Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID)

P.O. Box 2102 Khartoum, Sudan Tel: (249-11) 773-752/3, 780-777

Fax: (249-11) 770-600

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AAAID is an investment organization of 15 Arab countries aimed at improving food security in Arab countries and developing agricultural resources in member states. For many years, it concentrated its efforts on establishing agricultural projects in the Sudan through equity participation.

In April 1994, it modified its emphasis by deciding to investigate the agricultural resources and the potential for agricultural development and related activities in other member states. Its mandate includes investing in all forms of agricultural production and related activities, particularly, land reclamation; plant, animal and fish production; pastures; forestry; the transport, storage, marketing, export and processing of agricultural produce; and all inputs necessary for agricultural production.

Authorized capital at the end of 1996 is US\$500 million of which US\$333 million is paid up. Cumulative commitments amounted to US\$358.7 million at the end of 1996, and disbursements reached US\$291 million.

AAAID has established several companies in the Sudan. Its participation in their capital amounted to \$106.1 million at the end of 1996. These companies are the Arab Company for Agricultural Production and Processing Ltd. (ACAPP), the Arab Sudanese Vegetable Oil Co. (ASVOC), the Arab Sudanese Blue Nile Agricultural Co. Ltd. (ASBNAC), the Kenana Sugar Co., and the Pilot Farm for Production of Improved Seeds.

In 1985, the Board of shareholders adopted a resolution calling for the extension of AAAID's activities to other member states. AAAID is now involved in projects in Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Tunisia, Mauritania, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

L. Battel/TBP January 1998