

The World Bank

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

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Washington, D.C. 20433
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Cable Address: INTBAFRAD
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9 juillet, 2013

His Excellency Mohamed Ali Soilihi
Vice President in charge of the Ministry of Finance, Economy, Budget,
Investment and Foreign Trade in charge of Privatization
Moroni, COMOROS

Re: Union of the Comoros: TFSCB Grant No. TF013917
Supporting Statistical Development Project

Excellency:

In response to the request for financial assistance made on behalf of the Union of the Comoros ("Recipient"), I am pleased to inform you that the International Development Association ("World Bank"), acting as administrator of grant funds provided by various donors ("Donors") under the Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building, proposes to extend to the Recipient a grant in an amount not to exceed three hundred fifty eight thousand thirty four United States Dollars (US\$358,034) ("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").

This Grant is funded out of the abovementioned trust fund for which the World Bank receives periodic contributions from the Donors. In accordance with Section 3.02 of the Standard Conditions (as defined in the Annex to this Agreement), the World Bank's payment obligations in connection with this Agreement are limited to the amount of funds made available to it by the Donors under the abovementioned trust fund, and the Recipient's right to withdraw the Grant proceeds is subject to the availability of such funds.

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 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 the countersignature; 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Agreement shall be deemed withdrawn if the World Bank has not received the countersigned copy of this Agreement within ninety (90) days after the date of signature of this Agreement by the World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 DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By 
Haleh Z. Bridi
Country Director for Comoros
Africa Region

AGREED:

UNION OF THE COMOROS

By: _____
Authorized Representative

Name: MOHAMED ALI SOULIHU

Title: Vice President

Date: 9 juillet 2013



Enclosures:

- (1) Standard Conditions for Grants Made by the World Bank Out of Various Funds, dated February 15, 2012
- (2) Disbursement Letter of the same date as this Agreement, together with World Bank Disbursement Guidelines for Projects, dated May 1, 2006
- (3) Guidelines: "Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January 2011
- (4) Guidelines: "Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers", dated January 2011
- (5) 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

Article I
Standard Conditions; Definitions

1.01. **Standard Conditions.** The Standard Conditions (as defined in Section 1.02 below) 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 have the following meanings:

(a) “Anti-corruption Guidelines” means 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.

(b) “CGP” and “Planning General Commissariat” each means the Recipient’s commissariat established pursuant to the Recipient’s decree No. 09-105 dated August 27, 2009.

(c) “Consultants’ Guidelines” means the “Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers” dated January 2011.

(d) “DNS” and “National Direction of Statistics” each means the Recipient’s bureau established pursuant to the Recipient’s decree No. 11-142 dated March 26, 2011.

(e) “INSEED” means the Recipient’s independent national institute of statistics and economic and demographic studies.

(f) “NSDS” means the Recipient’s national statistical development strategy.

(g) “NSS” means the Recipient’s National Statistical System.

(h) “Operating Costs” means the reasonable incremental operating expenses incurred on account of the Project, including operation and maintenance of office and office equipment; communications, travel costs, per diem, and salaries of Project staff, but excluding the salaries and indemnities of members of the Recipient’s civil servants.

(i) “Procurement Guidelines” means 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.

(j) “Procurement Plan” means the Recipient’s procurement plan dated February 22, 2013, as the same shall be updated from time to time by the Recipient for the Project in accordance with paragraph 1.18 of the Procurement Guidelines and paragraph 1.25 of the Consultant Guidelines.

(k) "Training" means the expenditures incurred to finance the reasonable costs associated with training and workshops provided under the Project, consisting of travel and subsistence costs for training participants, rental of training facilities, and reproduction of training materials.

(l) "Standard Conditions" means the "Standard Conditions for Grants Made by the World Bank Out of Various Funds", dated February 15, 2012.

Article II Project Execution

2.01. ***Project Objectives and Description.*** The objective of the Project is to support the Recipient in: (a) developing its national statistical system, particularly the DNS of the CGP; and (b) generating and disseminating timely, reliable and relevant data. The Project consists of the following parts:

Part 1: National Statistical System Strategic Development

Carrying out of a program of activities aimed at developing a National Statistical System, through:

1. The design of a system to monitor inputs, outputs and outcomes of the NSDS action plans including activities for the 2010-2014 period, the validation of said system and the validation of baselines of selected indicators.
2. (i) A study to design the organizational structure of the INSEED, its roles and responsibilities as well as the modalities to move from DNS to INSEED; and (ii) a validation workshop for said study.

Part 2: Dissemination and Access to Data

This component will carry out a program of activities aimed at providing support to set up a website for the statistical office, through:

1. Training activities to strengthen the capacity of staff from DNS and other sector statistical units to write statistical texts for the website.
2. Support to the website, including website maintenance, through the provision of consultants' services.
3. Acquisition of equipment and software.
4. Production and dissemination, through said website, of the 2011 statistics yearbook.

Part 3: Data Production

This component will carry out a program of activities aimed at generating data, through:

1. The design of a permanent system of household and poverty surveys.

2. The organization of a study tour for the DNS population census managers on the use of personal digital assistant and the directives to combine population and agriculture censuses.

Part 4: Training School

Conducting a two-year pilot training, through: (i) the establishment and operation of a statistics training school within the Recipient's state university; (ii) the acquisition of necessary equipment; and (iii) the evaluation of the training.

2.02. **Project Execution Generally.** The Recipient declares its commitment to the objectives of the Project. To this end, the Recipient shall carry out the Project through the CGP in accordance with the provisions of: (a) Article II of the Standard Conditions; (b) the Anti-Corruption Guidelines; and (c) this Article II.

2.03. **Institutional and Other Arrangements.** Without limitations upon the provisions of Section 2.02 above, the Recipient shall, throughout Project implementation, maintain the CGP with functions and with staff in numbers with qualification and experience satisfactory to the World Bank to be responsible for the overall implementation of the Project.

2.04. **Project Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation.** (a) The Recipient shall monitor and evaluate the progress of the Project and prepare Project Reports in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.06 of the Standard Conditions and on the basis of indicators acceptable to the World Bank. Each Project Report shall cover the period of one calendar semester, and shall be furnished to the World Bank not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of the period covered by such report.

(b) The Recipient shall 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 six (6) months after the Closing Date.

2.05. **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 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 2.07 (b) of the Standard Conditions. Each such audit of the Financial Statements shall cover the period of one fiscal year of the Recipient. The audited Financial Statements for each such period shall be furnished to the World Bank not later than six (6) months after the end of such period.

2.06. *Procurement*

(a) General. All goods and consultants' 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 of the Procurement Guidelines, in the case of goods;
- (ii) Sections I and IV of the 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.

(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

- (i) Except as otherwise provided in sub-paragraph (ii) below, goods 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 for those contracts which are specified in the Procurement Plan: (A) Shopping; and (B) Direct Contracting.

(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) Selection under a Fixed Budget; (C) Least Cost Selection; (D) Selection based on Consultants' Qualifications; (E) Single-source Selection of consulting firms; (F) Selection of Individual Consultants; and (G) 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 Grant Proceeds

3.01. **Eligible Expenditures.** The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Grant in accordance with the provisions of: (i) 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 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:

Category	Amount of the Grant Allocated (expressed in USD)	Percentage of Expenditures to be Financed (inclusive of Taxes)
(1) Goods, consultants' services, Operating Costs and Training	358,034	100%
TOTAL AMOUNT	358,034	

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. **Withdrawal Period.** The Closing Date referred to in Section 3.06 (c) of the Standard Conditions is February 28, 2015.

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 responsible for finance.

4.02. **Recipient's Address.** The Recipient's Address referred to in Section 7.01 of the Standard Conditions is:

B. P. 324
Moroni
Comoros

Telex: Facsimile:
245-MIEF-CAB KO (269) 74 41 40

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

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

Cable:	Telex:	Facsimile:
INDEVAS Washington, D.C.	248423 (MCI) or 64145 (MCI)	1-202-477-6391