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On May 15, acting Treasury Minister Jorge Rodriguez told reporters that the government has requested a slowdown in loan disbursements from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank in an attempt to reduce the influx of dollars. Rodriguez said the balance of trade surplus, sustained foreign investment inflows, and the disbursement of foreign loans have contributed to an excess of dollars. The Chilean government will request, as permitted by regulations of both multilateral institutions, funding for 50% of future projects, in contrast to 60% or 70%. Regarding loan agreements already finalized, Santiago proposes to postpone disbursements by up to two years. Rodriguez said that in these cases, the government prefers to commence program operations with federal budget resources. Under existing agreements, the IDB and the World Bank were scheduled to disburse about US$670 million this year. (Basic data from Agence France-Presse, 05/15/92)

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