

from voluntary agencies and concerned governments should be avoided, as long as the received aid is appropriated strictly for developmental purposes.

- b. Disbursement of aid appropriated by the Palestinian-Jordanian Joint Committee, which is by far the most important source of development funds, should be carried out through means and intermediaries other than its present narrow range of functionaries. Disbursement should be conducted more discreetly and through a number of third intermediaries, some of which might be major international organizations.

3. Because of the highly exceptional status of the occupied territories, the formulation of development schemes and their eventual implementation requires the adoption of criteria and yardsticks which are not conventional and probably unacceptable by other countries. This applies in particular to security requirements on advanced loans.

A summary of problems impeding agricultural growth

Previous chapters have included a comprehensive exposition of the problems and constraints which impede agricultural growth. This section contains a summary of these problems which is intended to help direct the focus of suggested projects and infrastructural recommendations. Problems of purely technical nature are not mentioned here except in as much as they relate to economic criteria.

1.0 Land

- 1.1 Gradual contraction in the area under active cultivation by Arab farmers, as opposed to rapid expansion in the area of land under various forms of Israeli control.
- 1.2 Increasing dangers of erosion.

- 1.3 Deterioration of stone walls holding terraces.
- 1.4 Rising costs of land development due to higher cost outlays and low returns.
- 1.5 Poor mechanization in rough hilly slopes due to inadequate machinery, whether in regard to type or number of available machines.
- 1.6 Fragmentation of holdings to non-viable sizes and the dispersion of plots in one holding over widely isolated areas.
- 1.7 Very poor condition of agricultural roads.

2.0 Water

- 2.1 Tight Israeli control on water resources, most notably by banning the drilling of new wells and imposing a low ceiling on the quantity of water which can be discharged from existing wells.
- 2.2 Low efficiency of carrying water to farms and of irrigation techniques.
- 2.3 Inadequate exploitation of surface water for the purpose of providing supplemental water to rainfed crops during the long and dry summer months.
- 2.4 Poor condition of most springs and many artesian wells due to inadequate maintenance and management practices.
- 2.5 No permits given for constructing dams and other projects intended to facilitate better exploitation of surface water.
- 2.6 Denial of the West Bank of its legitimate share of Jordan river water, despite being a major partner under international law and admitted in the Johnston Plan.

3.0 Labour

- 3.1 Sharp decline in labour employed in agriculture due to a pronounced sectoral and locational mobility.