May 29, 2015

Ref: WB/CD/215/05/29/2015

H. E. Ato Sufian Ahmed
Minister
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
Addis Ababa

Dear Ato Sufian,

**Subject: Ethiopia - Advance Agreement for the Preparation of the Proposed Urban Productive Safety Net Project (Project Preparation Advance No. Q978)**

In response to the request for financial assistance made on behalf of the Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (“Recipient”), I am pleased to inform you that the International Development Association (“IDA” “World Bank”) proposes to extend to the Recipient an advance out of the World Bank’s Project Preparation Facility in an amount not to exceed three million three hundred sixty seven thousand United States Dollars (USD 3,367,000) (“Advance”) on the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in this letter agreement (“Agreement”), which includes the attached Annex, to assist in financing the activities described in the Annex (“Activities”). The objective of the proposed Urban Productive Safety Net Project is to support the Recipient in providing access to effective safety nets and livelihood services to the poor in selected urban areas (“Project”), for the carrying out of which the Recipient has requested the World Bank’s financial assistance.

The Recipient represents, by confirming its agreement below, that: (a) it understands that the provision of the Advance does not constitute or imply any commitment on the part of the World Bank to assist in financing the Project; and (b) it is authorized to enter into this Agreement and to carry out the Activities, repay the Advance and perform its other obligations under this Agreement, all in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.
Please confirm the Recipient’s agreement to the foregoing by having an authorized official of the Recipient sign and date the enclosed copy of this Agreement, and return it to the World Bank. Upon receipt by the World Bank of this countersigned copy, this Agreement shall become effective as of the date of countersignature.

Sincerely,
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By
Guang Z. Chen
Country Director for Ethiopia
Africa Region

AGREED AND CONFIRMED:

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA

By:

Authorized Representative

Name: AHMED SHIDE
State Minister

Title:

Date: June 5, 2015

Enc:


(2) Disbursement Letter for the Advance of the same date as this Agreement, together with “World Bank Disbursement Guidelines for Projects”, dated May 1, 2006.


Article I
Standard Conditions; Definitions

1.01. **Standard Conditions.** The Standard Conditions (as defined in the following Section 1.02 of this Annex) constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

1.02. **Definitions.** Unless the context requires otherwise, the capitalized terms used in this Agreement have the meanings ascribed to them in the Standard Conditions or in this Agreement, and the following additional terms shall have the following meanings:


(c) “Operating Costs” means the reasonable incremental expenses incurred in connection with Project implementation, including: (i) consumable materials and supplies, communications, mass media and printing services, vehicle rental, operation and maintenance; and (ii) charges for the opening and operation of bank accounts required for the Project, travel, lodging and per diems, but excluding salaries of officials of the Recipient’s civil service.


(f) “Training” means the reasonable costs associated with training, including travel and subsistence costs for participants, rental of training facilities, preparation and reproduction of training materials, and other costs directly related to training courses.

Article II
Execution of the Activities

2.01. **Description of the Activities.** For preparation of the proposed Project, the Activities for which the Advance is provided consist of the following:

(a) Carrying out preparatory implementation and capacity building activities including, inter alia: staffing, logistics and equipment, sensitization and awareness raising for the core institutions that are involved in coordinating the proposed Project.
(b) Carrying out key preparatory design activities and development of manuals and guidelines including a project implementation manual, a guideline for project components and financial management and procurement manuals.

(c) Preparation of social and environment safeguard instruments and conducting social impact assessments.

(d) Establishing functional coordination and management mechanisms through provision of technical assistance and consultations to review and validate the proposed coordination and management arrangements for the proposed Project.

2.02. **Execution of the Activities Generally.** The Recipient declares its commitment to the objectives of the Activities. To this end, the Recipient shall carry out the Activities through the Ministry of Urban Development Housing and Construction in accordance with the provisions of:

(a) Article II of the Standard Conditions; 
(b) this Article II; and 
(c) the Anti-Corruption Guidelines.

2.03. **Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation of the Activities.** The Recipient shall monitor and evaluate the progress of the Activities in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.08 of the Standard Conditions.

2.04. **Financial Management.**

(a) The Recipient shall ensure that a financial management system is maintained in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.09 of the Standard Conditions.

(b) The Recipient shall ensure that interim un-audited financial reports for the Activities are prepared and furnished to the World Bank not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of each calendar quarter, covering the quarter, in form and substance satisfactory to the World Bank.

(c) The Recipient shall have its Financial Statements audited in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.09 (b) of the Standard Conditions.

(i) If, on or before the Refinancing Date, a Refinancing Agreement has been executed by all of its parties, the Recipient shall have the Financial Statements included in the first audit of financial statements required under the Refinancing Agreement.

(ii) If, by the Refinancing Date, no Refinancing Agreement has been executed by all of its parties, such audit of the Financial Statements shall cover the period of the Advance, commencing with the fiscal year in which the first withdrawal under the Advance was made. The audited Financial Statements for such period shall be furnished to the World Bank not later than six (6) months after the end of the Recipient’s fiscal year in which the Refinancing Date occurs.

(iii) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this Section, the World Bank may request an audit of the Financial Statements prior to the Refinancing Date, covering such period as is indicated in its request. The audited Financial Statements for such period shall be furnished to the World Bank not later than six (6) months after the end of such period.
2.05. **Procurement**

(a) **General.** All goods, non-consulting services and consultants’ services required for the Activities and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Advance shall be procured in accordance with the requirements set forth or referred to in:

(i) Section I of the “Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers” dated January 2011 (“Procurement Guidelines”), in the case of goods, and non-consulting services;

(ii) Sections I and IV of the “Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers” dated January 2011 (“Consultant Guidelines”) in the case of consultants’ services; and

(iii) the provisions of this Section, as the same shall be elaborated in the procurement plan prepared and updated from time to time by the Recipient for the Activities in accordance with paragraph 1.18 of the Procurement Guidelines and paragraph 1.25 of the Consultant Guidelines (“Procurement Plan”).

(b) **Definitions.** The capitalized terms used in the following paragraphs of this Section to describe particular procurement methods or methods of review by the World Bank of particular contracts, refer to the corresponding method described in Sections II and III of the Procurement Guidelines, or Sections II, III, IV and V of the Consultant Guidelines, as the case may be.

(c) **Particular Methods of Procurement of Goods and Non-consulting Services**

(i) Except as otherwise provided in sub-paragraph (ii) below, goods, and non-consulting services shall be procured under contracts awarded on the basis of International Competitive Bidding.

(ii) The following methods, other than International Competitive Bidding, may be used for procurement of goods and non-consulting services for those contracts specified in the Procurement Plan: (A) National Competitive Bidding (subject to the additional procedures set out in sub-paragraph (iii) below); (B) Shopping; (C) Direct Contracting; (D) Limited International Bidding; and (E) Procurement from UN Agencies.

(iii) The following additional procedures shall apply to National Competitive Bidding:

(A) The Recipient’s standard bidding documents for procurement of goods and works acceptable to the Association shall be used. At the request of the Recipient, the introduction of requirements for bidders to sign an Anti-Bribery pledge and/or statement of undertaking to observe Ethiopian Law against fraud and corruption and other forms that ought to be completed and signed by him/her may be included in bidding documents if the
arrangements governing such undertakings are acceptable to the Association.

(B) If pre-qualification is used, the Association’s standard prequalification document shall be used.

(C) No margin of preference shall be granted in bid evaluation on the basis of bidder’s nationality, origin of goods or services, and/or preferential programs such as but not limited to small and medium enterprises.

(D) Mandatory registration in a supplier list shall not be used to assess bidders’ qualifications. A foreign bidder shall not be required to register as a condition for submitting its bid and if recommended for contract award shall be given a reasonable opportunity to register with the reasonable cooperation of the Recipient, prior to contract signing. Invitations to bids shall be advertised in at least one newspaper of national circulation or the official gazette or on a widely used website or electronic portal with free national and international access.

(E) Bidders shall be given a minimum of thirty (30) days to submit bids from the date of availability of the bidding documents.

(F) All bidding for goods shall be carried out through a one-envelope procedure.

(G) Evaluation of bids shall be made in strict adherence to the evaluation criteria specified in the bidding documents. Evaluation criteria other than price shall be quantified in monetary terms. Merit points shall not be used, and no minimum point or percentage value shall be assigned to the significance of price, in bid evaluation.

(H) The results of evaluation and award of contract shall be made public. All bids shall not be rejected and the procurement process shall not be cancelled, a failure of bidding declared, or new bids shall not be solicited, without the Association’s prior written concurrence. No bids shall be rejected on the basis of comparison with the cost estimates without the Association’s prior written concurrence.

(I) In accordance with paragraph 1.16(e) of the Procurement Guidelines, each bidding document and contract financed out of the proceeds of the Financing shall provide that: (1) the bidders, suppliers, contractors and subcontractors, agents, personnel, consultants, service providers, or suppliers shall permit the Association, at its request, to inspect all accounts, records and documents relating to the bid submission and performance of the contract, and to have them audited by auditors appointed by the Association; and (2) Acts intended to materially impede the exercise of the Association’s audit and inspection rights constitutes an obstructive practice as defined in paragraph 1.16(v) of the Procurement Guidelines.

(d) Particular Methods of Procurement of Consultants’ Services

(i) Except as otherwise provided in item (ii) below, consultants’ services shall be procured under contracts awarded on the basis of Quality- and Cost-based Selection.

(ii) The following methods, other than Quality- and Cost-based Selection, may be used for the procurement of consultants’ services for those assignments which are specified in the Procurement Plan: (A) Quality Based Selection; (B) Least Cost Selection; (C) Selection based on Consultants’ Qualifications;
(D) Single-source Selection of consulting firms; (E) Selection of Individual Consultants; and (F) Single source procedures for the Selection of Individual Consultants.

(e) Review by the World Bank of Procurement Decisions. The Procurement Plan shall set forth those contracts which shall be subject to the World Bank’s Prior Review. All other contracts shall be subject to Post Review by the World Bank.

Article III
Withdrawal of the Advance

3.01. Eligible Expenditures. The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Advance in accordance with the provisions of: (i) Article III of the Standard Conditions; (ii) this Section; and (iii) such additional instructions as the World Bank may specify by notice to the Recipient (including the “World Bank Disbursement Guidelines for Projects” dated May 2006, as revised from time to time by the World Bank and as made applicable to this Agreement pursuant to such instructions), to finance Eligible Expenditures as set forth in the following table. The table specifies each category of Eligible Expenditures that may be financed out of the proceeds of the Advance (“Category”), the amount of the Advance allocated to each Category, and the percentage of expenditures to be financed for Eligible Expenditures in each Category:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount of the Advance Allocated (expressed in Dollars)</th>
<th>Percentage of Expenditures to be Financed (Inclusive of Taxes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Goods, non-consulting services, consultants’ services, Operating Costs, and Training</td>
<td>3,367,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL AMOUNT</td>
<td>3,367,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.02. Withdrawal Conditions. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3.01 of this Agreement, no withdrawal shall be made for payments made prior to the date of countersignature of this Agreement by the Recipient.

3.03. Refinancing Date. The Refinancing Date is April 1, 2016.
Article IV
Terms of the Advance

4.01. Service Charge. The Recipient shall pay a service charge on the Withdrawn Advance Balance at the rate of three-fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%) per annum. The service charge shall accrue from the respective dates on which amounts of the Advance are withdrawn and shall be paid in arrears in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.02 of this Agreement. Service charges shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

4.02. Repayment. The Withdrawn Advance Balance shall be repaid by the Recipient to the World Bank (together with any service charges accrued thereon) in accordance with the provisions of Article IV of the Standard Conditions and the following provisions:

(a) Refinancing under the Refinancing Agreement: If, on or before the Refinancing Date, a Refinancing Agreement has been executed by all of its parties, then the full amount of the Withdrawn Advance Balance shall be repaid to the World Bank (together with any service charges accrued on the Advance to the date of repayment) as soon as the Refinancing Agreement becomes effective, by means of a withdrawal by the World Bank of an amount of the Refinancing Proceeds equivalent to the Withdrawn Advance Balance plus such service charges, in accordance with the provisions of the Refinancing Agreement.

(b) Repayment in the absence of a Refinancing Agreement: If, on or before the Refinancing Date, no Refinancing Agreement has been executed by all of its parties, or if, by such date or at any time thereafter, it has been so executed but terminates without becoming effective, then:

(i) if the amount of the Withdrawn Advance Balance does not exceed $50,000, it shall be repaid by the Recipient to the World Bank (together with service charges accrued on the Withdrawn Advance Balance to the date of repayment) on such date as the World Bank shall specify in a notice to the Recipient, which shall in no event be earlier than 60 days following the date of dispatch of such notice; and

(ii) if the amount of the Withdrawn Advance Balance exceeds $50,000, it (together with service charges accrued on the Withdrawn Advance Balance to the Notice Date) (the “Aggregate Balance”) shall be paid by the Recipient to the World Bank in ten approximately equal semiannual installments, in the amounts and on the dates (“Payment Dates”) which the World Bank shall specify in a notice to the Recipient. In no event shall the first Payment Date be set earlier than 60 days following the date (“Notice Date”) of dispatch of such notice. The Recipient shall pay a service charge on the Aggregate Balance at the rate of three-fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%) per annum, payable in arrears on each Payment Date. The service charge shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.
Article V
Recipient’s Representative; Addresses

5.01. **Recipient’s Representative.** The Recipient’s Representative referred to in Section 9.02 of the Standard Conditions is the Recipient’s minister responsible for finance.

5.02. **Recipient’s Address.** The Recipient’s Address referred to in Section 9.01 of the Standard Conditions is:

Ministry of Finance and Economic Development  
P.O. Box 1905  
Addis Ababa  
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

Cable: MINFIN  
Telex: 21147  
Facsimile: (251-111) 551355

5.03. **World Bank’s Address.** The World Bank’s Address referred to in Section 9.01 of the Standard Conditions is:

International Development Association  
1818 H Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20433  
United States of America

Cable: INDEVAS  
Telex: 248423 (MCI) or 64145 (MCI)  
Facsimile: 1-202-477-6391
H.E. Ato Sufian Ahmed

May 29, 2015

Drafted by: Mohammed Nadeem (LEGAM)

Cleared by: Guang Z. Chen (AFCE3), Greg Toulmin (AFCE3), Manuel Salazar (GSPDR), Mugambi Mwendia (WFALA), Mohammed Nadeem (LEGAM), Mei Wang, Country Lawyer Muderis Mohammed (GSPDR)