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# REPORT; SEMINAR IN DAKAR ON PME

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*Bureau for Private Enterprise  
U.S. Agency for International Development*

*Prepared by: Jean De La Giroday*

*Sponsored by: Financial Markets Project  
Project Number 940-2005  
Prime Contractor: ArthurYoung*

*June 1986*



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Mr. JEAN B. DE LA GIRODAY  
President

REPORT

TO: Arthur Young, International  
3000 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20007

FROM: Jean B. DE LA GIRODAY

SUBJECT: Seminar in Dakar on PME (Small and Medium Size  
Enterprises) - June 1986

The purpose of this report is to make an evaluation of the seminar held in Dakar in June 1986 on PME under the sponsorship of the Private Enterprise Bureau - USAID. (RUDHO-Abidjan).

I took an active part in it since I gave a paper in French at the opening session on "The Problems of Small and Medium Size Enterprises in Senegal, with special reference to the financing problems" and conducted a workshop on the same subject.

The principle of having such a seminar was excellent. It could have been considerably more beneficial had it been better organized.

1) There was in the same week in Dakar another seminar on exactly the same subject.

2) In spite of the objections raised by Mr. Pierre Michaux (Arthur Young Representative in Dakar) and by me, the organizers insisted on having the opening session held in a hotel in Dakar and the afternoon session and the workshops the next day on the island of Goree. This posed obvious logistics problems which caused inconvenience and probably curtailed attendance.

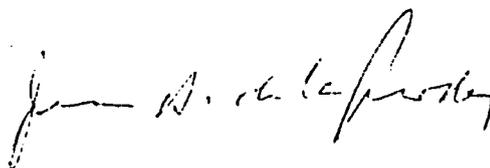
3) In spite of a list of invitations to some 50 private companies which I had personally given to the organizers, invitations were sent too late or not at all. The result was that about 95% of those attending the conference were from the Government and very few indeed represented the private sector.

Nevertheless, the discussions were on the whole of good enough quality. They would have been beneficial to representatives of the private sector, who were supposed to be the primary target of the seminar itself, had more of them participated.

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The suggestion of holding another seminar in Abidjan is fine, provided the local representative of Arthur Young is given the responsibility of organizing it with the assistance of Mrs. Carleene Dei and provided invitations are sent well ahead to a massive list of small and medium size enterprises and not only to the Government.

January 5, 1987

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jean B. de la Giroday". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

Jean B. de la Giroday