in December 1996. Issues dealt with in these seminars, which brought together manufacturers from the food and beverage sector, included total quality management, raw materials specifications for finished products, international food quality standards, the quality control laboratory, the hazard analysis critical control points system (HACCP), quality assessments, sampling plans, control cards, problem solving tools and recall plans. Other seminars of the same kind were previously held in Yamoussoukro (Ivory Coast, September 1993), Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam, April 1995) and Cotonou (Benin, October 1995).

II) COMMUNICATIONS

TV-5

TV-5 is the international French-language television channel in which the governments of Canada, Quebec, France, Switzerland, Belgium and various African countries participate. TV-5 now offers virtually global coverage. It gives some 47 million homes in Europe, Africa, North America, Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia and the United States access to French programming with an accent on information, culture and entertainment.

Approximately 20% of the programming of TV-5 Europe, TV-5 Afrique and TV-5 Amérique latine is devoted to Canadian programs. In Canada, six million subscribers to TV-5 Quebec-Canada receive programming 85% of which consists of broadcasts from European and African countries.

TV-5 is therefore a vital tool for multilateral co-operation and an important vehicle of communications among peoples who share the use of French. It is a cultural and trade showcase for our programs and artists abroad and, in return, offers Canadian television viewers unique programming consisting, for the most part, of European programs.

