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PROJECT FOR STUDY PROGRAMME
IN STATISTICS
AT THE NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES

(Note prepared by the Secretariat)

PROJECT FOR STUDY PROGRAMME IN STATISTICS
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General

The International Institute of Social Studies at The Hague, in close co-operation with the Central Bureau of Statistics of the Netherlands, is exploring the possibility of establishing a new course in statistics, particularly in view of the needs of developing countries.

The teaching and research programmes of the Institute, which are all given at the international and postgraduate level, are concentrated on current problems of economic development and rapid social change. The enable persons employed in the public service of their country to benefit from these Studies, most programmes are offered in the form of short and concentrated courses (seven-month course in social welfare policy - including a specialization possibility in child welfare policy- six-month courses in public administration and in economic planning and national accounting, four-month course in comprehensive planning). All courses are given in English, but for those who have an insufficient knowledge of this language, the Institute offers special orientation courses four months previous to each main course.

With regard to the planning and development methods and activities, studied in the various courses - but particularly in the economic planning and national accounting course - it has been observed that the availability and reliability of statistical data are of paramount importance. The study programmes mentioned above depart from the assumption that these basic data are available and it has not been found possible to include in the concentrated programme a special study of statistical methods. To cope somewhat with a growing demand, the economic planning course has been preceded in recent years by a three week propaedeutics in statistics. It was realized, however, that several participants of the economic planning course would prefer a longer preparation in this field and that there are a considerable

number of persons and authorities who would profit from a separate and special training course in this field. This desire has been voiced, e.g. by the European Economic Community, the Organization for European Co-operation and Development and individual governments with which the Institute of Social Studies is keeping touch.

The proposed programme

The proposed new study programme at the Institute is intended for high level statisticians, working in public service and preferable with some years' experience. It is taken into account that the course should not cater for training demands at the lower and medium levels, which are to be taken care of in national or regional training centres in the areas concerned. The course is to be given at the high academic level which forms the general basis for the Institute's teaching programmes (the faculty is composed of Dutch and foreign university professors and some other experts), but it should concentrate on problems of practice and reality. It would deal with the making of statistics (e.g. industrial statistics, agricultural statistics, production statistics) with due attention to practical needs, possibilities and limitations. Apart from descriptive statistics, the programme would also include the techniques of drawing up national accounts. A draft programme is now in preparation in consultation between the Institute and the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Calender

The tentative calender would be as follows:

- (a) lecture period : September to December (four months)

After this period participants may

- (b) 1 - either, take part in the Institute's six-month course in economic planning and national accounting (January to July)
2 - or, continue individually with a practical work period at The Hague or elsewhere, from January to Easter (three months)

Possibilities of realization

The Board of Trustees has expressed its great interest in this project and authorized the staff of the Institute to investigate the possibilities of its realization. The draft programme has not yet been submitted to the Institute's subsidizing organ, the Netherlands Ministry of Education, so that a reserve must be made in this regard.

It seems relatively sure, that no particular problems will be met in securing scholarships for prospective participants. It is also estimated that the "variable costs" of this course (fees for the teaching staff) can be met out of the revenues from tuition fees.

1. It is planned to have the first course started in September 1961.

Estimated cost of study

	(a) Sept. to December	(1) Jan.-July	(b)	(2) Jan.-April
Register. fee	f. 35.--	-		-
Tuition fee	f. 500.--	f. 750.--		f. 375.--
Medical & social fund	f. 120.--	f. 180.--		f. 90.--
Board & Lodging	f. 750.--	1200.--		f. 600.--
Field work	f. 50.--	f. 50.--		f. 250.--
	<u>f.1455.--</u>	<u>f. 2180.--</u>		<u>f. 1315.--</u>

Fellowships

As announced at the 3rd session of the Commission, the Government of the Netherlands is prepared to award a limited number of Fellowships for training in the Netherlands. Some of these could be granted for the above mentioned statistical course. African Governments who should like to avail themselves of these facilities should forward application to the Executive-Secretary of ECA

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