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The draft of a Model Long term Development Plan for Greece covering the period 1973-1987, and projecting aims up to the year 2,000 has been submitted.

The Plan is the first systematic study carried out on problems facing Greece in the distant future, and proposes appropriate solutions.

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The Committee for Elaborating a Model Plan for the National Development of Greece, formed one and a half years ago within the framework of elaborating a long term plan for national development and orientation for the period 1973-1987, (planned on aims to be achieved by the year 2,000), has completed its task, and submits its reports and recommendations to the Government to-day.

This is a major step in an effort made for the first time in Greece, to elaborate and implement systematic long term development planning, both as a means of presenting certain assessments and forecasts in a technical manner and as a vital instrument for an exhaustive examination of present and future problems which the Nation will be called upon to face in its course towards economic, social and cultural development. The Greek Government believes that, with cooperation and help from the Nation's scientific quarter, it is achieving the greatest ambitions of the Revolution: to enable the nation to assess the possibilities of its material and human potential at all times, to determine specific long term development aims, to be in a position to cope effectively with spontaneous developments in affairs both at home and abroad, to face the challenges of the future successfully, to establish its course in the face of overwhelming technological and other changes in the field of theories governing the cosmos, and to select the best solution among a number of considered alternatives acceptable to the social whole.

1.- Special characteristics of the Model Plan for Long term Development

However, what lends a special substance and quality to the contents of the plan is its emphasis on two fundamental principles:

a) It is a "comprehensive examination" of the activities of the social whole, covering all fields of development (economic, cultural, social, space and area planning, regional, etc.). This special

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feature of the Plan establishes its wider limits and serves as a broad framework encompassing the sectional goals of successive five-year development plans and other short-term schemes covering the activities of private enterprise and state agencies, by adapting them fully to long term development aims. This comprehensive aspect ensures an easier, more successful method of facing current and future social economic problems firmly and according to permanent criteria.

b) The second basic principle governing the Plan is the effort to achieve maximum material development of a high standard without, however, alienating the characteristic national and cultural values of Greek society.

Greece cannot expand her future without adhering to the achievements of her cultural civilisation. She will therefore attempt to adapt material welfare to modern standards in Western countries, whilst attempting to avoid their error of achieving economic progress at the expense of other human values.

The unfavourable impact of "modernisation" on societies, the emphasis on mass production of facilities offered by technological development and the erosion of cultural values tends to distort the true meaning of welfare and progress achieved so far.

Serious concern over the unfavourable repercussions of such one-sided material progress in consumer societies was voiced categorically by the Prime Minister, Mr. Papadopoulos, in a recent speech before the International Trade Fair at Thessaloniki. Mr. Papadopoulos stressed the wider and more substantial meaning of development conducive to human welfare of the highest standard: in it, material welfare merges harmoniously with a morally acceptable way of life, cultural and national values remain the impetus for creativity, and individual happiness is an extension of society's happiness.

This is the very thesis of the proposed Plan which underscores man as the centre of the development endeavour and the beneficiary of its blessings.

The Plan also acknowledges economic power as both an instrument and a requirement of major importance in enabling the nation to enter international competition on an equal footing. At the same time, the Plan defines the values which will always serve as guidelines to the Greek nation in meeting the grave, urgent problems which will arise in the next thirty years in assessing the creative possibilities of the Nation, and in reaping the benefits of economic development.

Furthermore, the Greek people, keenly aware of their great national and cultural heritage, have both the right and obligation to preserve social and political morality in their country, and to continue

to make an effective contribution to the cultural, technical and economic progress of both Greece and mankind, by contributing those time-honoured elements of Hellenic ethics and culture which have been under constant, systematic development for thousands of years.

## II. Basic development problems calling for action

It is in the light of the above that all proposals contained in the Plan to deal with sectional development problems should be gauged. A brief outline of the main proposals follows:

### 1.- Greece's constructive adaptation to international environment

International environment will be governed by tremendous of the modern world coupled with uncertainty over international developments, has raised a problem of national orientation in the foreign sector, in the fields of politics, economy, and geopolitics.

Greece has already established that she is a part of the European and Western world. However, as her standard of development lags behind its standards, she is faced with the problem of quickly achieving a functional place in the broader region of Europe. At the same time, this adaptation to the international environment will be sought for and implemented without sacrificing her national identity.

### 2.- Demographic development

Greece's international role will be determined mainly by two fundamental factors: demographic strength and economic development. A continuing low rate of increase in population would limit nation's power and competitive capacity, and could even jeopardize national integrity. It follows that the demographic problem is given high priority in the Plan.

### 3.- Economic development

Economic development also enjoys priority, because it is a fundamental requirement for achieving the aims of the Plan. Solving the economic development problem in the next 30 years will provide the means for achieving national aims in the social, cultural and other sectors.

The problem of development is linked to a choice of sectors of output to be given emphasis, based on their intrinsic, comparative advantages. At the same time, it should be pointed out that this problem will grow in intensity as international transactions are freed, exposing Greek economy to constant pressure from competition on a worldwide scale. Finally, development will cause incidental problems; e.g., an imbalance in regional development, and these will also have to be dealt with.

### 5.- Protection of natural environment

A most serious problem caused by rapid economic development is the gradual deterioration of cultural and natural environment. To avoid unfavourable repercussions resulting from economic development, suitable measures will be taken which, without jeopardising or impeding the development effort, will ensure greater protection for the natural and cultural environment.

Proposed measures include supervision of the use of land, the application of town and country planning, a systematic, controlled migration of the agricultural population, the supervision of urban expansion, and the establishment of areas of economic activity by a precise definition of zones of agricultural, industrial and tourist development.

### 6.- Social development and the Greek way of life

Social development and an individual way of life are basic to national considerations. The maintenance and promotion of further development in social cohesion and solidarity, the bridging of differences in living standards among various social groups, and the ensuring of equal opportunities for all individuals, are the basic requirements for a sound development of the Nation.

In order to adapt Greek society to the modern, international sphere, it will be necessary to adopt a selective procedure for rejecting negative social trends, accepting new situations, maintaining the precious characteristics of national identity, and projecting them to a world which more and more readily accepts the multifaceted aspect of any national character.

### 7.- Education

The Plan specially emphasizes education as a means of achieving individual cultural improvement.

Education is the most powerful means of creativity and is the cornerstone of a society of high standard, because it enables the individual to be creative, socially cultivated, happy, and to be a good citizen with a sense of understanding of the world and the problems of life. To improve and develop education, a complex problem with many facets, the Plan proposes the adoption of prompt and effective measures. Thus, universal education is a permanent aim concurrent with efforts to cultivate the values of civilisation, to maintain and enhance the national tradition, and to develop improved standards of entertainment and educational activity by using mass information media.

Finally, as Greece develops, and owing to her century-old cultural and spiritual traditions, her presence in the international sphere of education should be established by providing educational and cultural services on a worldwide scale.

### III. A glowing image of the future

In the next 15 years, Greece will accomplish a great surge towards progress and become a fully developed country in all respects, approaching the standard of living of developed countries in Western Europe. Certain characteristic figures contained in the Plan, give an indication of the projected changes in the basic sectors of national activity at the end of the fifteen-year period under way:

- 1) By 1987, the population will rise to 10,200,000 and the national income will increase at an average annual rate of 7 per cent, reaching 800,000 million Drs. (based on 1970 prices), as against 290,000 million Drs. at present i.e., it will treble.
- 2) The per capita income (based on 1970 prices), will rise from \$ 1,100 at present to \$ 2,600 in 1987, i.e., will reach the annual average of E.E.C. countries.
- 3) Arable land will be reduced by 20 per cent by abandoning 8 million stremmas of marginal land. An attempt will also be made to reduce the number of farming exploitations to 450,000 by 1987, as against 1,000,000 at present.
- 4) Participation of the farming sector in local produce will be reduced from 16.7 per cent today to 9.4 per cent in 1987, and second stage production will rise from 32.3 per cent in 1971 to 43.2 per cent in 1987.
- 5) In 1987, imports will reach \$ 12,000 million, exports \$ 6,000 million, and tourist income, \$ 4,000 million, as against corresponding figures of \$ 2,250, \$ 800 and \$ 400 million, respectively.
- 6) Thus, owing to favourable trends in the balance of payments and a tremendous increase in foreign exchange reserves, Greece will become a capital-exporting country.
- 7) The total amount of gross investments fixed capital will reach 2,750 mil. Drs. in the period between 1973-1987, accompanied by an increase in public investments and a fall in housing investment. Specifically, investments in conversion will grow cumulatively to 350,000 million Drs. as against 90,000 million Drs. in the past fifteen years.
- 8) Research expenditure will reach 12,000 million Drs. in 1987, as against \$50 million Drs. in 1971.
- 9) Investment in education will reach 105,000 million Drs. in the next fifteen years.

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- 10) A total of 2,900,000 pupils will receive education in public schools in 1987, as against 1,400,000 in 1970, and current expenditure from the State Budget assigned to education will increase from 6,900 million Drs. in 1972 to 40,000 million Drs. in 1987.
- 11) Great changes will also be brought about in the even distribution of population and activities throughout the land. Characteristically, it is mentioned here that urban population will increase by 2 million against a total population increase of 1.4 million.
- 12) Labour employed in first-stage production will decrease by 600,000 and will be absorbed by other sectors.
- 13) By 1987, industrial land will increase by 70,000 stremmas, tourist bed-accommodation potential will rise by 920,000 units and auxiliary units, and housing and automobiles by 1.8 and 1 million units respectively.
- 14) Finally, the existing two poles of urban industrial development (Athens and Thessaloniki), will develop fully, and eight others will be added to them to achieve a rational mode of development throughout Greece.