

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF THE GENERAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS

(TC-93-06-01-1)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**REQUESTER:** Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation

**EXECUTING AGENCY:** General Bureau of Statistics (GBS)

**BENEFICIARY:** Government of Suriname (GOS)

**FINANCING:**

IDB:	US\$1,655,000 (SF)
Local counterpart funding:	US\$ 240,000
Total:	US\$1,895,000

**TERMS:**

Execution period:	30 months
Disbursement period:	36 months

**ENVIRONMENTAL CLASSIFICATION:** The Environmental Management Committee, at its meeting of August 22, 1995, classified this as a Category II operation.

**OBJECTIVE:** The objective of this operation is to improve the coverage, quality, and timeliness of economic and social statistics produced by the GBS in order to provide policy-makers and the general public with better tools for evaluating economic performance policies and the socio-economic situation of the country.

**DESCRIPTION:** The institutional strengthening of the GBS would consist of: (i) improving management, organization, and planning of statistical activities; (ii) improving methodologies, concepts, and nomenclatures; (iii) increasing the productivity of the human resources by on-the-job training and by training abroad; (iv) upgrading the equipment of the GBS for better data-processing and publications. The project would focus on five components: statistical organization and management, national accounts, enterprise statistics, trade statistics, and household surveys/consumer price index. The project will require a total of 130 person/months of consulting services, computer equipment, and training.

**BENEFITS:** The proposed project would substantially improve the quality and timeliness of economic and social data. Improvements in data, above all national accounts data, would greatly facilitate macroeconomic management and development planning. It would provide policy-makers with better information with which to complete the structural adjustment program in the most efficient and least-cost manner.

**RISKS:** The main risk confronted by this project is a loss of the newly-trained staff following completion of the training components of the project. The project seeks to minimize this risk by proposing a change in the

legal status of the GBS that would give the GBS budgetary and administrative autonomy. This would enable the GBS to raise GBS's professional salaries over time.

**EXCEPTIONS TO  
BANK POLICY:**

The consulting services needed for the enterprise census and its related activities will be provided by United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), which has a comparative technical advantage and extensive experience in conducting enterprise censuses in small developing countries (paragraph 4.2).

**THE BANK'S  
COUNTRY STRATEGY:**

The macroeconomic situation places constraints on Bank involvement in Suriname by weakening the economic rationale for many projects, complicating the assessment of rates of return, and limiting the government's ability to provide counterpart funding and service external debt obligations. Therefore, Bank strategy has been to avoid loan projects in productive sectors until a structural adjustment program is in place. The Bank would focus on providing technical assistance projects for institutional strengthening, particularly where those interventions would have a positive effect on the implementation of a structural adjustment program.

**SPECIAL  
CONTRACTUAL  
CONDITIONS:**

Prior to the first disbursement, the Executing Agency shall present to the Bank (paragraph 3.19):

- (i) Proof that the draft new Statistics Law, under which the GBS would become a parastatal entity (*stichting*) with full budgetary and administrative independence, has been approved by the Council of Ministers.
- (ii) The Beneficiary's commitment that, for the next three years, the Bureau of Statistics be allocated a budget not less, in real terms, than the present budget.
- (iii) The Beneficiary's commitment that appropriate premises will be provided to the GBS.
- (iv) The Beneficiary's commitment that the computer workstation resources of the GBS will be decentralized to the statistical units which would become responsible for processing their own data on the assigned computer equipment.

**RESPONSIBILITY:**

Country Division 6, Region 3 (RE3/OD6).

## I. BACKGROUND

### A. Macroeconomic context

- 1.1 The Republic of Suriname has endured a long-run economic decline precipitated by a drop in the price of alumina (the country's principal export) after 1982 and the suspension of Dutch aid in December 1982. These external shocks were compounded by poor macroeconomic management and a civil war in 1986. The resumption of Dutch aid in 1988, following a return to civilian rule, and high alumina prices in 1989 provided a temporary respite but demonstrated the extent to which the country had become dependent on bauxite industry revenues, official Dutch aid, and remittances from the large number of Surinamese living in the Netherlands.
- 1.2 Anxious to restore macroeconomic stability and growth but reluctant to adopt an adjustment program with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the government drafted a structural adjustment program (SAP) in 1992 with assistance from international consultants. The SAP was approved by the National Assembly in January 1993. Since then, the government has met one important target by replacing a cumbersome multiple exchange rate system with a unified official exchange rate in July 1994, and has had some success in reining in the fiscal deficit. However, in general, progress on implementing the program has been slow and patchy.
- 1.3 Because implementation of the SAP has been slow, particularly with regard to monetary policy, economic conditions deteriorated further in 1994. Inflation accelerated to 586 percent between December 1993 and December 1994, causing a large fall in real wages, especially in the public sector. In early 1995, a rise in the price of alumina bolstered public finances and strengthened the balance of payments, thereby replenishing the Central Bank's international reserves. The strong reserve position enabled the Central Bank to intervene in the foreign exchange market, which caused a sharp appreciation of the parallel exchange rate and an almost immediate deceleration of inflation. It is likely that economic growth has resumed in 1995.
- 1.4 Nonetheless, the current improvement in economic conditions is fragile and consolidation of recent gains will require continued fiscal discipline, monetary restraint and a program of liberalization and deregulation. The availability of accurate and timely economic statistics would greatly facilitate macroeconomic management throughout the period of structural adjustment.

### B. Institutional framework

- 1.5 An ordinance in 1946 established the General Bureau of Statistics (GBS) on January 1, 1947, with wide responsibilities for the preparation of statistical information. In 1954, a law was passed obliging persons and institutions in Suriname to provide the GBS

with information, although this has been widely ignored. The scope of the GBS' activities was reduced over time. In 1949, a law was passed establishing decennial household and population censuses, but the responsibility for the preparation and execution of population censuses was assigned to temporary Census Bureaus. Responsibility for the preparation of monetary and balance of payments statistics passed to the Central Bank, upon the establishment of that institution in 1956. Nevertheless, a 1992 law reiterated the GBS' overall responsibility for official statistics in Suriname, as well as delineating the statistical roles of other public institutions.

- 1.6 Economic statistics are produced by the GBS (national accounts, production figures, a consumer price index, and trade statistics), the Central Bank (monetary, balance of payments, and external debt data), the Ministry of Finance (fiscal data and external debt statistics), and other ministries. Primary demographic and social statistics are produced by the Central Bureau for Civil Registration (births, deaths and migration), the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Labor (employment, wages, and labor disputes), the Ministry of Social Welfare, and the Ministry of Justice and Police. The GBS produces population estimates, social and cultural statistics, transport and traffic statistics mainly based on the information collected by the above ministries. In addition, it processed the results of the 5th Population Census and produces a continuous household survey.

#### 1. The GBS

- 1.7 In terms of administration and budget, the GBS depends on the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation. Administrative dependance on the Ministry is cumbersome and leaves the Director of the GBS with very little control over the allocation of the GBS' financial and human resources. The smallest routine administrative action has to be approved by the Ministry, including, for instance, the filling of vacant positions which, in times of budgetary constraints, is given low priority and unduly delayed by the Ministry. Administrative autonomy would allow the GBS to reorganize itself in the most appropriate way in order to be able to streamline its organizational chart, fill vacant positions according to needs and recruit at competitive salary levels. The GBS consists of eight technical sections: national accounts, enterprise statistics, trade statistics, consumer price index, household surveys, population statistics, social and cultural statistics, and traffic and transport statistics. 1/

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1/ The GBS also contains eight administrative and supporting sections (see GBS organization chart in annex II).

## 2. Statistical data produced by the GBS

- 1.8 In general, the statistics produced by the GBS (and other institutions in Suriname) suffer from a number of defects. There is usually a long time lag before statistical information becomes available, thus limiting the relevance of the indicator. Moreover, problems of methodology and coverage reduce the reliability of statistics.
- 1.9 National accounts data are usually available only after a two year lag, which severely limits the usefulness for policy-making. The National Planning Office is thus obliged to make its own estimations/projections for the most recent year. The extent of the accounts is satisfactory, including GDP by origin at both current and constant (1980) prices and GDP by expenditure in current prices. The reliability of the accounts, however, is suspect for various reasons. Source data is weak, largely because response rates to the enterprise survey are low. External transactions have always been recorded at the official exchange rate although during certain periods a large proportion of transactions were conducted at other (very different) exchange rates. Certain items and components are not measured adequately, such as net transfers from abroad and factor income and payments.
- 1.10 Enterprise statistics are generally weak and unreliable. The list of enterprises used for surveys is outdated and incomplete. The response rate is poor and has declined in recent years, reducing the sample representativity. No information is available on the growing informal sector.
- 1.11 Trade statistics are based on raw data received from the Ministry of Finance and the Customs Office. They are considered unreliable for a variety of reasons mainly due to incomplete coverage. They are usually available after a two year lag, in part because of the time involved in coding and processing the data which is still done manually. At the beginning of 1996 external trade data are likely to be available in electronic form from Customs.
- 1.12 The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is based on a budget survey that was conducted in 1968/69. Therefore, the basket of goods and services has become very outdated and the weights do not reflect accurately current consumption patterns, which have been modified substantially by the deterioration of the economy in the last four years. The CPI covers only two major districts (Paramaribo and Wanica), although this accounts for 70 percent of the population. The CPI is readily available usually after at most two weeks.
- 1.13 Household surveys are of irregular quality and unreliable. The sampling procedures are inadequate, the non-response rate is high, and the reference period is too long.
- 1.14 The Population Statistics section does not carry out any primary statistical data collection activity. All data is received from

other government agencies. At present, the section prepares the yearly population estimates on the basis of the 1980 census, as well as information on births, deaths, and migration provided by the Central Bureau of Civil Registration (CBB). Although no measure is available to control data quality, the information provided by CBB is regarded as reliable, apart from the emigration figures which are underestimated.

- 1.15 Social and cultural statistics/Traffic and transport statistics are collected from government agencies, compiled in tables and available yearly. No data validity or coverage checks are carried out.

### 3. GBS Staff

- 1.16 The number and quality of staff at GBS have declined over the last decade. As of September 1995, of the remaining 100 staff members, only three had a university degree, and only half of the staff had completed senior high school. A major constraint on retaining skilled personnel is that salaries in the public sector are substantially below those available in the private sector. While skilled staff may be attracted to the GBS in the short-run because of the prospect of training under the proposed program, in the medium- and long-term skilled staff will only be retained if salary levels are improved. Therefore, in addition to the issue of administrative and budgetary autonomy, there is a need to ensure that the level of resources provided to the GBS does not fall in real terms, and preferably rise in the medium-term so that the GBS will be able to pay salaries equivalent to comparable public sector institutions such as the Central Bank and the National Planning Office.

### C. The request

- 1.17 On December 20, 1994, the Minister of Planning and Development Cooperation requested the IDB's assistance in the preparation of an operation intended to finance the strengthening of the GBS. In its request, the Government stressed the need for reliable statistical figures to evaluate its economic policies and to implement a structural adjustment program.

### D. Bank strategy

- 1.18 The macroeconomic situation places constraints on Bank involvement by weakening the economic rationale for many projects, complicating the assessment of rates of return, and limiting the government's ability to provide counterpart funding and service external debt obligations. Therefore, Bank strategy has been to avoid loan projects in productive sectors until a structural adjustment program is in place. Until such a time, and given the weaknesses of many public institutions in Suriname, the Bank would focus on providing technical assistance projects for institutional strengthening, particularly where those interventions would have a positive effect on the implementation of a structural adjustment program. On

August 20, 1995, the Bank approved Suriname's eligibility for non-reimbursable technical cooperation funding from the net income of the Fund for Special Operations (FSO).

- 1.19 Last Country Programming Paper (CPP) identified weak institutional capacity as a constraint to implement the necessary macroeconomic policies. It recommended the strengthening of the GBS to improve the national planning capability 2/. The Programming Committee reiterated in June 1992 the need for a technical cooperation for the institutional strengthening of the GBS 3/. Consequently, this project is consistent with Bank's strategy for Suriname.

## II. OBJECTIVES

### A. Objective

- 2.1 The main objective of the project is to improve the coverage, quality and timeliness of economic and social statistics produced by the GBS. This would provide policy-makers and the general public with better tools for evaluating economic performance, policies, and the socio-economic situation of the country.

### B. Results

- 2.2 The expected results of this project are:
- a. a significant improvement in the accuracy and quality of data produced by the GBS, thus increasing their utility;
  - b. a significant reduction in the time taken to process, produce, and disseminate statistics, thereby increasing their usefulness;
  - c. a strengthened GBS, with motivated and better-trained staff with better equipment, enhanced procedures, and methods of working, that can continue to produce accurate and timely statistics when the project finishes;
  - d. an improvement in the reputation and credibility of the GBS, so that it can attract skilled personnel, prevent a further loss of staff, and maintain high response rates to its surveys.

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2/ June 1990 CPP: paragraph 3.07.

3/ Document CP-329.

### III. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

#### A. Activities

- 3.1 To achieve the aforementioned results, the project would focus on five components: statistical organization and management, national accounts, enterprise statistics, trade statistics and household surveys/consumer price index (see annexes I and II).
- 3.2 The major activities of the statistical organization and management component of the project would be: assisting the Director of GBS in effective management techniques of statistical institutions; developing and installing formal management standards and procedures to achieve fuller utilization of the resources of the GBS; propose to the GBS director within the first quarter of project implementation, an action plan to reorganize the GBS and to make most efficient use of project resources; upgrading the equipment of the GBS, particularly by providing the individual statistical sections with their own computer equipment; assisting in the transition from shared, centralized computer-usage to decentralized assignment of data processing responsibility to the statistical sections; serving as project coordinator in the scheduling of the project's activities and providing advice to the GBS Director on the operational implementation of the components of the project; and assisting in the creation of a dissemination unit.
- 3.3 The major activities of the national accounts component of the project would be: improving the methodology of the preparation of the accounts; instituting the United Nations 1993 System of National Accounts; training staff in national accounts theory and practice; updating the base year for the estimates of gross domestic product by sector of origin at constant prices; switching to GBS trade data; revising the unit's existing national accounts data tables to be more user-friendly; and accelerating the dissemination of national accounts data.
- 3.4 The major activities of the enterprise surveys and business statistics component of the project would be: designing, executing and processing an enterprise census according to sound census techniques; improving and publishing the register of firms in Suriname; establishing mechanisms for continuously revising the register; improving survey techniques and significantly improving response rates; revising the existing tables produced by the Enterprise Statistics unit; developing new tables of interest to policy-makers and the business community, such as labor productivity; and producing and disseminating enterprise data on a regular basis.
- 3.5 The major activities of the trade statistics component of the project would be: modifying the work of the Trade Statistics unit to benefit from the prompt availability of data in electronic media



from the Customs Division of the Ministry of Finance, following the introduction of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Automated System for Customs Data and Management (ASYCUDA); and setting up a computerized procedure for converting the data provided by the Customs Division to data useful to the GBS and users of GBS data.

- 3.6 The major activities of the household surveys and consumer price index component of the project would be: conducting a household income and expenditure survey according to sound statistical principles to determine the correct items and their respective weights for the basket of goods in the consumer price index; establishing, from the above information, an updated consumer price index; using the information gathered on income to strengthen the preparation of the national income accounts.

B. Goods and services

1. Consulting services

- 3.7 The project will require 130 person/months of consulting services of which 30 person/months will be composed of national consultancies (see annex III). Although there is a wide disparity between the salary levels of the international and national consultants, the level of the proposed salaries is the minimum necessary to recruit qualified and competent international professionals. The executing agency is aware of these differences and has not raised any concern.

2. Acquisition of equipment

- 3.8 The acquisition of computation equipment would be necessary to upgrade existing computer capabilities. In particular, the installation of a network of 33 workstations would allow for the sharing of printers, software and databases.
- 3.9 The purchase of transportation equipment would give the Bureau the autonomy necessary to conduct surveys and make it more cost-effective in the long run than the current practice of renting transport.

3. Training

- 3.10 The project will provide extensive training. The bulk of training will be on-the-job training and will be provided by the relevant expert under each project component. The allowance for training abroad will enable up to three staff members of the national accounts division to attend national accounts training courses abroad for up to eight weeks each. This training program is complemented by a project financed by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and executed by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) which will allow members of GBS staff to spend several weeks in the Central

Statistical Office (CSO) of Trinidad and Tobago in order to exchange experiences and observe the procedures of their counterparts in a similar institution.

C. Cost and financing

- 3.11 The total cost of the project will be the equivalent of US\$1.89 million, of which the Bank will provide non-reimbursable financing up to US\$1.65 million equivalent from the net income of the FSO, in accordance with the following estimated budget summary. An expanded budget appears in annex IV.

BUDGET SUMMARY (in US\$ equivalent)			
	Bank	Local	Total
1. Professional services firms	387,200	0	387,200
2. Individual consultants	833,000	75,100	908,100
2.1 Remuneration	788,000	75,100	863,100
2.3 Recruitment and repatriation	45,000	0	45,000
3. Scholarships/training abroad	48,000	0	48,000
6. General support	270,540	142,140	412,680
6.1 Offices	0	69,000	69,000
6.2 Furniture	0	6,900	6,900
6.3 Equipment	204,300	0	204,300
6.4 Supplies	66,240	66,240	132,480
98. Contingencies	116,260	22,760	139,020
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,655,000</b>	<b>240,000</b>	<b>1,895,000</b>

- 3.12 The Bank's contribution, which amounts to 87 percent of the total project cost, will be destined to finance 130 person/months of consulting services of which 30 person/months of national professional consultants, computing and office equipment, and vehicles.

D. Organization and execution

- 3.13 Overall responsibility for the implementation of the Project is with the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation, which is by law the ministry responsible for the GBS. The responsibility of direct project supervision and administration will be given to an Execution and Supervision Committee composed of the Minister of Planning and Development Cooperation or his representative, the Director of GBS and the Project Coordinator. The Execution and Supervision Committee will meet at least once every three months or as requested by one of the members. The committee will be responsible for: (i) providing guidance to the Project Coordinator in the day-to-day administration and execution of the project; (ii) assisting in the coordination of the project activities; (iii) providing advice in solving potential implementation issues; (iv) coordinating project activities with the needs of other public institutions and projects of other international organizations; (iv) evaluating the development and implementation of the project;

(v) revising the semiannual progress reports; and (vi) reviewing the final evaluation report (see implementation schedule at annex V).

- 3.14 The Project Coordinator will be the consultant in management of statistical institutions. He will coordinate project activities under the supervision and guidance of the GBS Director who will act as the formal link between the executing agency and the Bank. The project will be executed over a period of 30 months.

E. Selection of consultants

- 3.15 The project will require a total of 130 person/months of consulting services. Consultants will be selected according to the Bank's guidelines for procurement of individual consultants except as indicated hereunder.
- 3.16 The consulting services needed for the enterprise census and its related activities will be provided by United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) which has a comparative technical advantage, a proven track record, and extensive experience in conducting enterprise censuses in small developing countries. INT/STA supports this decision.

F. Monitoring

- 3.17 The following reports will be submitted to the Bank by the Executing Agency to facilitate supervision of project performance:
- a. A semiannual progress report will be presented within 30 days after completion of each six-month period. The reports will review the execution of each project component, their impact on statistical output and their interaction with other project components, if any. The first semiannual external report should include a detailed description and schedule of the training program to be executed as well as an implementation schedule for the remaining life of the project. Subsequent semiannual reports should describe the status of execution of the project components. The report will be submitted to the Execution and Supervision Committee for review before being provided to the Bank.
  - b. A final evaluation report will be presented within three months of the completion of the project. It will contain a summary of the activities carried out and the results obtained in terms of the established objectives and benchmark indicators (see annex VI). The report will be submitted to the Execution and Supervision Committee for review before being provided to the Bank.

G. Disbursements

- 3.18 This operation will be executed over a 30-month period. The final disbursement will be made at the latest 36 months from the date of signature of the agreement between the Bank and the GOS. The Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation will delegate administration of the disbursements of the Bank's contribution to the GBS which will act as the Executing Agency. To ensure prompt availability of funds, particularly for the computer equipment needed for the start of the operation, the executing agency may establish a revolving fund for up to 10% of the Bank's total contribution. The term for disbursement of the financing will expire 36 months after the effective date of the agreement. The Government of Suriname (GOS) will provide the counterpart resources budgeted for this operation. These resources will be provided to the GBS for its administration in accordance with the schedule for procurement and contracting prepared by the Project Coordinator.
- 3.19 Prior to the first disbursement, the Executing Agency shall present to the Bank:
- a. A certificate including the name, office, and authenticated specimen of the signature of the person or persons who shall represent the Executing Agency in all acts relating to the execution of this Agreement.
  - b. The designation of independent auditors to review and certify the financial statements that have been agreed upon by the Beneficiary and the Bank.
  - c. Proof that the draft new Statistics Law, under which the GBS would become a parastatal entity (*stichting*) with full budgetary and administrative independence, has been approved by the Council of Ministers.
  - d. The designation of the Project Coordinator.
  - e. A commitment that, for the next three years, the Bureau of Statistics be allocated a budget not less, in real terms, than the present budget.
  - f. A commitment that appropriate premises will be provided to the GBS, either through guaranteeing that the GBS will be able to remain in its existing premises for at least two years, or if the GBS is to be moved, through ensuring that this takes place before the project starts;
  - g. A commitment that the computer workstation resources of GBS be decentralized to the statistical units which would become responsible for processing their own data on the assigned computer equipment.

H. Benchmark indicators

- 3.20 A table with the benchmark indicators by which the project will be judged can be found in annex VI.

I. Environmental impact

- 3.21 The Environmental Management Committee, at its meeting of August 22, 1995 classified this project as a Category II operation since it has no direct impact on the environment.

IV. BENEFITS AND RISKS

A. Expected benefits

- 4.1 The most important benefits of this project are:
- a. a substantial improvement in the quality and timeliness of economic and social data. Improvements in data, above all national accounts data, will greatly facilitate macroeconomic management and development planning. It will provide policy-makers with better information with which to complete the structural adjustment program in the most efficient and least-cost manner. Information on social conditions will be enhanced by improvements in household surveys and an updated consumer price index. Improvements in trade data will provide policy-makers, business and the public with information made more valuable by Suriname's recent accession to CARICOM, as well as strengthening national accounts and balance of payments data. Improvements in enterprise statistics will provide useful feedback to the business community, as well as enhancing a vital input to national accounts.
  - b. a major improvement in the public image of the GBS, thereby reinforcing its ability to maintain high response rates to its surveys and increasing confidence in and use of statistical information.
  - c. a major improvement in the morale of staff, thereby enhancing the Bureau's ability to attract and retain qualified personnel.

B. Project risks

- 4.2 The main risks confronted by this project are:
- a. Low salaries of GBS staff, leading to low morale, absenteeism, and a loss of newly-trained staff following completion of the project or training components of the project. The project seeks to minimize this risk by requiring the Government to obtain the approval of a proposed change in the legal status of the GBS that

would give the GBS budgetary and administrative autonomy. This would enable GBS to raise GBS's professional salaries over time to the level of equivalent positions in the Central Bank of Suriname.

- b. The GBS being obliged to move premises during the project, which would disrupt, or delay, the utilization of the equipment. The project seeks to minimize this risk by requesting that the government guarantee that suitable premises will be provided to the GBS during the project as a condition precedent to eligibility for disbursement.
- c. Increased macroeconomic instability, particularly a resumption of high inflation, during the life of the project. This could complicate the execution of and reduce confidence in the results of the enterprise census and a household income and expenditure survey. It could jeopardize the rebasing of national accounts and the consumer price index. Lessening this risk directly is beyond the scope of the project, although the project itself is intended to facilitate macroeconomic management.

## V. EVALUATION

- 5.1 In accordance with the established norms of the Bank within six months from the date of last disbursement, the GOS shall prepare the Project Completion Report (PCR) of the proposed Technical Cooperation, which will contain a judgement on the attainment of the objectives of the operation.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

**SURINAME. NONREIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL COOPERATION. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING  
OF THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

The Board of Executive Directors

RESOLVES:

1. That the President of the Inter-American Development Bank, or such representative as he shall designate, is authorized, on behalf of the Bank, to enter into such agreements as may be necessary with the Government of Suriname and to adopt such other measures as may be pertinent for the execution of the plan of operations referred to in Document AT- \_\_\_\_\_, with respect to a technical cooperation, the purpose of which is the strengthening of the Bureau of Statistics.

2. That up to the amount of US\$1,655,000 is authorized for the purpose of this resolution, chargeable to the net income of the Fund for Special Operations.

3. That the above mentioned sum is to be provided on a non-reimbursable basis.