

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Response
In reply to question C(b) :  <u>Summary of technical assistance needs according to priority</u>	IMF	1) To review and update customs legislation and regulations to align them to WTO rules and standards, including aligning the customs valuation system to the WTO requirements, and  2) Rationalize the import tariff and coordinate it with the domestic indirect tax system, to assure efficient collection of revenues. (1998: Commitment in principle)  Please refer to A(k)
1. Design (a) programme(s) that will realise technical assistance requirements with regard to URAG needs outlined in A(k)i-vii, especially enhancing both human and institutional capacities to manage WTO matters	UNCTAD	Please refer to A(k) and I.P.*
	WTO	Please refer to A(k)
2. Design a programme that will realise technical assistance needs on specific areas of WTO agreements, especially on notifications, public sensitization/ education on URAG/WTO, strengthening enquiry points, customs valuation and more importantly, <u>develop local trade negotiating capacity to enable Uganda to actively participate in future trade negotiations on the in-built agenda and "new issues"</u>	UNCTAD	Please refer to A(k), A(l) Point 10, B(g), and I.P.*
	WTO	Please refer to answers to A(k), A(l)1, A(l)3 and A(l)5.
3. Provision of appropriate trade finance/ schemes, especially tailored to assist exporters (export finance)	ITC	Please refer to B(q)

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Response
Question C(b) (cont.) :		
4. Development of infrastructure, especially the development of serviced land and introduction of Export Processing Zones, and expand cold storage facilities at Entebbe Airport, particularly to handle fish exports and other perishables		
5. Enhancement of institutional and human capacities of export facilitating agencies (e.g. UEPB, UNBS, UTB, DFT, UIA, UCDA, CDO) so that they provide the much needed hands-on support services (i.e. farming demonstrations, extension and provision of marketing services, etc.) and delivery of tourism services	ITC/ UNCTAD/ WTO	See I.P.
	UNCTAD	Please refer to B(g)
	World Bank	This is provided under the ongoing Cotton Project.
Provision of internet connectivity	UNCTAD/ ITC	See B(g) (Trade Point)
	WTO	One computer will be provided by the WTO to the focal point in Uganda. This includes a link up to the Internet. (1998) Training on access and use of Internet resources and of CD.Roms will be provided to Uganda. (1998) (See I.P.)
Eradication of water hyacinth	World Bank	This is provided in the ongoing Lake Victoria Project.
Re-orientation of training/system programmes to produce practical graduates in trade, including WTO matters, risk management and augmented with relevant and targeted workshops/seminars	ITC/ UNCTAD/ WTO	See I.P.

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Response
<p>Question C(b) (cont.) :</p> <p>Provision of support to regional informal pressure groups, such as the USAID sponsored "East African Transportation Initiative (EATI)", a private/public sector initiative which lobbies governments in East Africa to ease transportation bottlenecks so that overall transport costs, especially to land-locked countries, are reduced.</p>	<p>World Bank</p>	<p>This is addressed in the ongoing Transport Rehabilitation Project and the ongoing Cross-Border Initiative (CBI).</p>

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Response
<p>In reply to question C(d) :</p> <p><u>Technology assistance needs in the area of information technology, including training of human resources</u></p>		
<p>Uganda's technological capacity is still in its nascent stages. Certainly, a very small percentage indeed can use information/communication tools such as CD-ROM, the internet, and others. Hence, a great deal of training and support is necessary in the context of trade development.</p>	UNCTAD	Please refer to B(g) (Trade Point)
	WTO	Please refer to C(b)

WTO, UNCTAD AND ITC  
INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR AFRICA (IP)  
UGANDA

**I. CONTEXT**

A joint "Integrated Technical Assistance Programme" was developed in 1996 by ITC, UNCTAD and WTO to help selected least-developed and other countries in Africa, become more effective participants in the new world trading system and to implement the Uruguay Round Agreements. The programme provides for information and training activities aimed at building local capacities for the understanding and management of multilateral trading system (MTS)-related issues. Uganda was among the eight selected African countries, covered by the Programme,<sup>1</sup> on a pilot basis. A programming exercise was undertaken in 1996, to allow the three international organizations to design a country specific technical assistance project.

In this framework, a needs identification mission was organised jointly by a WTO and ITC team in Kampala from 4 to 5 July 1996, to take stock of the situation with regard to the implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements (URAs) and to envisage with officials from various ministerial departments the priorities of the country in terms of follow-up to the said Agreements. A second mission by ITC followed from 24 to 31 August 1996, to assess the identified needs and to establish further contacts with Ugandan enterprises, training institutions and other public administration officials, involved in the implementation of the URAs. The final aim of the field mission was to design a technical assistance Project to help Uganda in the implementation and follow-up of the URAs. This Project is part of the above-mentioned Integrated Programme. This proposal is the result of both investigation missions and meetings held with Ugandan authorities, institutions and enterprises. It contains details of activities to be implemented by ITC, UNCTAD and WTO, respectively.

**II. DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBSECTOR**

**A. ECONOMIC BACKGROUND**

**1. Recent economic situation**

The Ugandan economy has been improving since 1993 (see table below). The economy started expanding rapidly in 1987, culminating in a record 10.6 per cent growth in 1994. In 1996, the rate of economic growth edged downwards to 6 per cent from 8.5 per cent in 1995. The performance of agriculture remains the main determinant of economic growth. The macroeconomic framework is favourable, with inflation at 7 per cent in 1996. Private consumption and gross fixed capital formation accounted for 84 per cent and 17 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), respectively, in 1995. The performance of the Ugandan economy under the Economic Recovery Programme and its 1993 successor, the Rehabilitation and Development Plan, was impressive.

Selected economic indicators for Uganda

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Real GDP growth (per cent)	8.4	5.3	10.6	8.5	6.0
Merchandise Exports (US\$ million)	169	254	577	555	500
Merchandise Imports (US\$ million)	622	672	1086	1180	1250
Current account (US\$ million)	-142	-67	-164	-114	-200

**2. Features of the Ugandan economy**

Upon independence in 1962, Uganda's economic fortunes appeared solidly based in a favourable natural environment and relatively well-developed infrastructure. With a per capita income of some US\$ 200, Uganda currently ranks among the poorest countries in the world. This is attributable mainly to internal problems of the past and, thus, is amenable to political and economic reform. Capitalizing on

<sup>1</sup> Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Tunisia.