

OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER INTERNATIONAL
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Quarterly Progress Report

OICI/Africa Activities

submitted to

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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The activities of OIC International have increased and made considerable progress during this fourth quarter: Task Order No. 1 has been amended and enlarged approving for additional personnel for the central staff to adequately carry out its growing and demanding responsibilities. The central staff has increased with an addition of four (4) persons - Fiscal Officer, Accountant, and two (2) Secretaries. (Bio data under separate cover) In the near future we will be increasing this number by bringing on a Training Officer and possibly an Economic Development Specialist.

Also approved and finalized were Task Order No. 2 providing funds for the OIC Ghana activities and Task Order No. 3 providing support for the OIC Nigeria activities. Our finance office has taken the necessary steps of securing surety bonding for these two contracts and have forwarded the same to AID Washington, Contracts Office and are now awaiting release of advance funds. Preliminary activities for setting up separate accounting books have been initiated by our finance office.

The first two weeks of June 1970 the OICI director traveled to West Africa, Nigeria and Ghana. The purpose of this trip was to:

1. Check on the progress and activities of the local program being assisted by two OIC technicians.
2. Assess the effectiveness of the OIC on-site personnel from their view point as well as that of the local Board of Directors to whom they were assigned to assist.
3. At the request and insistence of the local Boards, hold discussions with government officials (Ministry of Economic Development) to obtain the necessary sanctions (duty free and

tax exempt privileges from the government).

The trip proved quite successful, with much forward progress being made and the guarantee of sanction privileges being extended by the federal governments of Nigeria and Ghana.

Due to the increase in central staff and the orientation and training program soon to be held for our overseas field personnel along with their African counterparts which should begin in the next quarter, OIC International, on July 1, 1970, moved to larger quarters. The new headquarters for OIC International is 3639 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19140.

The month of July 1970 proved full of activities. In addition to continuation of negotiations with AID concerning our various contracts and efforts to step up our initial recruitment of personnel, the central staff working with the OIC International Board of Directors and the national OIC movement, organized and coordinated a nationally OIC represented group trip (approximately 40 people) to West Africa, Nigeria and Ghana. Such an activity is an intricate part of the OIC philosophy and program development. This activity was an action effort to assist the local programs in implementing and launching their efforts in a concrete fashion. The trip was organized to accomplish two major objectives in the international program development: (1) To make a larger OIC American people and staff aware of the socio-economic problems of Africa, and (2) More important, the trip was designed to provide our OIC African counterparts with relevant OIC information and concepts, provided by

people who are knowledgeable and are presently working within the OIC movement. In accomplishing these things, the OIC American group was utilized to share their experiences through the following activities: Discussions and workshops were organized to provide an exchange of ideas concerning the voluntary function and purpose of the OIC Board of Directors; the role of the Executive Director and his operational staff; the purpose of recruitment and selection, counseling and testing, basic education (Feeder), attitudinal development, relevant skill training, job creation and development, and job placement. In addition to these items, also discussed was the importance of developing a meaningful link between OIC and industry through the establishment of an OIC Industrial Advisory Council. In this respect, the Nigeria and Ghana OICs, with the assistance of the American counterparts, held workshops and a special dinner with the industrial communities.

In Nigeria the group participated in the dedication of the OIC center which is located in the Ikeja area of Lagos. Though the OIC Ghana training site had not been officially selected, several sites were identified. The group participated in kicking off the Fund Raising Drive in Accra and Lagos.

The group was also received at receptions given by the American Ambassadors in both Nigeria and Ghana. Both the Nigeria and Ghana USAID Missions continue to provide encouragement and assistance.

The reception received by the group was quite warm and cordial and it is felt this trip was a great source of encouragement to the local groups in their efforts to develop OIC training programs.

This whole OIC trip was designed with the above purpose in mind, which was to assist in furthering the OIC developments in Nigeria and Ghana by giving the local people first hand information as well as creating much more local awareness of the OIC development in terms of generating more public, industrial and government awareness and support. In accomplishing all its objectives, the group activity was quite successful.

With the OIC American group returning from Africa, were the two OIC lead technicians who had been assigned to Nigeria and Ghana. They had completed not only their 3-month assignments, but had extended their activities for an additional month. A great deal of progress was made in the development of these two programs with our two technicians on hand to give on-site assistance.

During the month of August the local people have provided continuous leadership for the development of these programs. In September OIC International will be sending one of its field representatives back to Nigeria and Ghana to work with the local boards in paving the way for our two-year permanent staff phase-in plan to begin October 1, 1970. This lead representative will go out in September to accomplish: The question of housing and personnel logistics as well as to help the local group finalize their staff selections who will be preparing themselves to come to Philadelphia to receive OIC training.

By the end of September or early October we will start our phase-in process by assigning two technicians to Nigeria and two to Ghana. One of these technicians will be our Program Advisor with a strong background in OIC administration and manpower development. The

second technician will be a vocational specialist whose responsibility it will be to design the Feeder program and to begin developing curriculum based on the local program course designs.

During this same period of late September or early October, we plan to start phasing in the African counterparts, starting first with their non-technical staff personnel.

With the two lead technicians back from their 4-month assignments in Nigeria and Ghana assisting the central office, we are now in the process of developing and organizing a relevant orientation and training program for the American and African personnel who will be coming to Philadelphia for training. In addition to designing and organizing the training activities, the central office is also laying the groundwork for resolving all the logistical problems involved in such a training scheme.

The beginning of August found the central staff organizing and implementing a meaningful orientation for a Ghana OIC Board member, Mr. G. Adali-Mortty, who arrived in Philadelphia during the week of August 6, 1970. During this period Mr. Adali-Mortty had the opportunity to tour and have in-depth discussions with OIC personnel at the Philadelphia, New York and Washington, D.C. OIC programs. While in Philadelphia, he also had the opportunity to visit several of Dr. Sullivan's economic development, training and business enterprises.

In August we also welcomed to our central office Mr. Anofi S. Guobadia, Managing Director of Maiden Electronics Works, Ltd. and the current Lagos Chamber of Commerce Vice President. He is also

working with the OIC Lagos Board of Directors. We provided him with the opportunity to tour OIC and our economic enterprises. We discussed how the Chamber of Commerce and business could assist and support OIC and how such a team work would be of benefit to the total community.

Also during the month of August 1970, the central office stepped up its recruiting effort to identify, select and secure qualified personnel to assign to the African projects. The director spent the week of August 17, 1970 traveling across the United States visiting the various OICs to interview prospective staff personnel. At this time the Board of Directors in Nigeria and Ghana are in the process of selecting their lead personnel who will be coming to the United States for OIC orientation.

Our future projections and activities as we see them now are as follows:

1. Continue our recruitment effort;
2. Encourage and assist the African programs in selecting and forwarding their staff personnel to Philadelphia;
3. Help the African programs finalize their training, building and equipment activities;
4. Implement OIC training program for African and American personnel;
5. Organize an orderly system of handling all the logistic problems relating to the training program and transportation of OIC personnel, accompanied by their families and personal effects to Africa;

6. Look into the necessary arrangements for identifying, securing and transporting the various office and training equipment to the African training programs.