

Table 1. Benin: Summary and Timetable for Macroeconomic and Structural Policies, 2000-03

Areas	Strategy and Policies	Schedule
Poverty Reduction	Prepare a poverty reduction strategy	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (I-PRSP). • Create the committee responsible for preparing the PRSP. • Organize consultations within the framework of the PRSP. • Define objectives and indicators, adopt a monitoring system for outcome indicators, and implement an evaluation system. • Formulate and update sectoral poverty reduction strategies. • Prepare the draft PRSP. • Finalize the PRSP. • Adopt the PRSP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 2000 June 2000 July-Sept. 2000 Sept. 2000 Oct.-Nov. 2000 Dec. 2000-Jan. 2001 Feb.-March 2001 April 2001
Government Finance	Implement a sustainable fiscal policy through fiscal reforms, and improvement of government resources management	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete computerization of the tax department. • Prepare an action plan for strengthening the fight against fraud in tax administration and customs. • Prepare quarterly reports comparing customs and preinspection data. • Transfer automatically import declarations to customs. • Regularly update a database on import values. • Complete computerization of custom offices in charge of petroleum products. • Complete computerization of customs procedures. • Complete computerization of the main border customs offices. • Ensure use of data from the port computer system by customs. • Impose penalties in cases of fraud. • Strengthen budget execution and control procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adopt a decree to reform budget procedures. ➤ Prepare quarterly execution reports of the budget programs. ➤ Strengthen the administrative capacity of the treasury and the budget directorate: select and train users of the computerized budget management system. ➤ Prepare annual budget execution reports and draft a law certifying budget execution (<i>loi de règlement</i>). ➤ Implement the training plan on new budget procedures. • Implement program and performance budget management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Prepare medium-term expenditure frameworks by ministry ➤ Prepare budget programs for 2001 by selected ministries ➤ Implement a budget management and performance-based monitoring system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dec. 2000 Oct. 2000 Aug. 2000 June 2000 Aug. 2000 Sept. 2000 Dec. 2000 Dec. 2000 Dec. 2000 2000-03 June 2000 Aug. 2000 Oct.-Dec. 2000 Sept. 2000 May-Sept. 2000 Sept. 2000 Sept. 2000 Sept. 2000

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Submit budget programs to the National Assembly 	Oct. 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computerize government accounting systems. 	Aug. 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve domestic and external debt management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Transfer the accounts managed by the Autonomous Debt Agency (CAA) to the treasury 	Dec. 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce external debt burden and maintain a prudent debt policy. 	2000-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that all new external debt is concessional. 	2000-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a plan for settling domestic arrears. 	June 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a monthly report on treasury accounts. 	Sept. 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a table of treasury operations consistent with budgetary classification. 	March 2001
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitate the Ministry of Finance inspectorate (<i>Inspection Générale des Finances, IGF</i>): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Implement recommendations of IGF's audit reports ➤ Create a structure to follow up on the implementation of IGF's recommendations ➤ Prepare a report on exemptions ➤ Increase IGF's personnel 	2000-03 August 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up an external audit capacity (<i>Chambre des Comptes</i>): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Prepare and adopt a work program ➤ Submit draft law certifying 1999 budget execution to the National Assembly ➤ Adopt and implement a program to strengthen capacity ➤ Complete an external audit of 2000 budget execution with the assistance of an external auditing firm. 	Oct. 2000 Nov. 2000 2000-03 June 2001
<i>National Pension Fund (FNRB)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computerize the FNRB database. • Adopt an action plan to eliminate the FNRB deficit. 	Nov. 2000 Dec. 2000
Monetary Policy and Financial Sector	Implement a monetary and credit policy that will contribute to maintaining the parity of the CFA franc	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the Banking Commission recommendations and place institutions not complying with prudential ratios under close surveillance. 	2000-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure commercial bank compliance with new prudential ratios. 	Jan. 2002
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor, on monthly basis, the financial situation of the local savings institutions experiencing difficulties. 	April–Oct. 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess, on a quarterly basis, the financial situation of branches of local savings institutions in difficulty. 	Sept. 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place local branches of savings institutions not complying with the recovery plan under temporary management. 	Sept.–Dec. 2000

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Structural Reform	Ensure sustainable, higher, and balanced economic growth	
a. Institutional Reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt an action plan for implementing the devolution policy. • Evaluate the financial position of local governments. • Implement a system for monitoring local government budgets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Ensure preparation by local governments of a quarterly budget execution report ➢ Ensure preparation by treasury of a quarterly report on local budget execution • Strengthen the judicial system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Adopt an integrated plan for strengthening and modernizing the judicial system ➢ Prepare a plan for redeploying the judges in the courts. • Adopt a law for harmonizing the budget laws in the WAEMU. • Adopt regional government accounting standards. • Improve governance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Assess the activities of the anticorruption agency (<i>Cellule de moralisation de la vie publique</i>) for the 1996-99 period and prepare a medium-term action plan. ➢ Prepare and adopt an anticorruption strategy ➢ Collect fines determined by courts for embezzlement ➢ Adopt a law against the illegal acquisition of wealth ➢ Ensure preparation by departments of a procedural manual and users' guide ➢ Establish audit controls for budget monitoring management ➢ Implement the WAEMU code of good governance. 	<p>July 2000</p> <p>Oct. 2000</p> <p>2000-03</p> <p>2000-03</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p> <p>2000</p> <p>June 2001</p> <p>July 2000</p> <p>2000</p> <p>Oct. 2000</p> <p>June 2000-June 2001</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p> <p>June 2001</p>
b. Civil Service Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a new promotion and compensation system for the civil service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Adopt a new salary scale consistent with the new compensation system ➢ Implement the performance assessment system. • Create a single civil service database: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Complete the updating of the administrative status of civil servants in payroll department and Ministry of Civil Service databases ➢ Computerize the Ministry of civil service database ➢ Merge the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of civil service databases. 	<p>Aug. 2000</p> <p>Nov. 2000</p> <p>July 2000</p> <p>Sept. 2000</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p>
c. Pricing policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petroleum product sector: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Implement the new mechanism for retail price adjustments • Cement sector: 	<p>2000-03</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Liberalize imports ➤ Liberalize prices • Telecommunications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Announce the new pricing policy • Water and electricity sectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Announce the new pricing policy 	<p>June 2000</p> <p>June 2001</p> <p>Sept. 2000</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p>
d. Private Sector Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a new investment code in cooperation with other WAEMU countries. • Define a strategy for the development of vocational training • Conduct a study on Benin's competitiveness 	<p>2000-02</p> <p>2000-02</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p>
e. Agriculture		
<i>Cotton</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a new mechanism to guarantee crop credits. • Eliminate SONAPRA's monopsony on seed cotton purchasing. • Adopt a strategy to privatize SONAPRA. • Privatize SONAPRA. 	<p>June 2000</p> <p>June 2000</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p> <p>2001</p>
<i>Forests</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize the program for restructuring forestry institutions. • Privatize the commercial and industrial activities of ONAB (National Timber Office). 	<p>2000</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p>
f. Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize and adopt the implementation decrees related to the environment legislation. • Control air pollution. • Set up an urban transportation system. • Implement the strategy for urban public investment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organize a roundtable with donors 	<p>2000</p> <p>2000-01</p> <p>2000</p> <p>2000</p>
g. Transport and Port Infrastructure		
<i>Port</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a financial audit of 1998 and 1999 operations and the temporary billing system. • Implement a new computerized port management system. • Connect all public operators involved in port activities to the computerized port management system and make its use effective. • Decide on the private sector role in port management. • Involve private sector in port management. • Computerize the monitoring of port performance indicators. • Adopt new status for the national council for shipping agencies (CNCB). 	<p>Nov. 2000</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p> <p>March 2001</p> <p>Nov. 2000</p> <p>Dec. 2001</p> <p>Dec. 2000</p> <p>July 2000</p>
<i>Road Transportation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversify the financing of the road fund. • Encourage the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises in road work by improving contracting procedures. • Transform the department of equipment and public works into a semipublic enterprise: 	<p>2000-03</p> <p>2000-03</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adopt an action plan ➤ Create a semipublic enterprise for renting public works equipment 	<p>July 2000 Dec. 2000</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the strategy for rehabilitating and managing rural roads and mobilize financing for their maintenance. 	2000-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement an action plan negotiated with carriers and other users for reducing roadblocks. 	2000
Railroad (<i>OCBN</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dismantle the transport-sharing arrangement. • Place the OCBN under concession. 	2000 2001
h. Mining and Energy		
<i>Mining</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out a mining sector assessment. • Formulate a development strategy for the mining sector. • Revise the mining code in accordance with international standards. 	Sept. 2000 Dec. 2000 2000-02
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a property register. • Implement geological information system. 	2000 2000
<i>Water/Energy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reform the water and electricity sectors and disengage the government from these activities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adopt a strategy for government divestiture ➤ Invite bids according to the divestiture strategy ➤ Select successful bidder 	Oct. 2000 Dec. 2000 March 2001
i. Postal Services and Telecommunications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the draft laws on the postal and telecommunication sectors to the National Assembly. • Recruit a consortium in charge of separating the two sectors and privatizing the telecommunication sector. • Establish a regulatory institution. • Adopt a decree on splitting the two sectors. • Open up the capital of telecommunication company: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Invite bids ➤ Select successful bidder. 	June 2000 May 2000 August 2000 Sept. 2000 Sept. 2000 Sept. 2000 Dec. 2000
j. Textile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Privatize enterprise SITEX. 	2002
k. Health and Social Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize the 2001-03 development plan. • Conduct a midterm review of the sector strategy. • Finalize feasibility studies for health districts. • Set up additional 23 health districts. • Strengthen management tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure that primary health centers use effectively management tools and procedural manuals ➤ Prepare a procedural manual for secondary and tertiary health services. • Adopt a system for annual performance evaluation. • Increase 2001 budget allocation for improving reproductive health and prevention of STD/HIV. • Prepare and adopt a HIV/AIDS prevention strategy. • Increase annual budget allocation to the sector and its level of consumption according to the program budget. 	Sept. 2000 Dec. 2000 June 2000 2000-02 Aug. 2000 Dec. 2000 Dec. 2000 Dec. 2000 Dec. 2000 June 2001 2000-03

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure an annual budgetary allocation for capital expenditures to set up health districts 	2001-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and adopt a national policy on women (PNPF). 	Sept. 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and adopt an action plan for implementing the PNPF. 	2000-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt, disseminate, and implement the family code. 	2001-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and adopt a strategy on social and family policy. 	2001-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare action plan for the elimination of genital mutilation of women. 	2001-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare an action plan to support disabled people. 	2001-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare an action plan to support vulnerable people. 	2001-03
I. Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize sector strategy for the entire education system (primary, secondary, technical, vocational training, and university). 	Oct. 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the sector strategy in primary education. 	2001-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specify actions to increase the girls' enrollment rate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Formulate an action plan for girls' education ➢ Eliminate school fees for all students in rural areas ➢ Implement fund transfer system to compensate school in rural areas for the loss of revenues from school fees 	2000-01
		2000-01
		Oct. 2000
		Oct. 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate repetition of grade 1. 	Oct. 2000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare strategy to reduce repetition rate and dropout rate; revise the entire evaluation system. 	May 2001
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt action plan to reduce the repetition rate to 15 percent for grades 2-6 by school year 2002/03. 	May 2001
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt action plan to increase the rate of pupils finishing primary school from 55 percent to 70 percent by school year 2004/05. 	March 2001
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocate 75 percent of the budget set aside for school construction to underserved communities. 	Dec. 2001
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide funds to communities hiring teachers to fill vacancies. 	March 2001
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen national capacity to produce and evaluate textbooks. 	2001-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve availability of textbooks. 	2000-01
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define the role of the Teachers' Training Schools (ENI) and open them to the private sector. 	2001-03
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a program for developing and reopening the ENIs. 	2001-03

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the teacher recruitment and career management plan. • Introduce a computerized human resource management system. 	<p>June 2001</p> <p>Dec. 2001</p>
m. Community Development and Employment Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote local community development initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Implement development plan for each of the 100 pilot community development units • Promote employment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conduct a general review of employment promotion policy and its impact ➤ Provide assistance for the creation of microenterprises and microprojects ➤ Provide assistance for professional development of young unemployed people ➤ Pursue labor-intensive public works programs. 	<p>2000-03</p> <p>2000-03</p> <p>2000-03</p> <p>Aug. 2000</p> <p>2000-03</p> <p>2000-03</p> <p>2000-03</p>