ption in 1980 (MEED 16:11:84). Wakim, still owns 12.5 per cent of Saadco, fell out the majority shareholder, Prince Abdullah aisal, and left for the UK where, by July 4, he had run up horseracing debts with firm *Ladbrokes*, Winchester crown court told. The private detective hired by brokes to investigate Wakim had plotted hake his fortune by smuggling the anese businessman to Jeddah, where he tid be "placed in the prince's private prison," court heard. The prosecution emphasised Prince Abdullah was not involved in the

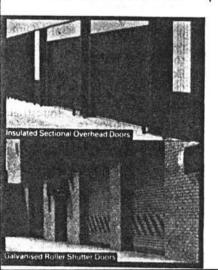
SOMALIA

ly's Prime Minister Bettino Craxi will take long-standing invitation and visit from 2 September. A 30 August statement the meeting between Craxi and President d Barre will lay the basis for reinforcing term bilateral co-operation programmes; ituation in the Horn of Africa and other s will also be on the agenda. The visit will be first by an Italian prime minister since alia gained independence in 1960.

e government has announced details of its ramme to revitalise the economy by uraging local and foreign private investment, timulating private-sector agricultural and strial output. According to a statement d by the Foreign Affairs Ministry, the amme is to be directed by an independent nittee with its own administrative section. committee will comprise government als and representatives of parastatal ies and other organisations involved in ction. Privately owned local and foreign s are to be licensed when appropriate, rivate individuals and firms will be allowed port oil for distribution through cotive organisations. The government agreed plement an economic liberalisation y in its talks with the IMF in early 1985 D 24.8:85).

SUDAN

lends for power scheme International Development ciation (IDA) is lending SDR 30.3



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million (\$ 31.4 million) to part-finance a \$ 40.2 million rehabilitation project to improve the efficiency of existing power generating facilities and the overall reliability of electricity supplies.

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The project is part of the 1985-90 development programme of the National Electricity Corporation (NEC), which is to provide the remainder of the finance through internal cash generation.

A World Bank spokesman told MEED that the project comprises a distillation of the highest priorities of the proposed power four development programme. The most urgent need was to improve the existing system through a series of small rehabilitation projects, rather than a major expansion in generating output as envisaged under power four, he added.

However, discussions will be held with the government on implementation of power four at a later stage, although it is likely to be substantially revised, MEED was told. In essence, the new scheme is an interim measure designed to continue with rehabilitation started under the power three programme, with a small power expansion component.

Two units at Roseires hydroelectric station in eastern Sudan will be rehabilitated, together with the supply of spare parts for the Sennar hydroelectric station, north of Roseires. In addition, the Blue Nile transmission network will be rehabilitated and circuit breakers in the eastern grid and at the Burri and Kilo X substations replaced. The project also provides for capacity at the Burri thermal power station to be expanded by the addition of two 10-MW diesel generating units. Four diesel units were recently installed at the station, which is designed for six.

Consultants are to be appointed to supervise project implementation and to carry out studies on long-term development and investment priorities for the power supply system. The government will decide whether to employ the consultants involved in the power three programme; if new consultants are required standard international tendering procedures will be adopted.

The credit is for 50 years, including 10 years' grace, with annual charges of ½ per cent on undisbursed amounts and ¾ per cent on disbursed amounts.

SYRIA

• The government has written to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar expressing regret at the UN's decision to circulate as a UN document a communique issued at the end of the recent Arab League summit in Casablanca. The meeting, which ended on 9 August, gave implicit backing to the joint Jordanian-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace initiative with Israel (MEED 17:8:85, Regional). However, Damascus says the summit had no political value, as five Arab states, including Syria, did not attend. As a result, the communique "does not accurately express the true nature of the Arab position."

101,25 NO.36

o Libya's revolutionary leader Muammar Qaddafi has called on Syria to annex Lebanon, in a speech marking the anniversary of Libya's September 1969 revolution.

o Oil & Mineral Resources Minister Ghazi al-Durobi arrived in the Soviet Union on 1 September, the official Syrian Arab News Agency reports. His visit is intended to promote energy co-operation.

o Jacques Noiseux is to be Canada's first ambassador in Damascus, and Syria is expected to open a mission in Ottawa within six months, according to reports from the Canadian capital. The opening of the Damascus embassy is largely the result of the June closure of Canada's Beirut mission, which Noiseux headed. Canada's immigration and visa procedures for Lebanon will be handled from Damascus.

TUNISIA

Refinery tenders due

Nine international companies or groups were to be sent tender documents for a \$20 million extension to Bizerte refinery on 10 September, contractors say. Societe Tunisienne des Industries de Raffinage (ST/R), which runs the refinery, intends to double annual topping capacity to 3 million tonnes, to improve the yield of gas-oil and fuel oil. Both products are in demand locally (MEED 24:5:85).

An earlier, \$ 500 million project to increase the refinery's capacity to 5 million tonnes a year and to add downstream units was shelved in 1983. The cancellation was one of the first signs of government concern about the level of investment spending (MEED 27:1:84, page 46).

STIR will also ask bidders to put in offers for an alternative scheme to increase annual topping capacity to 4.5 million tonnes. Although the larger volume would be better suited to the scale of local demand for refined products, funds for such an increase have yet to be approved in the budget. Oil and refined products imports cost TD 236 million (\$ 306 million) in 1984. Bidders for the extension are:

□ Italy – Snamprogetti, Tecnipetrol and Compagnia Tecnica Internazionale Progetti (CTIP)

□ France – Foster Wheeler Francaise and Heurtey Industries, bidding with the US' Lummus Crest

Japan – JGC Corporation, Hitachi
Zosen and Chiyoda Chemical Engineering
& Construction Company

Czechoslovakia – Technoexport.
The refinery, built by Snamprogetti in

1962, ma kerosenc

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