June 30, 2010

H.E. Tigran Davtyan
Minister of Finance
Ministry of Finance
1 Melik-Adamyan Street
Republic Square
Yerevan 0010
Republic of Armenia

Re: Republic of Armenia: IDF Grant for Improving Fiscal Management and Tax Compliance Capacity in the Government of Armenia
IDF Grant No. TF096224

Excellency:

In response to the request for financial assistance made on behalf of the Republic of Armenia ("Recipient"), I am pleased to inform you that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development ("World Bank") proposes to extend to the Recipient ("Member Country"), a grant from the World Bank’s Institutional Development Fund ("IDF") in an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand United States Dollars (U.S.$500,000) ("Grant") on the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in this letter agreement ("Agreement"), which includes the attached Annex, to assist in the financing of the project described in the Annex ("Project").

The Recipient represents, by confirming its agreement below, that it is authorized to enter into this Agreement and to carry out the Project in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in 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 returning it to the World Bank. Upon receipt by the World Bank of this countersigned copy, this Agreement shall become effective as of the date on which the World Bank receives notice of completion of internal approval procedures under the laws of the Recipient; provided, however, that the offer of
this Agreement shall be deemed withdrawn if the World Bank has not received the countersigned copy of this Agreement within ninety (90) days after the date of signature of this Agreement by the World Bank, unless the World Bank shall have established a later date for such purpose.

Very truly yours,

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

By /s/ Asad Alam
Country Director
South Caucuses Country Department
Europe and Central Asia Region

AGREED:
REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

By /s/ Tigran Davtyan
Authorized Representative
Title: Minister of Finance
Date: July 26, 2010

Enclosures:


Article I

Standard Conditions; Definitions

1.01. **Standard Conditions.** The Standard Conditions for Grants Made by the World Bank Out of Various Funds dated July 1, 2008 (“Standard Conditions”) 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.

Article II

Project Execution

2.01. **Project Objectives and Description.** The objective is to strengthen the fiscal management of the Government of Armenia by improving the capacity of the Ministry of Finance and the tax administration to manage tax compliance and macro-fiscal analysis and planning. The Project consists of the following parts:

Part A: Building capacity of the State Revenue Committee (SRC) for effective compliance management

Provision of consultants’ services, goods and training to assist in: (1) reviewing the institutional capacity of the SRC and recommending resource allocation for tax control planning; and (2) building capacity of SRC staff for risk management and specialized audit.

Part B: Strengthening the Ministry of Finance in macro-fiscal forecasting and analysis.

Provision of consultants’ services to: (1) introduce at the Ministry of Finance the forecasting tools; (2) introduce at the Ministry of Finance the macro-fiscal diagnostic tools; and (3) improve the medium term planning capacity.

2.02. **Project Execution Generally.** The Recipient declares its commitment to the objectives of the Project. To this end, the Recipient shall: (a) carry out the Project through the Foreign Financing Project Management Center (FFPMC) of the Ministry of Finance (MoF) of the Recipient (“Project Implementing Entity”) in accordance with the provisions of: (i) Article II of the Standard Conditions; (ii) the “Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants”, dated October 15, 2006 (“Anti-Corruption Guidelines”), with the modifications set forth in the Appendix to this Agreement; and (iii) this Article II; and (b) submit to the World Bank for its prior review all terms of reference for consultants’ services required for carrying out the Project.

2.03. **Project Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation.** (a) The Recipient shall monitor and evaluate the progress of the Project and, upon the World Bank’s request, prepare Project Reports,
in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.06 of the Standard Conditions and on the basis of the indicators set forth below in paragraph (b) of this Section. Each Project Report shall cover such period as shall be indicated in the World Bank’s request and shall be furnished to the World Bank not later than one month after the date of such request.

(b) The performance indicators referred to above in paragraph (a) consist of the following:

(i) Increasing the quality of tax audits as rated by SRC guidelines;
(ii) Increasing the targeting of tax audit;
(iii) Professional analytical unit established at SRC;
(iv) Decreasing the cost of tax collection in selected sectors supported by the Grant;
(v) Increasing tax incompliance risk perception by business;
(vi) Increasing the amount of tax adjustments (in dram) collected as a result of SRC audits;
(vii) Increasing the rate of automated selection of tax audit cases for selected sectors supported by the Grant;
(viii) Preparation of high quality macro-fiscal reports at key junctures in the annual and multi-year budget processes; and
(ix) Number of MoF staff trained in advanced techniques in macro-fiscal forecasting tools, able to recommend and conduct analysis.

(c) The Recipient shall, upon the World Bank’s request, prepare the Completion Report in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.06 of the Standard Conditions. The Completion Report shall be furnished to the World Bank not later than five (5) months after the Closing Date.

2.04. **Financial Management.** (a) The Recipient shall ensure that a financial management system is maintained in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.07 of the Standard Conditions.

(b) The Recipient shall ensure that interim unaudited financial reports for the Project are prepared and furnished to the World Bank not later than forty five (45) days after the end of each calendar semester, covering the semester, 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 2.07 (b) of the Standard Conditions. Such audit of the Financial Statements shall cover the entire period during which withdrawals from the Grant Account were 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 such period.

2.05. **Procurement**

(a) **General.** All goods and services required for the Project and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Grant shall be procured in accordance with the requirements set forth or referred to in:

(i) Section I (excluding paragraph 1.16) of the “Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits” published by the World Bank in May 2004 and revised in October 2006 and May 2010 (“Procurement Guidelines”), in the case of goods; and

(ii) Sections I (excluding paragraph 1.24) and IV of the “Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers” published by the World Bank in May 2004 and revised in October 2006 and May 2010 (“Consultant Guidelines”) in the case of consultants’ services.

(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 the Procurement Guidelines, or the Consultant Guidelines, as the case may be.

(c) **Particular Methods of Procurement of Goods.** Goods shall be procured under contracts awarded on the basis of Shopping.

(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 may be used for the procurement of consultants’ services for those assignments which the World Bank agrees meet the requirements set forth in the Consultant Guidelines for their use: (A) Least Cost Selection; (B) Single-source Selection; (C) Selection of Individual Consultants; and (D) Sole Source Procedures for the Selection of Individual Consultants.

(e) **Review by the World Bank of Procurement Decisions.** Except as the World Bank shall otherwise determine by notice to the Recipient, the following contracts shall be subject to Prior Review by the World Bank: (i) each contract for consultants’ services provided by a firm estimated to cost the equivalent of $100,000 or more; (ii) each contract for the employment of individual consultants estimated to cost the equivalent of $50,000 or more; (iii) all contracts to be awarded in accordance with Sole Source Procedures for the Selection of Individual Consultants; and (iv) all contracts with firms to be awarded in accordance with Single-Source Selection. All other contracts shall be subject to Post Review by the World Bank.
Article III
Withdrawal of Grant Proceeds

3.01. **Eligible Expenditures.** The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Grant in accordance with the provisions of: (a) Article III of the Standard Conditions; (b) this Section; and (c) 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 the categories of Eligible Expenditures that may be financed out of the proceeds of the Grant (“Category”), the allocations of the amounts of the Grant 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 Grant Allocated (expressed in USD)</th>
<th>Percentage of Expenditures to be Financed (exclusive of Taxes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Goods, Consultants’ Services including audit and Training</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL AMOUNT</strong></td>
<td><strong>500,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the purposes of this Section, the term “Training” means Project related training courses, seminars, workshops and other training activities, not included under goods or service providers’ contracts, including costs of training materials, space and equipment rental, *per diem* costs of trainees, trainers’ fees, and interpretation and translation services.

3.02. **Withdrawal Conditions.** Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3.01 of this Agreement, no withdrawal shall be made:

(a) for payments made prior to the date of countersignature of this Agreement by the Recipient; or

(b) for any payment for Taxes levied by or in the territory of the Member Country in respect of goods and services.

3.03. **Withdrawal Period.** The Closing Date referred to in Section 3.06 (c) of the Standard Conditions is three years after the date that the World Bank receives notice of completion of internal procedures of this Agreement by the Recipient.

Article IV
Recipient's Representative; Addresses

4.01. **Recipient’s Representative.** The Recipient’s Representative referred to in Section 7.02 of the Standard Conditions is its Minister of Finance.
4.02. **Recipient’s Address.** The Recipient’s Address referred to in Section 7.01 of the Standard Conditions is:

Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Armenia  
1 Melik-Adamyan Street  
Republic Square  
Yerevan 0010  
Republic of Armenia

Facsimile:

+374-10-524282

4.03. **World Bank’s Address.** The World Bank’s Address referred to in Section 7.01 of the Standard Conditions is:

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development  
1818 H Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20433  
United States of America

Cable: INTBAFRAD  
Telex: 248423 (MCI) or 64145 (MCI)  
Facsimile: 1-202-477-6391
APPENDIX

Modifications to the Anti-Corruption Guidelines

The modifications to the Anti-Corruption Guidelines are as follows:

1. Section 5 is re-numbered as Section 5(a) and a new Section 5(b) is added to read as follows:

   “…(b) These Guidelines also provide for the sanctions and related actions to be imposed by the Bank on Borrowers (other than the Member Country) and all other individuals or entities who are recipients of Loan proceeds, in the event that the Borrower or the individual or entity has been debarred by another financier as a result of a determination by such financier that the Borrower or the individual or entity has engaged in fraudulent, corrupt, coercive or collusive practices in connection with the use of the proceeds of a financing made by such financier.”

2. Section 11(a) is modified to read as follows:

   “… (a) sanction in accordance with prevailing Bank’s sanctions policies and procedures (fn13) a Borrower (other than a Member Country) (fn 14) or an individual or entity, including (but not limited to) declaring such Borrower, individual or entity ineligible publicly, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time: (i) to be awarded a Bank-financed contract; (ii) to benefit from a Bank-financed contract, financially or otherwise, for example as a sub-contractor; and (iii) to otherwise participate in the preparation or implementation of the project or any other project financed, in whole or in part, by the Bank, if at any time the Bank determines (fn 15) that such Borrower, individual or entity has engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive practices in connection with the use of loan proceeds, or if another financier with which the Bank has entered into an agreement for the mutual enforcement of debarment decisions has declared such person or entity ineligible to receive proceeds of financings made by such financier or otherwise to participate in the preparation or implementation of any project financed in whole or in part by such financier as a result of a determination by such financier that the Borrower or the individual or entity has engaged in fraudulent, corrupt, coercive or collusive practices in connection with the use of the proceeds of a financing made by such financier.”

Footnotes:

“13. An individual or entity may be declared ineligible to be awarded a Bank financed contract upon completion of sanctions proceedings pursuant to the Bank’s sanctions policies and procedures, or under the procedures of temporary suspension or early temporary suspension in connection with an ongoing sanctions proceeding, or following a sanction by another financier with whom the Bank has entered into a cross debarment agreement, as a result of a determination by such financier that the firm or individual has engaged in fraudulent, corrupt, coercive or collusive practices in connection with the use of the proceeds of a financing made by such financier.”

“14. Member Country includes officials and employees of the national government or of any of its political or administrative subdivisions, and government owned enterprises and agencies that are
not eligible to bid under paragraph 1.8(b) of the Procurement Guidelines or participate under paragraph 1.11(c) of the Consultant Guidelines.”

“15. The Bank has established a Sanctions Board, and related procedures, for the purpose of making such determinations. The procedures of the Sanctions Board sets forth the full set of sanctions available to the Bank. In addition, the Bank has adopted an internal protocol outlining the process to be followed in implementing debarments by other financiers, and explaining how cross-debarments will be posted on the Bank’s website and otherwise be made known to staff and other stakeholders.”