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9 DEC 1981

Dr. Edward Vickery
Executive Director
South East Consortium for International Development
400 Eastowne Drive, Suite 207
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514

Dear Dr. Vickery:

I am pleased to note that the Consortium is participating in an important project in our foreign assistance program in Sri Lanka, the promotion of reforestation and improved watershed management. We consider the prompt implementation of this project crucial if we and the Government of Sri Lanka are to be successful in protecting and expanding important watershed areas in the highland regions of the country while promoting more rational use of existing forest resources.

Our contract with the Consortium to provide technical services related to the project was signed last June, but little has been accomplished to date, owing to the absence of a Chief of Party to direct your efforts in Sri Lanka. While all of us (the Government of Sri Lanka, USAID and I) fully appreciate the difficulties you face in finding a highly qualified candidate for this position, the Government of Sri Lanka and USAID are concerned that further delay in recruiting and posting such a person will seriously impede implementation of the project as planned.

I would appreciate it, therefore, if you would inform the Government of Sri Lanka, with information copies to USAID and me, of the progress you are making in finding a suitable candidate. I am sure that USAID and appropriate members of the Government of Sri Lanka will be pleased to assist you in resolving this problem.

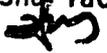
Sincerely,



Jon D. Holstine
Assistant Administrator
Bureau for Asia

Clearances:

- ASIA/PNS:JGunning (draft)
 - ASIA/TR:KMcNamara (draft)
 - GC/ASIA:STisa (draft)
 - CM/ROD/ASIA:PHowley (draft)
 - ASIA/PD:GRvanRaalte _____ Date 12/4
 - DAA/ASIA:FWSchieck FWS Date 12/4
- ASIA/PD/SA:DHarris/HSharlach:sl/fv:12/4/81:58981



UNCLASSIFIED
Department of State

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 STATE 310659

6858 045996 A102588

STATE 310659

6858 045996 A102588

ORIGIN AID-28

4. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS PRIOR TO TRANSMITTAL OF
LETTER. HAIG

ORIGIN OFFICE ASPD-03

INFO ASPN-02 PPCE-01 PDPR-01 PPPB-03 GC-01 GCAS-01 GCFL-01
ASTR-01 CMGT-02 CTF-02 ENGR-02 RELO-01 7C-00 /021 AB

INFO OCT-80 /020 R

DRAFTED BY AID/ASIA/PD/SA:DHARRIS:FY
APPROVED BY AID/ASIA/PD:RVANRAALTE
AID/SER/CH/ROD:PHOWLEY (PHONE)
AID/ASIA/P//SA:HRSHARLACH
AID/ASIA/P/S:JGUNIING (PHONE)
AID/ASIA/TR:KMCNAMARA (DRAFT)
AID/GC/ASIA:STISA (PHONE)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ANEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 310659

ADM AID

E.O. 12065 N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT PERFORMANCE OF SECID IN REFORESTATION AND WATERS
MANAGEMENT PROJECT (383-0055)

1. AA IS CONSIDERING PERSONAL LETTER TO DR. EDWARD VICKE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SECID, EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT
DELAY IN RECRUITMENT AND POSTING OF CHIEF OF PARTY FOR TA
COMPONENT OF REFORESTATION AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROJE

2. LETTER WOULD REQUEST STATUS REPORT FROM VICKERY AND
OFFER, IF REQUESTED BY SECID, TO RECOMMEND CANDIDATES FOR
CHIEF OF PARTY.

3. TEXT OF LETTER IS AS FOLLOWS:

QTE I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE CONSORTIUM IS PARTICIPA
ING IN AN IMPORTANT PROJECT IN OUR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM IN SRI LANKA, THE PROMOTION OF REFORESTATION AND
IMPROVED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT. WE CONSIDER THE PROMPT
IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT CRUCIAL IF WE AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA ARE TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN PROTECTIN
AND EXPANDING IMPORTANT WATERSHED AREAS IN THE HIGHLAND
REGIONS OF THE COUNTRY WHILE PROMOTING MORE RATIONAL USE
OF EXISTING FOREST RESOURCES.

YOUR CONTRACT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA TO PROVIDE
TECHNICAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE PROJECT WAS SIGNED LAST
JUNE, BUT THE CONSORTIUM HAS NOT AS YET FIELDIED AN
ACCEPTABLE CHIEF OF PARTY TO DIRECT ITS EFFORTS IN SRI
LANKA. WHILE I FULLY APPRECIATE THE DIFFICULTIES YOU
FACE IN FINDING A HIGHLY QUALIFIED CANDIDATE FOR THIS
POSITION, I AM CONCERNED THAT FURTHER DELAY IN RECRUITING
AND POSTING SUCH A PERSON WILL SERIOUSLY IMPEDE IMPLEMEN
TATION OF THE PROJECT AS PLANNED.

I WOULD APPRECIATE IT, THEREFORE, IF YOU WOULD INFORM US
AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE OF THE PROGRESS YOU ARE
MAKING IN FINDING A SUITABLE CANDIDATE. IF YOU BELIEVE
IT WOULD BE HELPFUL, MEMBERS OF MY STAFF, MS. KATHLEEN
MCNAMARA (TELEPHONE: 703-235-8949) OR MR. DAVID HARRIS
(TELEPHONE: 703-235-8981) WILL BE PLEASED TO ASSIST YOU
IN RESOLVING THIS PROBLEM. UNQTE

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INCOMING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01
ACTION AID-35

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ACTION OFFICE ASPD-03
INFO ASEM-01 ASPN-02 ASDP-02 PPCE-01 PDPR-01 PPPB-03 GC-01
GCAS-01 GCFL-01 ASTR-01 CMGT-02 CTR-02 RELO-01 MAST-01
/023 A4 81

INFO OCT-00 AMAD-01 /036 W
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P 010400Z DEC 81
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2698

UNCLAS COLOMBO 6274

AIDAC

CHRON COPY

E. O. 12065: N/A
SUBJ: PERFORMANCE OF SECID IN REFORESTATION AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT
PROJECT (383-0055).

REF: STATE 310659

1. USAID/SL SHARES AID/W CONCERN ABOUT SECID'S DELAYS IN RECRUITING A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE AS CHIEF OF PARTY FOR SUBJECT PROJECT, AND HAD ALREADY OFFERED TO INTERVENE ON BEHALF OF GSL. THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY HAS BEEN RELUCTANT TO HAVE USAID DO SO UP TO THIS TIME (EXCEPT FOR BONNER, USAID PROJECT MANAGER, TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH SECID IN CONJUNCTION WITH HIS CURRENT HOME LEAVE) SINCE THIS IS A HOST-COUNTRY CONTRACT. THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN PLEASED WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF SECID'S SHORT-TERM CONSULTANTS AND DOES NOT WANT TO ALIENATE THIS CONSORTIUM.

2. WE HAVE REVIEWED THE DRAFT LETTER WITH FORESTRY OFFICIALS AND RECOMMEND THAT IT BE SENT SUBSTITUTING THE FOLLOWING FOR PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3: PARA 2, SENTENCE 2: QUOTE. WHILE ALL OF US (GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA, THE USAID AND I) FULLY APPRECIATE THE DIFFICULTIES YOU FACE IN FINDING A HIGHLY QUALIFIED CANDIDATE FOR THIS POSITION ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA, THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA AND USAID ARE CONCERNED THAT FURTHER DELAYS IN RECRUITING AND POSTING SUCH A PERSON WILL SERIOUSLY IMPEDE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT AS PLANNED. UNQUOTE. PARA 3: QUOTE. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT, THEREFORE, IF YOU WOULD INFORM THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA, WITH INFORMATION COPIES TO THE USAID AND ME, OF THE PROGRESS YOU ARE MAKING IN FINDING A SUITABLE CANDIDATE. I AM SURE THAT THE USAID AND APPROPRIATE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA WILL BE PLEASED TO ASSIST YOU IN RESOLVING THIS PROBLEM. UNQUOTE.

3. FYI. SECID FIELDIED A CHIEF OF PARTY (DR. TURNER DAVIS) IN JULY WHO WAS ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA AND USAID. HOWEVER, HE WAS RELIEVED BY SECID AFTER THREE WEEKS BECAUSE OF DISAGREEMENTS WITH SECID. THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY RECEIVED A TELEGRAM ON NOVEMBER 20 FROM SECID STATING A SEARCH FOR NEW CHIEF OF PARTY UNDERWAY AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO FOLLOW SOON, END FYI.
TOUSSAINT

UNCLASSIFIED

TEACHING/RESEARCH/SERVICE
Office of the Dean
Telephone (208)895-6441



383-0055
University of Idaho

College of Forestry,
Wildlife and Range Sciences
Moscow, Idaho 83843

August 26, 1980

Mr. Willy D. Baum
Asia/PD
Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

Dear Mr. Baum:

I just wanted to thank you for helping me understand the situation in Sri Lanka. We have indeed been selected to bid for the technical proposal on the Watershed and Reforestation project there. If there is any information on this project such as consultants' reports that would help us satisfy the needs of AID and Sri Lanka, please send them.

I hope to see you again when I return to Washington, D.C. Please call me if there is anything I can help you with.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Albert Merkel".

A. Merkel
Assistant to the Dean
for International Programs

AM:ms

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Memorandum to the Files

DATE: May 20, 1980

FROM : ASIA/PD/SA, Willy Baum *WB*

SUBJECT: Small Business and Disadvantaged Firms

Ref: (A) Colombo 2268 (B) Colombo 2205

Referenced Telegram A requested publication in the Commerce Business Daily of a notice requesting expression of interest and prequalification data from firms and/or universities interested in providing technical assistance to the GSL's Forest Department under the Reforestation and Watershed Management Project (383-0055).

Originally, thought had been given to reserving this potential contract for on 8-A set-aside *and minorities. by WB*

When considering the request for publication, the question of 8-A set-aside ^{*and minorities, by WB*} was again reviewed. It was decided to go ahead with the publication based on the following considerations:

- 1) Referenced Telegram B forwarded the Mission's and GSL's opinion that the contract should be with the best firm available, one qualified to provide not only the technical assistance but also to handle the training and commodity procurement aspects of the project. Accordingly, they expressed a desire for a competitive atmosphere in the selection process.
- 2) The resulting contract is to be a host-country contract. This is in accordance with AID Policy and the Mission's desire to reduce its direct involvement with contractors.
- 3) Even with advertisement, there is no reason to assume that small or disadvantaged firms will not be able to compete. Asia/TR will make every effort to assure that small and disadvantaged firms are informed of this opportunity and will encourage them to submit expressions of interest and prequalification data.



- 4) Based upon information available to us, it appears that the Mission will successfully meet its targets for 8-A set-aside even if this particular contract does not go to a small or disadvantaged firm.

Clearance:

ASIA/TR:EW11/ams

e-3

Mr. John O'Malley, Commerce Business Daily

May 16, 1980

G. R. Van Raalte, ASIA/PD, AID/W

Request for Publication in CBD — Reforestation and Watershed
Management (383-00550)

As soon as possible please publish the attached notice in the
Commerce Business Daily under Agency for International Development
Financed.

Please advise Willy D. Baum, (703) 235 8910, of the date of publication
when known.

Attachment: Notice of Publication

cc:

Nedra Rowe, SDB/SB, AID/W

Clearance:

EWilliams, ASIA/TR (SUBS)

SRI LANKA - The Forest Department, Ministry

Government of Sri Lanka (GSL) invites expressions of interest and submission of prequalification data from U.S. firms and universities and joint venture of such firms and universities which qualify through experience with projects of similar type and magnitude in tropical climates. The consultants will advise and assist the Forest Department of the Government of Sri Lanka with all aspects of the Reforestation and Watershed Management Project. The Project includes: (1) increasing the Forest Department institutional capability by (a) developing national training capacity, (b) strengthening national forestry research, and (c) establishing a national forest extension service, (2) establishing 35,000 acres of fuelwood plantations, (3) reforesting 15,000 acres of upland catchment areas, (4) developing a national forestry map using satellite imagery, and (5) developing the technology and implementing a system of village-run fuelwood and charcoaling facilities which can be replicated throughout Sri Lanka.

The consultant is expected to provide (a) one full-time person with a tropical or sub-tropical forestry background for four to five years who will be Chief of Party and (b) approximately 70 months of short-term support. personnel to provide expertise in extension service organization, tropical soil science silviculture, logging technology, charcoaling technology, educational institutional development, college curriculum design, land conservation, audio-visual communications procurement, and building construction. The above estimates of consultancy will be further defined in the term of reference of request for proposals.

AID is planning to finance the contract via a U.S. dollar grant to the Government of Sri Lanka. Foreign exchange costs will be paid in U.S. dollars and local costs will be paid in Sri Lankan Rupees. A cost plus

fixed fee contract with the GSL is expected.

Prequalifications shall be based on submitted information called for in Standard Forms 254 and 255, Architect-Engineer and Related Services Questionnaire, for prequalification. Information must be supplied for all entities in a joint venture. Prequalification questionnaires may be obtained from the General Services Administration, Washington, D. C. 20405, or from Edward Williams, Office of Technical Resources, Asia Bureau, Agency for International Development, Washington, D. C. 20523 Telephone (703) 235-9060. Three action or official copies sent to Mr. V. K. Nanayakkara, Conservator of Forests, Forest Department, P. O. Box 509, Colombo, Sri Lanka to be received by the Department within six weeks after date of this publication, one information copy each of the completed questionnaire should be sent to Mr. Williams and to USAID/Colombo, C/o American Embassy, 44 Galle Road, Colombo, Sri Lanka, (Attention: J. Bonner). After receiving and reviewing the prequalification, the contracting agency will select those firms to whom requests for proposals will be issued.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
c/o American Embassy, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

File 1-3
383-0055

TD
~~BRK~~
~~Patricia~~
~~Will~~
PVA

DB
4/7

March 20, 1980

Mr. Jack Sullivan
AA/ASIA
Rm. 6212
AID/Washington.

Dear Jack:

Michael J. Murphy
sp

The enclosed memo from Michael Bengé, DS/1 IR, of February 21, is the type of assistance from DS that we can do without. My first impulse is to just ignore it. But since copies were sent to several people in the Asia Bureau, some people possibly unaware of all factors might be tempted to become more active than the circumstances warrant.

The first sentence indicates an unfamiliarity with how projects are designed and who makes decisions. I did not decide to "reininclude the planting of Eucalyptus." This is a decision of the Government of Sri Lanka for it is their project and their country. We, however, concurred in their decision to include, not "reininclude" for the GSL considered many factors in addition to the possible environmental damage in deciding what mix of trees to plant.

The GSL is fully aware of the shortcomings as well as the advantages of Eucalyptus species. The International Science and Technology Institute's report of July, 1979, which contributed to the design of this project, pointed out on page 11, for example the drawbacks of Eucalyptus and suggested that "If possible, the use of Eucalyptus could be minimized." This was a realistic recommendation and the GSL is minimizing the use of Eucalyptus. For example only 10% of the upper watershed area is to be planted in Eucalyptus.

PD 4/02/80

The environmental assessment of this project prepared by Dr. Hugh Bollinger of ISTI in November, 1979 also pointed out that Eucalyptus "could cause net environmental deterioration." It further recommended testing of alternative species to replace emphasis on Eucalyptus. While research is an integral part of this project, the GSL cannot wait for the results of site-specific testing. It must act now with those species the people in Sri Lanka know and prefer.

Bollinger's environmental assessment was sent to you and Jane Stanley on December 10, 1979 and served as the basis for your Threshold Decision on the IEE on January 9, 1980. We agree that environmentally unsound projects are presently (and historically) frowned upon. I assume Mr. Bengé is not implying that we are proceeding with an environmentally unsound project.

The project paper was prepared in close collaborative style with the GSL Forestry Department. All were fully aware of the above mentioned documents. The PP points out, for example, that "There exists contradictory evidence in research papers which indicates the planting of Pinus and Eucalyptus can have serious ill effects on moisture and soil pH regimes in the soil. Research is needed to establish if these problems may arise in Sri Lanka. This is a priority under this project, as plants from these genera will be planted." Thus the GSL is proceeding with caution, but must take into account many more factors than Mr. Bengé is considering.

For the record, the Eucalyptus genus contains over 600 species and varieties, making it botanically a very large genus. This genus is noted for its production of essential oils, tannin and one species produces a vitamin P-like substance (Rutin) used to relieve hypertension, as well as standard forest by-products such as timber, fuelwood, pulpwood and the basic material to produce rayon. There are about 10 species which have reported allelopathic characteristics when grown in areas having a definite dry period. These same species, however, when grown in areas of more or less constant rainfall do not display these characteristics. Also the irritating fumes from Eucalyptus fuelwood is quite species specific and are a result of the essential oils in the wood.

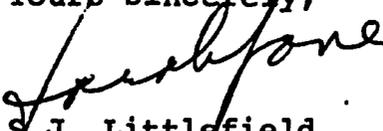
Mr. Jack Sullivan 3

Environmental growing conditions and soil characteristics effect the chemical composition of the wood, thus identical species may display different characteristics when grown at different sites. The scientific community is not in agreement with the extent of the concerns mentioned by Mr. Bengé, but are in agreement that these characteristics are quite species specific. The species chosen for this project are presently not on the list of possible offenders.

Advice and assistance must come at an appropriate stage in project design. AID/W had the documents mentioned above as soon as possible after their printing. Suggestions coming in the last days before PP approval and project authorization usually have little utility. Thus I don't believe Mr. Bengé can be of service to us at this time.

This letter is a bit long but is intended to inform some people about how projects are designed and how the GSL and we are proceeding with this project. It is too bad that apparently Mr. Bengé did not take the time to read the design documents or consult with those who know the full status of this project.

yours sincerely,


S.J. Littlefield
Director

cc: D. Plunkett, ASIA/TR/AGR.
N. Brown, ASIA/TR/STEP
J. Stanley, ASIA/TR/STEP/Environment
J. Miller, ASIA/PNS
✓ D. Brennan, ASIA/PD
T. Arndt, ASIA/TR
M.D. Bengé, DS/AGR, Agro-forestation

memorandum

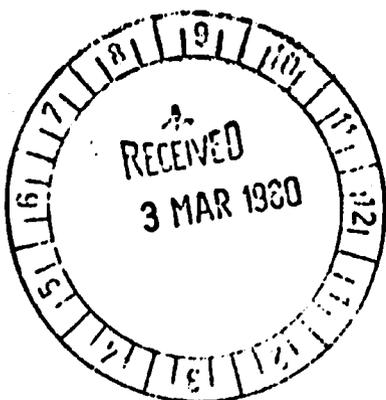
DATE: February 21, 1980
 REPLY TO: Michael D. Bengtson
 ATTN OF: DS/AGR, Agro-forestation
 SUBJECT: Eucalyptus

TO: Sara Jane Littlefield, Mission Director
 USAID/Colombo

I understand that you have decided to reinclude the planting of eucalyptus in the Sri Lanka reforestation project. I would like to advise you to proceed with extreme caution. I reference my enclosed memo and the paper "Women in Forestry for Local Community Development." Environmentally unsound projects are presently frowned upon. Leguminous trees, many of which are fast growing, enrich the soil and complement other crops. I would like to encourage the planting of them in place of eucalyptus.

If I can be of any service to you, please call on me.

cc: - ASIA/TR/AGR, D. Plucknett
 - ASIA/TR/STEP, N. Brown
 - ASIA/TR/STEP/Environment, J. Stanley



AID	Action	Info
DIR		1
AD		2
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