Financing Agreement

(Mauritania COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Project)

between

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA

and

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
AGREEMENT dated as of the Signature Date between ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA ("Recipient") and INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION ("Association"). The Recipient and the Association hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE I — GENERAL CONDITIONS; DEFINITIONS

1.01. The General Conditions (as defined in the Appendix to this Agreement) apply to and form part of this Agreement.

1.02. Unless the context requires otherwise, the capitalized terms used in this Agreement have the meanings ascribed to them in the General Conditions or in the Appendix to this Agreement.

ARTICLE II — FINANCING

2.01. The Association agrees to extend to the Recipient a grant, which is deemed as Concessional Financing for purposes of the General Conditions, in an amount equivalent to three million eight hundred thousand Special Drawing Rights (SDR 3,800,000) ("Financing"), to assist in financing the project described in Schedule I to this Agreement ("Project").

2.02. The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Financing in accordance with Section III of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

2.03. The Maximum Commitment Charge Rate is one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) per annum on the Unwithdrawn Financing Balance.

2.04. The Payment Dates are April 15 and October 15 in each year.

2.05. The Payment Currency is Dollar.

ARTICLE III — PROJECT

3.01. The Recipient declares its commitment to the objective of the Project and the MPA Program. To this end, the Recipient shall carry out the Project in accordance with the provisions of Article V of the General Conditions and Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
ARTICLE IV — EFFECTIVENESS; TERMINATION

4.01. The Effectiveness Deadline is the date ninety (90) days after the Signature Date.

4.02. For purposes of Section 10.05 (b) of the General Conditions, the date on which the obligations of the Recipient under this Agreement (other than those providing for payment obligations) shall terminate is twenty (20) years after the Signature Date.

ARTICLE V — REPRESENTATIVE; ADDRESSES

5.01. The Recipient’s Representative is its minister in charge of economy.

5.02. For purposes of Section 11.01 of the General Conditions: (a) the Recipient’s address is:

Ministère de l’Economie et de l’Industrie
Avenue Nelson Mandela
BP 238
Nouakchott
Mauritania; and

(b) the Recipient’s Electronic Address is:

Facsimile: 222-45-25-33-35

5.03. For purposes of Section 11.01 of the General Conditions:

(a) the Association’s address is:

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

(b) the Association’s Electronic Address is:

Telex: Facsimile:
248423 (MCI) 1-202-477-6391
AGREED as of the Signature Date.

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA

By

[Signature]

Authorized Representative

Name: Abdel Aziz DAHI
Title: MINISTER OF ECONOMY AND INDUSTRY
Date: 02 - Apr - 2020

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By

[Signature]

Authorized Representative

Name: Laurent Msellati
Title: Country Manager
Date: 02-Apr-2020
SCHEDULE 1

Project Description

The objective of the Project is to strengthen the national public health preparedness capacity to prevent, detect and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in Mauritania.

The Project constitutes a phase of the MPA Program, and consists of the following parts:

Part 1: Emergency COVID-19 Response

Providing immediate support to prevent COVID-19 from arriving or limiting local transmission through containment strategies, including the following:

1. Enhancing case detection, confirmation, tracing, recording and reporting through equipment, services and training for purposes of inter alia: (a) strengthening disease surveillance systems, testing necessary capacities of public health laboratories, and epidemiological capacity for early detection and confirmation of cases; (b) combining detection of new cases with active contact tracing; (c) supporting epidemiological investigation; (d) strengthening risk assessment; (e) providing on-time data and information for guiding decision-making, response and mitigation activities; and (f) strengthening health management information systems to facilitate recording and on-time virtual sharing of information.

2. Strengthening the health system through inter alia: (a) assisting the health care system for preparedness planning to provide optimal medical care, maintain essential community services and minimize risks for patients and health personnel by, inter alia: (i) providing risk training for health facilities’ staff and front-line workers on risk mitigation measures; and (ii) providing health facilities’ staff with appropriate protective equipment and hygiene materials; and (b) strengthening clinical care capacity in selected health facilities through, inter alia: (i) establishing specialized units and developing related financing plans; (ii) developing treatment and hospital infection control guidelines, and providing related training; (iii) developing strategies to increase hospital bed availability, including intra-hospital infection control measures; and (iv) strengthening medical waste management.

3. Supporting communication preparedness and activities through inter alia: (a) outreach, knowledge and awareness-raising activities through various communications channels to support cost-effective and sustainable prevention methods directed at the general population and involving the public, private sector and civil society; (b) supporting community mobilization through Training of community health workers and key stakeholders, including religious and tribal leaders; and (c) developing and distributing basic communication materials on
COVID-19 prevention, and organize related general public events and Training activities.

Part 2: Implementation Management and Monitoring and Evaluation

1. Carrying out Project management activities including: (a) the provision of support to public structures for the coordination and management of the Project, including central and local (decentralized) arrangements for the coordination of Project activities, financial management and procurement; (b) the recruitment of additional staff/consultants responsible for overall administration, procurement, and financial management under country specific projects; (c) the financing of Project coordination activities and Operating Costs; and (d) equipment and related implementation support to the Recipient’s National Center for Emergency Operations in Public Health.

2. Carrying out monitoring and evaluation of the Project including *inter alia* Project monitoring, impact evaluation assessments and data collection.
SCHEDULE 2

Project Execution

Section I. Implementation Arrangements

A. Institutional Arrangements

1. The Recipient shall vest its Ministry of Health with the responsibility of implementing the overall Project. To that end, the Recipient shall: (a) maintain a COVID-19 Emergency Response Committee during Project implementation, with terms of reference, resources and key staff satisfactory to the Association, to inter alia review progress in Project implementation and endorse AWP&B and Project Reports; (b) maintain the National Center for Emergency Operations in Public Health, with terms of reference, resources and key staff satisfactory to the Association, to ensure the technical coordination of the Project; (c) maintain a General Secretariat until the completion of the Project, with the terms of reference, resources and staffing satisfactory to the Association, to be responsible for: (i) Project coordination; (ii) Project management, including monitoring and evaluation; and (iii) preparing Project Reports; and (d) ensure of the proper implementation of Environmental and Social Standards applying to the Project through its Department of Public Hygiene, with key staff and resources satisfactory to the Association, as further provided in the ESCP.

2. For purposes of financial management and procurement respectively under the Project, the Recipient shall cause the Ministry of Health to maintain until the completion of the Project, with the terms of reference and staffing satisfactory to the Association, a Directorate of Financial Affairs and a Directorate General of Resources, with resources and key staff satisfactory to the Association including inter alia: (a) an accountant, (b) a financial management specialist, (c) a procurement specialist, (d) an internal auditor, (e) an external auditor, and (f) an adequate accounting software; all with terms of reference and qualifications or specifications satisfactory to the Association. No later than one (1) month after the Effective Date or at any later date agreed upon in writing with the Association, the Recipient shall cause the Ministry of Health to: (a) recruit a financial officer, with terms of reference and qualifications or specifications satisfactory to the Association, (b) ensure that the internal auditor includes ex-post reviews of the Project in a quarterly basis and (c) revise the terms of reference of the external auditor to include the Project.
B. Manual

1. The Recipient shall by no later than one (1) month after the Effective Date, prepare and adopt an Administrative and Financial Manual of Procedures ("the Manual") containing detailed guidelines and procedures for the implementation of the Project, including with respect to: administration and coordination, monitoring and evaluation, financial management, procurement and accounting procedures, environmental and social safeguards, corruption and fraud mitigation measures, a grievance redress mechanism, Personal Data collection and processing in accordance with applicable national law and international guidelines, roles and responsibilities for Project implementation, and such other arrangements and procedures as shall be required for the effective implementation of the Project, in form and substance satisfactory to the Association.

2. The Recipient shall carry out the Project in accordance with the Manual.

3. The Recipient shall ensure that the Manual is not amended, suspended, repealed or abrogated without the prior written approval of the Association.

4. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of the Manual and, this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

C. Work Plans and Budget

1. For purposes of implementation of the Project, the Recipient shall:

   (a) prepare a draft AWP&B for each Fiscal Year, setting forth, inter alia: (i) a detailed description of the planned activities, including any proposed conferences and Training, under the Project for the period covered by the plan; (ii) the sources and proposed use of funds therefor; (iii) procurement and environmental and social safeguards arrangements therefor, as applicable and; (iv) responsibility for the execution of said Project activities, budgets, start and completion dates, outputs and monitoring indicators to track progress of each activity;

   (b) on or about November 15 of each Fiscal Year and after considering the comments provided by the Association, furnish to the Association for its comments and approval, the draft AWP&B and, promptly thereafter, finalize the AWP&B, taking into account the Association’s views and recommendations thereon; and

   (c) adopt the final version of the AWP&B in the form approved by the Association not later than December 15 of such Fiscal Year.
2. Notwithstanding the generality of paragraph 1. immediately above, for purposes of implementation of the Project in Fiscal Year 2020, the Recipient shall:

(a) by no later than one (1) month after the Effective Date, prepare a draft Work Plan and Budget for Project implementation, in accordance with paragraph 1. above;

(b) promptly furnish the draft Work Plan and Budget to the Association for its review, and promptly thereafter finalize the draft Work Plan and Budget, taking into account the Association’s comments thereon; and

(c) thereafter adopt and carry out such draft Work Plan and Budget for the relevant period as shall have been agreed with the Association, as such plan may be subsequently revised or updated with the prior written agreement of the Association.

D. Environmental and Social Standards

1. The Recipient shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards, in a manner acceptable to the Association.

2. Without limitation upon paragraph 1 above, the Recipient shall ensure that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (“ESCP”), in a manner acceptable to the Association. To this end, the Recipient shall ensure that:

(a) the measures and actions specified in the ESCP are implemented with due diligence and efficiency, and provided in the ESCP;

(b) sufficient funds are available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP;

(c) policies and procedures are maintained, and qualified and experienced staff in adequate numbers are retained to implement the ESCP, as provided in the ESCP; and

(d) the ESCP, or any provision thereof, is not amended, repealed, suspended or waived, except as the Association shall otherwise agree in writing, as specified in the ESCP, and ensure that the revised ESCP is disclosed promptly thereafter.

3. In case of any inconsistencies between the ESCP and the provisions of this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

4. The Recipient shall ensure that:
all measures necessary are taken to collect, compile, and furnish to the Association through regular reports, with the frequency specified in the ESCP, and promptly in a separate report or reports, if so requested by the Association, information on the status of compliance with the ESCP and the environmental and social instruments referred to therein, all such reports in form and substance acceptable to the Association, setting out, inter alia: (i) the status of implementation of the ESCP; (ii) conditions, if any, which interfere or threaten to interfere with the implementation of the ESCP; and (iii) corrective and preventive measures taken or required to be taken to address such conditions; and

the Association is promptly notified of any incident or accident related to or having an impact on the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers, in accordance with the ESCP, the environmental and social instruments referenced therein and the Environmental and Social Standards.

5. The Recipient shall establish, publicize, maintain and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances of Project-affected people, and take all measures necessary and appropriate to resolve, or facilitate the resolution of, such concerns and grievances, in a manner acceptable to the Association.

Section II. Project Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

1. The Recipient shall furnish to the Association each Project Report not later than one month after the end of each calendar semester, covering the calendar semester.

2. Except as may otherwise be explicitly required or permitted under this Agreement or as may be explicitly requested by the Association, in sharing any information, report or document related to the activities described in Schedule I of this Agreement, the Recipient shall ensure that such information, report or document does not include Personal Data.

Section III. Withdrawal of the Proceeds of the Financing

A. General

Without limitation upon the provisions of Article II of the General Conditions and in accordance with the Disbursement and Financial Information Letter, the Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Financing to finance Eligible Expenditures, in the amount allocated and, if applicable, up to the percentage set forth against each Category of the following table:
### Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount of the Grant Allocated (expressed in SDR)</th>
<th>Percentage of Expenditures to be Financed (inclusive of Taxes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Goods, works, non-consulting services, consulting services,</td>
<td>3,800,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Costs and Training for the Project</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL AMOUNT</strong></td>
<td>3,800,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### B. Withdrawal Conditions; Withdrawal Period

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Part A above, no withdrawal shall be made for payments made prior to the Signature Date, except that withdrawals up to an aggregate amount not to exceed one million five hundred and fifteen thousand Special Drawing Rights (SDR 1,515,000) may be made for payments made prior to this date but on or after March 25, 2020, for Eligible Expenditures under Category (1).

2. The Closing Date is April 30, 2022.
APPENDIX

Section I. Definitions

1. “Administrative and Financial Manual of Procedures” means the manual referred to in Section I.C.1 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement, as such manual may be amended by the Recipient from time to time, with the prior written approval of the Association.

2. “Annual Work Plan and Budget” and the acronym “AWP&B” has the meaning set forth in Section I.C. of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

3. “Anti-Corruption Guidelines” means, for purposes of paragraph 5 of the Appendix to the General Conditions, the “Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants”, dated October 15, 2006 and revised in January 2011 and as of July 1, 2016.

4. “Category” means a category set forth in the table in Section III.A of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.


6. “COVID-19 Emergency Response Committee” means the committee established by the Recipient to respond to COVID-19 and referred to in Section I.A.1(a) of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

7. “Department of Public Hygiene” means the department of public hygiene within the Ministry of Health, or its successor thereto.

8. “Environmental and Social Commitment Plan” or “ESCP” means the environmental and social commitment plan for the Project, dated March 25, 2020, as the same may be amended from time to time in accordance with the provisions thereof, which sets out the material measures and actions that the Recipient shall carry out or cause to be carried out to address the potential environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project, including the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, and any environmental and social instruments to be prepared thereunder.

9. “Environmental and Social Standards” or “ESSs” means, collectively: (i) “Environmental and Social Standard 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts”; (ii) “Environmental and Social Standard 2: Labor and Working Conditions”; (iii) “Environmental and Social Standard 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management”; (iv)

10. “Fiscal Year” means the Recipient’s Fiscal Year, starting January 1st and ending December 31st.


12. “Ministry of Health” means the Recipient’s Ministry of Health, or any successor thereto.

13. “MPA Program” means the global emergency multiphase programmatic approach program designed to assist countries to prevent, detect and respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 and strengthen national systems for public health preparedness.

14. “Operating Costs” means the reasonable incremental expenses incurred by the Recipient on account of Project implementation, including costs related to audits, office equipment and supplies, vehicle operation and maintenance, shipping costs, office rentals, communication and insurance costs, office administration costs, bank charges, utilities, transport costs, travel, per diem and supervision costs, and salaries of contracted employees, but excluding salaries of officials of the Recipient’s civil service.

15. “Personal Data” means any information relating to an identified or identifiable individual, with the understanding that: (a) an identifiable individual is one who can be identified by reasonable means, directly or indirectly, by reference to an attribute or combination of attributes within the data, or combination of the data with other available information; and that (b) attributes which may be used to identify an identifiable individual include, but are not limited to, name, identification number, location data, online identifier, metadata and factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of an individual.

17. “Signature Date” means the later of the two dates on which the Recipient and the Association signed this Agreement and such definition applies to all references to “the date of the Financing Agreement” in the General Conditions.

18. “Training” means the reasonable costs associated with training under the Project, based on the relevant Annual Work Plan and Budget, and attributable to study tours, training courses, seminars, workshops and other training activities, not included under service providers’ contracts, including costs of training materials, space and equipment rental, travel, accommodation and per diem costs of trainees and trainers, trainers’ fees, and other training related miscellaneous costs.

19. “Work Plan and Budget” has the meaning set forth in Section I.C. of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.