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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON
ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Second periodic reports submitted by States parties under
articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant in accordance with the
programmes established by Economic and Social Council
resolution 1988/4

Addendum
SENEGAL* **

* The initial reports submitted by the Government of Senegal concerning rights covered by articles 10 to 12 (E/1986/3/Add.13), articles 13 to 15 (E/1982/3/Add.17) and articles 6 to 9 (E/1984/6/Add.22) were considered by the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 1981 (see E/1981/WG.1/SR.11), and 1983 (see E/1983/WG.1/SR.14-16) and by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 1993 (see E/C.12/1993/SR.37, 38 and 49).

** See also the core document of Senegal (HRI/CORE/1/Add.51/Rev.1).

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Article 15. Right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress

122. Several research and development centres and institutes have been established. These bodies cover virtually all sectors of activity and include:

The Food Technology Institute, created in 1963 with FAO support, is responsible for the development, testing and practical application of technologies to promote local agricultural products;

The Institute of Meteorological Physics (IPM), which has become a renewable energy research centre. It has taken charge of research on and the use of solar technologies;

The Agricultural Research Institute (ISRA) has developed several varieties of drought-resistant cereals.

123. Since March 1995 scientific research has again acquired its own ministerial department with responsibility for coordinating and promoting science and technology activities.

124. To encourage the dissemination of information on technical progress, a national scientific and technical documentation centre has been set up with the assistance of UNESCO and UNDP. Its function is to:

- Facilitate access to scientific, technical and economic information services;
- Create and strengthen sectoral information networks;

- Provide for the training and skills upgrading of staff dealing with new information technologies;

- Set up a national information system (agriculture, public administration, higher education, research, urban planning, habitat, infrastructure and transport, health and hygiene, environment, trade, industry, technology);

- Install databases: six industrial and commercial databases can be consulted locally by Minitel.

125. Senegal has set up the Intellectual Property and Technology Service, which liaises with the African Intellectual Property Organization (AIPO). Senegal is a signatory of the Bangui Agreement of 2 March 1997 that created AIPO.

126. A biennial "Afritech" science fair has been established to provide an open forum for research and researchers and to promote the interchange of scientific information between national researchers and those of other countries. The first such event was held in 1993.

127. The Constitution recognizes freedom of thought, which is essential for creative activities.

128. Ministries and State research centres have budget lines to promote exchanges of information through study tours and the organization of scientific meetings.

129. The Government provides considerable financial support for researchers and scientists to take part in conferences, seminars and symposia.