

Osypowicz (Donau Trading Corporation, Poland) described the constraints his company perceived in the organisation and structure of Polish agriculture which prevented restoration of their post-war export position (text available).

19. Reacting, Mr. Maki (Japan International Co-operation Agency) explained what aid Japan had provided (no surprises). Mr. Hawrylyshyn (IMI, Kiev) urged overseas governments and companies to work directly with the Soviet Republics (particularly Ukraine) within an All-Union macro-economic framework. He was particularly keen to see large numbers of Ukrainian farmers and students working abroad to gain practical management experience (and a foreign currency stake!) to bring back for the benefit of the Ukraine. Marc Franco (Commission) gave a customarily level-headed and sensible performance on the PHARE programme approach and G24 co-ordination and the need to let the E/C European countries determine their own priorities and approaches. For this he won praise from Mr. Semm. Mr. Lafourcade (World Bank) also addressed the session, outlining the World Bank's involvement with the USSR/E/C European countries. A Bulgarian academic offered to host the 1991 version of the present conference.

20. Mr. Denise Norman (Zimbabwe) explained some of the problems encountered in Zimbabwe in achieving agricultural potential amongst the range of farmers found in the country and made a plea for Southern Africa to be fully accepted in the world community.

FIFTH SESSION

21. Mr. Johnson (Pioneer Hibred) managed to find a further commercial requirement for investment - intellectual property protection and adequate plant breeders rights (text available). Simon Harris (British Sugar) quite obviously drawing on joint venture experience in Poland, provided another daunting list of criteria to attract investment, as did Marcia Wiss (Kaplan, Russin and Vecchi, Washington).

22. Mr. Dabrowski made little impact on me, other than by losing his Vice-Ministerial post in the Polish Ministry of Finance after the programme had gone to print. Andrei Sizer (Soviet Academy of Sciences) spoke well, putting the centralist argument and the critical need to do something about food processing and distribution in collaboration with the West. However, the star turn was Ferenc Rabar (Hungarian Minister of Finance) who turned in a very adroit, sure-footed and humorous performance, particularly on questions, which disarmed his audience and certainly helped redress the concept of mutual benefit (and risk) in joint ventures and other forms of commercial co-operation which had been somewhat obscured. Mr. Rabar also dealt very well with the justifiable criticism from the floor that environmental considerations and concerns had also been overlooked during the discussions.