

t.311 Tanzania - BEN/SCS

Berne, May 10, 1991

Summary of the discussions held on May 1, 1991 in Berne between a Tanzania Delegation led by Hon. Minister of Health, Prof. P.M. Sarungi and a Swiss Delegation led by Ambassador Staehelin, Director of the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)

1. The agenda of the meeting of May 1, 1991 as well as the list of participants are enclosed.
2. It was the first time that discussions at high level have taken place between Tanzanian and Swiss representatives regarding cooperation in the health sector of Tanzania. The meeting was very fruitful and held in a friendly and open atmosphere.
While in the morning matters of national importance with strategic and policy implications were discussed under the chairmanship of Ambassador F.R. Staehelin, the afternoon session led by the Head of SDC's Sectoral Services Division, Mr. L. Currat, was dedicated to the Tanzanian-Swiss cooperation program in the health sector.
3. After the welcome and mutual introduction, the Hon. Minister of Health expressed his Government's gratitude for the longstanding Swiss (private and public) support to his country's efforts to establish and develop an appropriate health service for the benefit of all citizens.
4. The Hon. Minister, in his statement, gave a comprehensive view of the actual Tanzanian health situation:
 - a) Major efforts undertaken by his Government since independence to establish, on the principles and strategies of "Primary Health Care", an appropriate decentralized health service system.
 - b) The Tanzanian health system includes not only the public facilities but very much welcomes the private initiatives and mission hospitals. Central role of the Ministry of health in technical questions and in the formulation of national policies and guidelines. The most recently issued policy is the national laboratory policy as a direct result of the Tanzanian-Swiss cooperation in this field.
 - c) Major problems in the health sector: very limited resources in terms of manpower and finances which resulted in an overall deterioration of the system ; lack of multisectoral approach in the past; increasing number and adverse impact of HIV-infections, fast urbanisation. The Hon. Minister underlined the important fact that the second phase of the "Economic Recovery Program" will also address the health problems thanks to the inclusion of the so-called "Priority Social Action Program", part of which is the SDC-supported Dar es Salaam Urban Health Project.

5. In his reply, Ambassador Staehelin congratulated the Tanzanian Government for its remarkable efforts in the health system. However, it is understood that this system deteriorated during the eighties as a result of the difficult economic situation. Both Delegations agree that any recovery program in the health sector should primarily aim at rehabilitating and maintaining the system to the extent that subsequently good quality services can sustainably be rendered to the population. This includes such crucial measures like:

- improvement in the motivation of the health staff through adequate remuneration and training;
- strengthening of health management and planning at all administrative levels;
- improvement of the working environment through rehabilitation of existing facilities and establishment of an appropriate maintenance system for buildings and equipment;
- provision of an adequate quantity of essential drugs and other health supplies and spareparts.

6. During the subsequent discussions, it became evident that the guiding principles of Swiss cooperation in the health sector are in line with the Tanzanian health policies and development priorities. The conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation report of Swiss funded health projects are still fully valid.

7. Regarding the specific projects under Tanzanian-Swiss cooperation, the following conclusions and/or recommendations were made:

7.1 National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Program

- (a) In spite of the adverse effects of AIDS, the existing TB program with short-term chemotherapy is an exemplary replicable model thanks to its organizational, methodological and cost-effective approach.
- (b) Before final conclusions on a possible modification of the objectives etc. of the TB-program can be drawn, the TB-AIDS relationship has to be further studied (by the Tanzanian Government with WHO-support).
- (c) It is recognized that there is good scope for better coordination and practical collaboration between the national AIDS control and the TB-programs. The MoH will follow-up accordingly. Moreover, the need to have a well established, functioning laboratory system is determinant for the success of both programs.

7.2 Dar es Salaam Urban Health Project (DUHP)

DUHP represents component III of the IDA-supported "Health and Nutrition Project" and has only started in October 1990. The timely and well coordinated implementation of the comprehensive package of activities and measures as per plan of operation is crucial for the success of the project. When the facilities will be rehabilitated, they can only serve their purpose if the drugs, the basic equipment etc. are also available. Even more important for the project is the need for the various parties involved to continue to pursue the strategic principles and institutional arrangements defined in the intergovernmental Agreement.

7.3 Balance of payments assistance II

The Federal Office for Foreign Economic Affairs finances, as part of the BoP assistance II, the provision of kits of essential drugs for the DUHP. It was agreed that the originally foreseen procurement via Central Medical Stores (CMS) is not feasible (CMS will first be reorganized and overhauled) and needs replacement by an efficient and simple alternative approach. In this connection, the Federal Office for Foreign Economic Affairs will soon submit to the Tanzanian Ministry of Finance a proposal for amending the BoP-Agreement signed on 7.12.1990. This amendment shall also stipulate that neither counterpart funds nor cash-cover shall be claimed by the Tanzanian Authorities concerned from the drugs financed out of this BoP assistance.

7.4 Kilombero Health Research Program at the Swiss Tropical Institute Field Laboratory in Ifakara (STIFL)

It was agreed to continue the process of integrating STIFL into the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) and to finalize the Intergovernmental Agreement. One of the guiding principles of this intergovernmental cooperation will be to reach a sustainable balance between STIFL-and other NIMR-activities. Therefore it will be important for the MoH to clarify the future role of medical research in general and of NIMR (including STIFL) in particular.

7.5 District-designated St. Francis Hospital

The Tanzanian Delegation confirmed with appreciation the commendable performance of this hospital which, like the other mission-owned hospitals is well integrated into the Tanzanian health system and policy. It was learnt from the Hon. Minister that in June 1991 a workshop is planned by his Ministry with all church organizations owning mission hospitals. Concerning the future setup of these mission hospitals, it shall become optional for each church whether it wants to operate its hospital(s) on its own with limited Governmental support or to transfer them entirely into Governmental responsibility.

7.6 Technical Cooperation in the field of Anatomical and Clinical Pathology at Muhimbili Medical Centre (MMC) and Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC)

The Hon. Minister informed the Swiss Delegation that his Ministry, thanks to the SDC-financed laboratory system analysis, was in a position to elaborate and issue recently a national lab policy as a crucial part of the national health policy. With regard to the future Swiss-Tanzanian cooperation in the development of laboratory facilities, possibilities can only be examined after 1993. However, both Delegations agreed that for the well established and equipped laboratory at KCMC, a reasonable solution through joint discussions and efforts should be found as soon as possible since otherwise the investments made could stop producing results which would affect the entire Northern area of Tanzania.

8. The Hon. Minister also explained the objectives and present state of preparation of the "Orthopaedic Trauma project" at the MMC, Dar es Salaam. SDC in return confirmed its willingness to make a one time contribution in favour of this project provided that a solution to a number of open questions is found (for instance project financing secured, institutional arrangements in Switzerland cleared).
9. The meeting ended with the conclusion by both Delegations that this kind of discussions is considered very useful and therefore should be continued in future in a form and at dates to be reviewed jointly.



L. Currat
 Head, Sectoral Services Division
 Swiss Development Cooperation

Distribution

- DG 10, Mai 91 - 16
- Hon. Minister of Health, Prof. P.M. Sarungi (presently at WHO-Geneva)
 - Ambassador P.-Y. Simonin, Head Political Division II
 - Mr. J.-D. Gerber, Federal Office for Foreign Economic Affairs (BAWI)
 - Dr. B. Somaini, Federal Office for Health (BAG)
 - Dr. R. Baltes, Federal Office for Health (BAG)
 - Mr. Th. Eggenberger, Federal Office for Foreign Economic Affairs (BAWI)
 - Mr. O. Yersin, Political Division II
 - Dr. M. Tanner, Swiss Tropical Institute, Basle
 - Swiss Embassy Dar es Salaam
 - Coordination Office, Dar es Salaam
 - to all participants of SDC (SFR, WM, CL, CP, HAR, BEN)

Enclosure

- DG 10, Mai 91 - 16
- detailed program
 - list of participants in the working session

t.311 Tanzania

Berne, 30th April 1991

Detailed Programme for the working visit of Prof. P.M. Sarungi,
Tanzanian Minister of Health at SDC-Bern (1st May, 1991)

10.30	Welcome of all members to the meeting and introduction of the Swiss Development Cooperation in general	Mr. Staehelin Director SDC
10.45	Statement by the Minister on the Tanzanian health situation : main problems, strategies and policies, priorities	Prof.Sarungi, Hon. Minister
onwards	Brief discussion on issues raised by the Minister	Director SDC
11.30	Brief introduction into the Tanzanian-Swiss cooperation and ...	Mr.A.Hartmann, Head East Africa Section
11.40	presentation of the Tanzanian-Swiss cooperation in the health sector, in particular	Dr. M.Tanner
up to 12.00	Brief discussion	Director SDC
12.00- 15.00	Working Lunch at Hotel Sternen	
15.00- 17.00	Continue the discussion on the health sector programme, incl. relevant issues related to projects.	Mr. Currat, Chief Sectoral Services Division

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Bern, 30.4.91

Discussions with Prof. P.M. Sarungi, Minister of Health,
Tanzania - 1st May, 1991

Members present at the working sessions

1. From the Tanzanian side:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| - Prof. P.M. Sarungi | - Minister of Health |
| - Dr. K. Mmuni | - Chief Medical Officer |
| - Dr. H.J. Mponezya | - Public Health Specialist |
| - Dr. Uma Grob | - Muhimbili Medical Centre. |

2. From the Swiss side:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| - F.R. Staehelin | - Director SDC |
| - Dr. R. Wilhelm | - Deputy Director SDC |
| - Th. Eggenberger | - Fed. Office Foreign Econ. Affairs |
| - Dr. R. Baltes | - Fed. Office for Health |
| - O. Yersin | - Polit. Dept. 2 |
| - Dr. M. Tanner | - Swiss Tropical Institute |
| - L. Currat | - all SDC |
| - A. Hartmann | |
| - E. Banteli | |
| - W. Lenherr | |

Members present at lunch (Hotel Sternen, Muri)

1. From the Tanzanian side:

- Prof. P.M. Sarungi
- Dr. K. Mmuni
- Dr. H.J. Mponezya
- Dr. U. Grob

2. From the Swiss side:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| - F.R. Staehelin | - Director SDC |
| - J.-D. Gerber | - Fed. Office Foreign Econ. Affairs |
| - Dr. R. Baltes | - Fed. Office for Health |
| - Dr. M. Tanner | - Swiss Tropical Institute |
| - A. Hartmann | - SDC |
| - E. Banteli | - SDC |



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Berne, May 10, 1991

Original direkt weitergeleitet 6

Permanent Mission of the United
Republic of Tanzania to the UN
attn. Hon. Minister of Health
Prof. P.M. Sarungi
Av. Blanc 47

1202 G e n è v e

Working session of 1.5.1991 at SDC in Bern

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed a copy of the draft summary of the discussions held here in Berne on May 1, 1991 with yourself and your Delegation. We highly appreciated your presentation about the situation in the Tanzanian health sector and the opportunity to exchange views on the cooperation between our two countries in this important sector of your country's economy.

We look forward to continuing these discussions in the future and to following-up on the various recommendations of the meeting. Accordingly, we will inform our Embassy and the SDC Coordination Office in Dar es Salaam.

Thanking you again for a most interesting and fruitful discussion and wishing you all the best in your endeavors, we remain,

Yours sincerely,

L. Currat
Head, Sectoral Services Division

1991-05-10
Enclosure

Summary of discussions

cc: - SFR, WM, CL, CZ, CP, HAR, BEN

