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**IMMEDIATE
ATTENTION**

EBD/86/132

May 5, 1986

To: Members of the Executive Board

From: The Secretary

Subject: Côte d'Ivoire - Request for Technical Assistance

A request has been received from the authorities of Côte d'Ivoire for technical assistance in the customs and tax fields. This would comprise a review of ways to mobilize additional resources for the 1987 budget with emphasis on broadening the VAT base and on improving enforcement measures.

It is proposed to comply with this request by sending a mission comprising Mr. Jacques Baldet, Senior Economist (FAD), and Mr. Willem Bier, Senior Economist (ADM), to Abidjan for up to three weeks in June 1986. (A member of the fiscal panel, experienced in tax administration and on assignment in the area, would join the mission in Abidjan). In addition, Mr. François Corfmat, Tax Administration Analyst (FAD), would be sent to Abidjan for two weeks in mid-May to deal with the customs related issues and initiate the preparation of data; his travel would be in conjunction with participation in a Bank mission to Senegal.

In the absence of a request for discussion by an Executive Director by noon on Thursday, May 8, 1986, the proposal will be deemed to have been approved by the Executive Board and it will be so recorded in the minutes of the next meeting thereafter.

Other Distribution:
Department Heads