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APPR: CQ ( )  
DRAFT: FD ( )  
CLEAR: ( )

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AID/FVA/PPM:FDUNCAN:MEB:UGANDA1.AER  
06/03/91 (703) 875-4606  
AID/FVA/PPM:CQUIROS

AID/AFR/EA:BHOWARD {DRAFT}      AID/AFR/EA:CMCCARTHY {INFO}  
AID/AFR/MDI:WWEINSTEIN {INFO}      AID/FVA/FFP:RKIDD {INFO}

ROUTINE      KAMPALA

ROUTINE      NAIROBI, DAR ES SALAAM, LUSAKA, HARARE, GABARONE, BANJUL,  
ACCRA, LAGOS

AJDAC

E.O. 12356:    N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT:    AGRI-ENERGY ROUNDTABLE ASSOCIATION DEVELOPMENT

SUMMARY:    THE BUREAU FOR FOOD FOR PEACE AND VOLUNTARY ASSISTANCE {FVA} IS FACILITATING USAID AND LOCAL PRIVATE SECTOR CONTACTS WITH THE AGRI-ENERGY ROUNDTABLE INC. {AER}. AER IS A U.N. ACCREDITED, NON-PROFIT, TAX-EXEMPT ASSOCIATION WHOSE GOALS ARE TO IMPROVE THE DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION IN AGRO-INDUSTRY AND RELATED ENERGY DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY BETWEEN INDUSTRIALIZED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. LOCAL AGRIBUSINESS INTERESTS OFFICIALLY REGISTERED AN AER ASSOCIATION AS A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION IN UGANDA ON FEBRUARY 20, 1991. FVA REQUESTS USAID CONCURRENCE FOR THE VISIT OF AER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NICHOLAS HOLLIS DURING JULY 24-29 TO CONSULT WITH THE UGANDA ASSOCIATION ON FURTHERING THEIR ORGANIZATION'S DEVELOPMENT.    END SUMMARY.

1.    FVA GRANT

FVA HAS PROVIDED AER A \$25,000 GRANT TO FACILITATE AER CONTACTS WITH USAID MISSIONS AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTIES

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INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING AER COUNTERPART AGRO-INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS. THE GRANT FUNDS AER TRAVEL, PER DIEM, AND ASSOCIATION DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES IN SELECTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. PPC JUST SIGNED A SIMILAR \$40,000 AGREEMENT WITH AER TO SUPPORT AER ASSOCIATION DEVELOPMENT IN MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES; ENE AND APRE ARE CONSIDERING PROPOSALS TO SUPPORT AER AS WELL. PPC PERIODICALLY HOLDS COORDINATING MEETINGS OF A.I.D. OFFICES INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING AER. THE FIRST MEETING WAS HELD MARCH 21, 1991; WARREN WEINSTEIN, AFR/MD1, REPRESENTED THE AFR BUREAU.

## 2. AER PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

THE COMPLEMENTARY OBJECTIVES OF THE AER COUNTERPART ASSOCIATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ARE TO DEVELOP INDIGENOUS PRIVATE SECTOR INSTITUTIONS AND TO PROMOTE INCREASED AGRICULTURAL TRADE BETWEEN THE HOST COUNTRY AND THE UNITED STATES. THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS FROM THE "PROGRAM DESCRIPTION" OF THE FVA GRANT AGREEMENT DESCRIBE MORE PRECISELY THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM AND HOW IT IS TO BE IMPLEMENTED:

"AER WILL ESTABLISH LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS TO PROMOTE PRIVATE ENTERPRISES INVOLVEMENT IN:

- 0 RURAL ASSOCIATIONS AND COOPERATIVES;
- 0 CONSENSUS-BUILDING ON POLICY ISSUES (DIALOGUE PLATFORMS); AND,
- 0 OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDING SHORT-TERM TRAINING AND THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION IN PRODUCT MARKETING; NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND EQUIPMENT; APPROACHES TO DISEASE CONTROL; AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT HANDLING.

LOCAL ASSOCIATION ESTABLISHMENT WILL FOLLOW COUNTRY BRIEFING VISITS AND DISCUSSION INVOLVING AER, USAID MISSION, AND LOCAL PRIVATE SECTOR/ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES. THE AER ANNUAL MEETING AND OTHER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES WILL PROVIDE NECESSARY FOLLOW-UP SUPPORT AS THE ASSOCIATIONS REACH SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

THE INITIAL VISITS WILL PRODUCE SEVERAL ADDITIONAL BENEFITS, INCLUDING:

- 0 INTRODUCTIONS TO LOCAL AER CHAPTER ORGANIZERS;
- 0 INITIAL TRAINING OF CHAPTER ORGANIZERS IN THE DRAFTING OF BY-LAWS AND OTHER STEPS REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A CHAPTER; AND
- 0 BRIEFINGS WITH HOST GOVERNMENT AND OTHER QUASI-OFFICIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

THE AER LOCAL ASSOCIATION WILL ACT AS THE FOCAL POINT WITHIN A COUNTRY ON AGRO-FOOD ISSUES OF CONCERN TO AGRO-PROCESSORS AND OTHERS INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. AER ASSOCIATIONS SHOULD ALSO BENEFIT USAID MISSIONS BY OFFERING USEFUL OUTREACH CHANNELS TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR AT MINIMAL COST, AND BY PROVIDING A MEANS OF CONTINUITY FOR DEVELOPING PRIVATE SECTOR INSTITUTIONS.

### 3. CURRENT STATUS OF AER CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT IN UGANDA

AER/W REPORTS THAT AN AER/W VISITS IN AUGUST AND NOVEMBER 1990 SPARKED FURTHER LOCAL INTEREST WITHIN THE AER/UGANDA ORGANIZING COMMITTEE. THE GROUP IS WELL BALANCED BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR INTERESTS AND INCLUDES PARTICIPATION FROM MAKERERE UNIVERSITY. THE COMMITTEE IS RE-WORKING THE BY-LAWS AS A STEP TOWARD FORMAL ACCREDITATION WITH AER/W, AND IS ACTIVELY ENCOURAGING OTHER AFRICAN AER FORMATION COMMITTEES IN TANZANIA, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE, BOTSWANA, GAMBIA, GHANA AND NIGERIA.

### 4. PURPOSE OF AER/W VISIT

AER VISITED UGANDA TWICE IN 1990 TO ASSIST LOCAL ORGANIZERS IN ESTABLISHING A LOCAL AER ASSOCIATION. THESE EFFORTS LED TO THE FORMAL ESTABLISHMENT OF AGRI-ENERGY ROUNDTABLE UGANDA ON FEBRUARY 20, 1991. THE ASSOCIATION IS BUILDING A BROAD, WELL-BALANCED MEMBERSHIP BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR--AND INCLUDES PARTICIPATION FROM MAKERERE UNIVERSITY. DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY, WANDIRA-KAZIBWE CHAIRS THE ASSOCIATION.

LOCAL AER ORGANIZERS AND MINISTER OF ANIMAL, INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES, DR. G.M. KAGONYERA, HAVE INVITED AER TO ASSIST THEM IN PLANNING FOR AN AGRO-INDUSTRY WORKSHOP ON AFRICAN AGRO-FOOD DEVELOPMENT. THE ORGANIZERS ARE PLANNING TO SEND INVITATIONS TO SELECTED AFR LOCAL ORGANIZERS IN OTHER

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AFRICAN COUNTRIES--AS WELL AS U.S. AGRIBUSINESS AND UNIVERSITY EXPERTS ON LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT.

AER/UGANDA IS ALSO REQUESTING MR. HOLLIS' ADVISORY ASSISTANCE ON SELECTING AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MANAGING THE ASSOCIATION, DEVELOPING A FUND RAISING PLAN, AND LAYING PLANS FOR A TWO-YEAR PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES.

5. ACTION REQUESTED

FVA REQUESTS USAID/UGANDA CONCURRENCE IN A VISIT DURING JULY 24-29, 1991. THE VISIT WILL ENTAIL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN MR. HOLLIS AND THE AER/UGANDA AND MISSION COURTESY CALLS BY MR. HOLLIS AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE TDY. PLEASE ADDRESS CONCURRENCE TO FVA/PPM, FOREST DUNCAN. YY

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