APPENDICES

With the third report of the International Advisory Group on the World Bank's handling of social and environmental issues in the proposed Nam Theun 2 hydropower project in Lao PDR

(appendices 1 to 5)

Letter to the Vice President of the World Bank, Mr. Jemal-ud-din Kassum.

Mr. Jemal-ud-din Kassum Vice President World Bank Washington D.C.

> Vientiane, 10 March 2001

Dear Mr. Kassum,

As the three members of the International Advisory Group on the Nam Theun 2 project available to visit Lao PDR last week, we have an urgent message to convey to you even before our report reaches you.

The message is that the Bank's reputation is being damaged at all levels in Laos, from Ministers, Governors at the Provincial and District level down to the people in the villages and among the wider international community with interests in the NT2 project. This is because there is no known schedule for decision-making by the Bank on NT2. You will have heard this adverse comment when you came here on what was obviously a highly successful visit five months ago.

It is difficult to overstate the degree of impatience bordering on anger among village people and Ministers alike over the prolonged delays and what is seen as a new set of conditions. In villages we visited, the people have if possible sunk to a lower level of poverty than they were experiencing five or more years ago, because over this planning phase they have been forced for project-related reasons to reduce or eliminate entirely those traditional techniques – hunting, wildlife trading, forest food gathering, slash-and-burn cultivation, to say nothing of logging – which gave them sustenance and cash in the past. For the people in the plateau area the situation has been exacerbated by the progressive clearance of much of the remaining forest areas in preparation for inundation, so that the villagers have to travel much greater distances to gather material for house building and roofing, for example.

For their part, the politicians have been offended by passing reference to 'the Chad-Cameroon formula' by which they understand that revenues go into an offshore account and there is external scrutiny of any and all expenditure. This has touched a raw nerve and raised questions of infringement of sovereignty. Although we said that we were sure that such extreme measures were not being considered by the Bank in relation to Laos, Ministers were clearly upset that there might have been any discussion of such possibilities. A confidence gap has emerged in the relationship.

We will be making some suggestions in our report about possible ways of reconciling the Bank's legitimate concerns about revenue usage and public expenditure management with the GoL's legitimate concerns about its sovereignty. We have to say at this stage, however, that having repeatedly sought ideas on how to establish a process, mechanism or programme which would help reassure the Bank that a high proportion of project revenues will go into practical poverty alleviation work, we have come to appreciate that it is in a

We apologize for appearing to interfere in the Bank's internal processes but feel strongly that all involved have reached the point where a relatively firm and known basis for planning is called for.

We write to you in this vein because it is our objective assessment that confidence in the Bank, both among the Lao people and the international community, is being seriously eroded by the delays and uncertainties. To be frank, we have also been reminded all too forcefully of the sufferings of the village people of this least developed country. The prospects for the poor and for the biodiversity of Laos should the project not proceed remain bleak. We know that you personally recognize this.

Because of the urgency of the situation – and because we are mandated to report to him directly – we shall send a copy of this submission to Mr. Wolfensohn. We will report formally before the end of March and, because two of us will be in Washington on other business in the first week of May, would hope to discuss the project with you at that time, notably on 4 May.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd.)

Dick de Zeeuw,

David McDowell,

Emil Salim

International Advisory Group on Nam Theun 2, Lao PDR

Composition of IAG

International Advisory Group

Mr. Dick de Zeeuw Former Deputy Chairman of the Netherlands Commission for

Environmental Impact Assessment (Convenor)

Mr. David McDowell Former Director of IUCN - the World Conservation Union

Mr. Emil Salim Former Minister of Environment for Indonesia

Mr. Kazuo Takahashi Director of the International Development Research Institute,

Japan

(did not participate in 3rd visit)

Ms. Meg Taylor Former Ambassador of Papua New Guinea to the United States

Compliance Advisor / Ombudsman, IFC, USA

(did not participate in 3rd visit)

Ms. Ineke Steinhauer Technical Secretary to the IAG

Working Programme of the IAG

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	Activity
March 4	09.30 hrs	Arrival Mr. David McDowell in Vientiane
	12.00 hrs	Lunch with Mr. William Robichaud, Lao Swedish Forestry Protected Areas Review Advisor (former WCS Lao representa- tive
March 5	09.30 hrs	Arrival of Mr. Dick de Zeeuw, Mr. Emil Salim and Ms. Ineke Steinhauer
	11.00 - 12.00 hrs	Mr. Eric Sidgwick, Representative IMF
	14.00 – 15.30 hrs	Mr. Jean-Christophe Devallet, Director, NTEC
	16.00 hrs	Mr. Chris Flint, IUCN
	17.00-18.30 hrs	Ms. Linda Schneider and Mr. Enrique Crousillat
	19.00 hrs	Mr. Gary Oughton, Ecolao
March 6-7	06.00 hrs	Car trip: Departure Tai Pan Hotel (1 IAG + 2 GOL+ 1 NTEC)
	06.45 hrs	Departure from Tai Pan Hotel to Wattay Helicopter Base Vientiane (3 IAG + 1 GOL)
		Meeting with Bolikhamxay Province and Khamkeut District officials (1 hour)
	08.30 hrs	Land at Laksao – visit wood processing factory (1 hour)
	10.00 hrs	Take-off from Laksao, overfly: Road no. 8B to junction Road No. 8B and old access road to Navang
	10.15 hrs	Land at Ban Navang - NBCA, to see the LIL project and the status of the old access road
	11.00 hrs.	Take-off from Ban Navang, to Pristine area of primary forest, non affected by the Project, to be part of NBCA.
		Overfly Nam Xot from middle to upper stream
		 Turn south to follow annamite range to Ban Maka and turn East to West.
	11.15 hrs.	Land at Ban Makfeuang – visit LIL project

	12.00 hrs.	Car group arrives in Theun Douane
	12.25 hrs	Land at Theun Douane – Helicopter party meets car group
		Picnic lunch at Theun Douane and a visit to NTEC's demonstration farm, developing livelihood models for project resettlers
	14.00 hrs	Take-off from Theun Douane
	14.10 hrs	Land at Ban Sop Phene to visit Ben Sop Phene, one of the villages to be resettled. IAG met these villagers in 1997.
	15.10 hrs	Take-off from Ban Sop Phene
	15.20 hrs	Land at Nakai, refreshment drinks at NTEC Guest House
	16.00 hrs	Car party arrive in Nakai
		Depart by car to Ban Sailom (Selected Pilot Village) – meeting with village administration, elders, LWU
	17.00 hrs	Depart to resettlement site of pilot village where resettlers cleared the land for rice growing during wet season
	18.15 hrs	Return to NTEC Guest House
	19.00 hrs	Dinner at NTEC Guest House with District officials and RMU (Resettlement Management Unit)
		Night in Nakai
March 7	8.30 hrs	Meeting with Provincial, District officials, chiefs of villages and elders from Ban Nakai Neua, Phonephanpek, Ban Done
		 Presentation of the project preparation by local authorities.
		Questions and answers
	11.00 hrs	Take-off from Nakai, overfly
		 Phou Ak escarpment to Nam Malou, to see community forest,
		Turn East to the junction of Nam Xot and Nam Theun,
		 Follow range of mountains separate NBCA and reservoir (Pristine area of primary pine forest)

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Across road no.12

NNT NBCA South eastern

- Southern extension Phou Hin Nam No
- Fly back from South to North following upper stream of Nam On until extreme end south of reservoir
- Turn South-west to the junction Nam Phit and Xe Bang Fai (5 km upstream of Mahaxay)
- Follow Nam Phit (Downstream Channel)
- Overfly Gnommlath Plain

		• Overly Ghomman - same
	12.00 hrs	land at Nakai for refueling and lunch, car party goes back to Vientiane
	13.00 hrs.	Take-off from Nakai to Vientiane
	15.15 hrs	Arrival at Vientiane
March 8	09.00 hrs	Mr. Maydom Chanthanasinh, NT Project Director; Mr. Phalim Daravong, Officer; Mr. Bounsalong Southidara, NTSEP Project Director; Mr. Fernando Lecaros from the Hydropower Office
	11.00 hrs	Mr. Michael Hedemark & Ms.Arlene Johnson, Representatives WCS
	15.00 hrs	H.E. Sitaheng Rasphone, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Forestry; Mr Phouang Parisack Pravonviengkham, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Cabinet; Mr. Xeme Samountry, Direc- tor, Forestry Department – Ministry of Agriculture and For- estry
	17.30 hrs	H.E. Soulivang Daravong, Minister of Industry and Handicraft
	Cancelled	H.E. Phoumy Thipphavorn, Minister of Commerce and Tourism
March 9	10.00 hrs	H.E. Yao Phonevantha, Vice-Minsiter of Finance and Staff
		H.E. Sisavath Keobounphanh, Prime Minister of Lao PDR
		H.E. Siene Saphanthong, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry
	14.30 hrs	Mr. Soukata Vichit, Director of Environmental Department STEA
	16.00 hrs	Mr. Paul Turner, Asian development Bank
	17.30 hrs	H.E. Boun Nhang Vorachit, Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance
	18.15 hrs	H.E. Mdame Khempheng Pholsena, Vice-Minister, Office of the Internation Co-operation

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H.E. was not available, no represen-

H.E. Bouathong Vonglorkham, President of State Planning

Committee

tative

H.E. was not avail-

President of STEA a.i.

able

Not in Vientiane – in Vietnam for the week

Mr. Roland Eve, Representative, WWF

19.00 hrs

Reception hosted by H.E. Renaud Levy, Ambassador of

France

March 10 10.30 hrs

Departure of IAG

Reference documents used

PROJECT DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED BY THE WB BEFORE VISIT TO LAOS

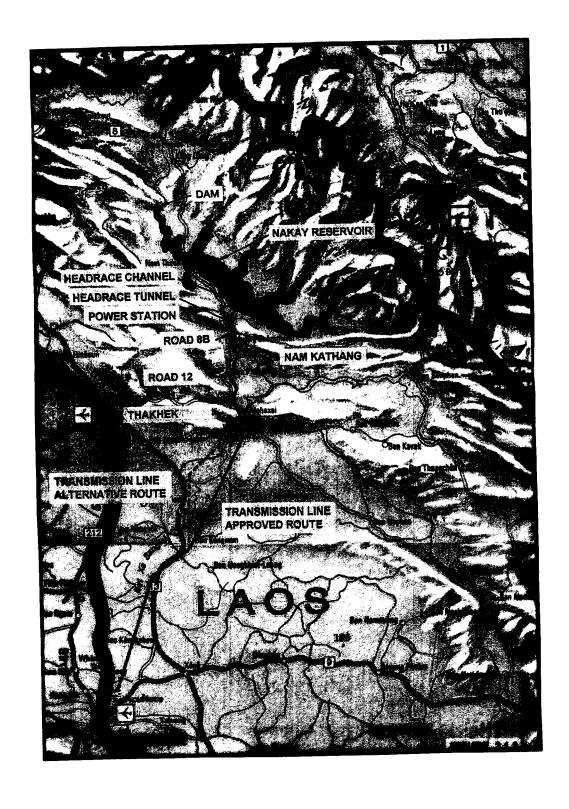
- Nam theun 2 Overview Update, December 2000
- Report of the Social and Environmental Panel of Experts (POE), 5th mission to Lao PDR, January 2001
- National PCPP on EAMP workshop record, 22-23 November 2000
- Operational Plan for the Environmental and Social Management of the Nakai Nam Theun 2 Watershed and NBCA, May 2000
- Copy of the signed Tariff MOU with EGAT, 8 August 2000
- RAP Activities Report, July 1998 to October 1999
- CD-ROM database on census / asset registration / socio-economic survey on the Nakai Plateau, August 1999
- Decree No. 193/PM, of the Prime Minister, Decree on the establishment of the Nakai Nam Theun NBCA, corridor areas, NT2 project reservoir area and resettlement and forest area for people affected by the project, 29 December 2000, Unofficial Translation
- District Upland Development and Conservation Project. Cr. 31860-LA. Aide Memoire, December 2000
- Project Appraisal document, Learning and Innovation Loan LIL District Upland Development and Conservation Project, report no. 18551-LA, 18 February 1999
- Lao PDR Production Forestry Policy Review. World Bank/Sida/Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Finland. Volume 1 Main Report, 4 January 2001 and Volume 2 Annexes, 3 January 2001
- World Bank Logging Mission: Technical report, Lao PDR, Nam Theun Social and Environmental Project, 1-12 May 2000
- Resettlement Action Plan. Prepared by NT2 Electricity Consortium, Vientiane Lao PDR, July 1998
- Dam safety Panel of Experts. Report on meetings, Chambery, France, June 2000
- Draft Consession Agreement, Clause 31 and Schedule 4, 26 February 2001
- Decree of Prime Minister on the establishment and activities of the Nam Theun 2 Watershed Management and Protection Authority, 1 March 2001
- Ministry of Industry and Handicraft Lao PDR, Power Sector Policy Statement, Discussion Draft, September 2000
- Report of the World Commission on Dams, November 2000

 E-mails of World Bank (Reford, of 22 and 27 February 2001, with suggestions for Terms of Reference for the Third IAG visit

DOCUMENTS PROVIDED DURING VISIT TO LACK

- · Environmental Assessment and Monagement Pan SEATEC, Norman 2001
- District Opsend the stopuson and Conservators Project (Clist Project Implementation Unit Trakhek, project presentation, March 200)
 - · Dixerce equicador Equ. (40 FDR ASD3
 - . IMB 1 at PER. Reac, it Managarie Development, Abraiary 2000
 - · Lac attR: Staff apport for 1999 arrival IV, come fration, November 1999
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Map of the NT2 project area



Acronyms and abbreviations

CA - Concession Agreement CPI - Consumer Price Index

EAMP - Environmental Assessment and Management Plan

EGAT - Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand

ESMOP - Environmental and Social Management Operational Plan

ESMP - Plan for the Environmental and Social Management of the Watershed and

NBCA

FSL - Above Sea Level GHG - Green House Gas GoL - Government of Laos

IAG - International Advisory Group
 IFI - International Financial Institutes
 IMF - International Monetary Fund
 IUCN - World Conservation Union

LIL - The Upland Development and Conservation Project

MOU - Memorandum of Understanding

NBCA - National Biodiversity Conservation Area

NGO - Non Governmental Organisation

NNT - Nakai Nam Theun

NTEC - Nam Theun 2 Electricity Consortium

NTFP - Non Timber Forest Products
NT2 - Nam Theun 2 hydropower project
ODA - Official Development Assistance

PMO - Prime Minister's Office

POE - Panel Of Experts

RAP - Resettlement Action Plan
UXO - Unexploded Objects

WB - World Bank

WCD - World Commission on Dams

WMPA - Watershed Management and Protection Authority

XBF - Xe Bang Fai