



Date: October 21, 2021

H.E. Abdou Rabiou
Minister of Planning
Ministry of Planning
B.P. 862
Niamey
Republic of Niger

**Republic of Niger: Credit Number 6984-NE and Grant Number D904-NE
Improving Women's and Girls' Access to Improved Health and Nutrition Services
in the Priority Areas Project – Lafia-Iyali
Additional Instructions: Disbursement and Financial Information Letter**

Excellency:

I refer to the Financing Agreement between Republic of Niger (the “Recipient”) and the International Development Association (the “Association”) for the above-referenced Project. The General Conditions, as defined in the Financing Agreement, provide that the Recipient may from time to time request withdrawals of the Credit and the Grant amounts from the Credit and the Grant Account in accordance with the Disbursement and Financial Information Letter, and such additional instructions as the Association may specify from time to time by notice to the Recipient. The General Conditions also provide that the Disbursement and Financial Information Letter may set out Project specific financial reporting requirements. This letter constitutes such Disbursement and Financial Information Letter (“DFIL”) and may be revised from time to time.

The *Disbursement Guidelines for Investment Project Financing*, dated February 2017, (“Disbursement Guidelines”) are available in the Association’s public website at <https://www.worldbank.org> and its secure website “Client Connection” at <https://clientconnection.worldbank.org>. The Disbursement Guidelines are an integral part of the DFIL, and the manner in which the provisions in the guidelines apply to the Credit and the Grant is specified below.

I. Disbursement Arrangements, Withdrawal of Credit Funds, and Reporting of Uses of Credit and the Grant Funds

(i) Disbursement Arrangements

General Provisions (Schedule 1). The table in Schedule 1 sets out the disbursement methods which may be used by the Recipient, information on registration of authorized signatures, processing of withdrawal applications (including minimum value of applications and processing of advances), instructions on supporting documentation, and frequency of reporting on the Designated Account.

(ii) Electronic Delivery. Section 11.01(c) of the General Conditions.

The Recipient shall deliver Withdrawal Applications (with supporting documents) electronically through the Association’s web-based portal (<https://clientconnection.worldbank.org>) “Client Connection”. This option will be effected after the officials designated in writing by the Recipient who are authorized to

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sign and deliver Withdrawal Applications have registered as users of “Client Connection”. The designated officials shall deliver Withdrawal Applications electronically by completing the Form 2380, which is accessible through “Client Connection”. By signing the Authorized Signatory Letter, the Recipient confirms that it is authorizing such persons to accept Secure Identification Credentials (“SIDC”) and to deliver the Withdrawal Applications and supporting documents to the Association by electronic means. The Recipient may exercise the option of preparing and delivering Withdrawal Applications in paper form on exceptional cases (including those where the Recipient encounters legal limitations), and which were previously agreed with the Association. By designating officials to use SIDC, the Recipient confirms through the authorized signatory letter its agreement to: (a) abide by the Terms and Conditions of Use of Secure Identification Credentials in connection with Use of Electronic Means to Process Withdrawal Applications and Supporting Documentation, available in the Association's public website at <https://worldbank.org> and “Client Connection”; and (b) to cause such official to abide by those terms and conditions.

II. Financial Reports and Audits.

- (i) **Financial Reports.** The Recipient must prepare and furnish to the Association not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of each calendar semester, interim unaudited financial reports (“IFR”) for the Project covering the semester. Where a UN agency is contracted by the Recipient, the Recipient is responsible to ensure that the financial reporting requirements applicable to the UN Agency are stipulated in the agreement between the Recipient and the UN agency and met in a timely manner.
- (ii) **Audits.** Each audit of the Financial Statements must cover the period of one fiscal year of the Recipient, commencing with the fiscal year in which the first withdrawal was made. The audited Financial Statements for each such period must be furnished to the Association not later than six (6) months after the end of such period. Where a UN agency is contracted by the Recipient, the Recipient is responsible to ensure that the documentation requirements applicable to the UN agency, for project audit purposes, are stipulated in the agreement between the Recipient and the UN agency

III. Other Information

For additional information on disbursement arrangements, please refer to the Loan Handbook available on the Association’s website (<http://www.worldbank.org/>) and “Client Connection”. The Association recommends that you register as a user of “Client Connection”. From this website you will be able to prepare and deliver Withdrawal Applications, monitor the near real-time status of the Credit and the Grant, and retrieve related policy, financial, and procurement information. For more information about the website and registration arrangements, or if you have any queries in relation to the above, please contact the Association by email at askloans@worldbank.org.

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If you have any queries in relation to the above, please contact Adama Diop, Finance Officer at adiop5@worldbank.org with copy to Amadou Ba, Finance Analyst at aba8@worldbank.org using the above reference.

Very truly yours,
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION



Clara De Sousa
Country Director for Republic of Niger
West and Central Africa Region

Attachments

1. Form of Authorized Signatory Letter
2. Statement of Expenditure ("SOE") for Category 1, 3 and 4
3. Customized SOE for category 2

Schedule 1 : Disbursement Provisions

Basic Information			
Credit Number	Country	Republic of Niger	Section III.B.2. of Schedule 2 to the Financing Agreement.
Grant Number	Recipient Name of the Project	Ministry of Planning Improving Women's and Girls' Access to Improved Health and Nutrition Services in the Priority Areas Project – Lafia-Iyali	Disbursement Deadline Date Subsection 3.7 **
6984-NE D904-NE			Four months after the closing date.
Disbursement Methods Section 2 (**)			
Direct Payment	Methods	Disbursement Methods and Supporting Documentation	Supporting Documentation Subsections 4.3 and 4.4 (**)
Reimbursement	Yes	Copy of records	
	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Categories: 1; 3 & 5: Statement of Expenditure (SOE) in the format provided in Attachment 2 of the DFIL Category 2: Customized Statement of Expenditure in the format provided in Attachment 3 of the DFIL 	
Designated Accounts	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Categories: 1; 3 & 5: Statement of Expenditure (SOE) in the format provided in Attachment 2 of the DFIL Category 2: Customized Statement of Expenditure in the format provided in Attachment 3 of the DFIL 	
Special Commitments	Yes	Copy of Letter of Credit	
Designated Accounts (Sections 5 and 6 **)			
Type	Polled with TF0B6336		Ceiling
Financial Institution – Name	SoniBank		Currency
Frequency of Reporting Subsection 6.3 (**)	Monthly		Amount
			2,700,000,000 (2,000,000,000 for IDA and 700,000,000 for TF06336)
Minimum Value of Applications (subsection 3.5)			
The minimum value of applications for Reimbursement, Direct Payment and Special Commitment Issuance is equivalent to 10 percent of the outstanding Designated Account balance.			
Authorized Signatures (Subsection 3.1 and 3.2 **) The form for Authorized Signatories Letter is provided in Attachment 1 of this letter Withdrawal and Documentation Applications (Subsection 3.3 and 3.4 **)			

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Authorized Signatures (subsection 3.1). A letter in the Form attached (Attachment 1) should be furnished to the Association at the address indicated below providing the name(s) and specimen signature(s) of the official(s) authorized to sign Withdrawal Applications:

The World Bank
Resident Mission
Niamey, Niger
Attention: Clara Ana Coutinho de Sousa, Country Director

(ii) Applications (subsections 3.2 - 3.3). All Withdrawal Applications and their supporting documentation shall be electronically submitted via the Association's web-based Portal "Client Connection".

Additional Instructions

1. No disbursement shall be made in the credit portion until full disbursement /commitment of the funds under the grant.
2. In case of expenditure under any categories of the table under Schedule 2 Section III ("Withdrawal Table") of the Financing Agreement, payments to UN Agencies (if any) may be made through UN Advances (with or without a UN Commitment) disbursement mechanism. In case of a contract with a UN Agency requiring a UN Commitment, an application for issuance of UN Commitment is to be submitted by the Recipient/Borrower. Subsequent payments and documentation of expenditures under the contract must be made in accordance with the Commitment letter to be issued by the Association and the contract between the Recipient and the UN agency. In case of a UN Advance (without UN Commitment), documentation of expenditure should be made once the final invoice is issued and based on the UN Financial Report.
3. Disbursements under Category 4 of Section III.A of Schedule 2 of the Financing Agreement (Part 4 of the Project – Contingency Emergency Response CERC) will be subject to the conditions precedent to accessing the CERC funds, namely that the Recipient has provided, and the Bank has accepted, evidence of the occurrence of an eligible crisis or emergency and the Recipient has prepared and adopted/adhered to the CERC Operations Manual. Disbursements under this component will follow procedures described in the CERC Operations Manual including supporting documentation; provided that this disbursement letter will first need to be amended and reinstated at a later date to reflect those specific arrangements. In order to provide necessary liquidity for fast response, the ceiling of the Advance under the CERC could be up to 100% of the amount allocated to the CERC category.

** Sections and subsections relate to the "Disbursement Guidelines for Investment Project Financing", dated February 2017.

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Attachment 1 – Form of Authorized Signatory Letter

[Letterhead]
Ministry of Finance
[Street address]
[City] [Country]

[DATE]

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

**Republic of Niger: Credit Number 6984-NE and Grant Number D904-NE
Improving Women's and Girls' Access to Improved Health and Nutrition Services
in the Priority Areas Project – Lafia-Iyali**

Attention: _____, *Country Director*

I refer to the [Grant] [Credit] Agreement (“Agreement”) between the International Development Association (the “Association”)[, acting as implementing of the]¹ and [name of recipient] (the “Recipient”), dated _____, providing the above [Grant] [Credit]. For the purposes of Section 2.03 of the General Conditions as defined in the Agreement, any ²[one] of the persons whose authenticated specimen signatures appear below is authorized on behalf of the Recipient to sign applications for withdrawal [and applications for a special commitment] under this [Grant] [Credit].

For the purpose of delivering Applications to the Association, including by electronic means, ³[each] of the persons whose authenticated specimen signatures appears below is authorized on behalf of the Recipient, acting ⁴[individually] ⁵[jointly], to deliver Applications, and evidence in support thereof on the terms and conditions specified by the Association.

¹ Instruction to the Recipient: add text in line with the Grant Agreement if applicable; if not applicable delete it. *Please delete this footnote in final letter that is sent to the Associations*

² Instruction to the Recipient: stipulate if more than one person needs to sign Applications, and how many or which positions, and if any thresholds apply. *Please delete this footnote in final letter that is sent to the Association.*

³ Instruction to the Recipient: stipulate if more than one person needs to *jointly* sign Applications, if so, please indicate the actual number. *Please delete this footnote in final letter that is sent to the Association.*

⁴ Instruction to the Recipient: use this bracket if any one of the authorized persons may sign; if this is not applicable, please delete. *Please delete this footnote in final letter that is sent to the Association.*

⁵ Instruction to the Recipient: use this bracket only if several individuals must jointly sign each Application; if this is not applicable, please delete. *Please delete this footnote in final letter that is sent to the Association.*

This Authorization replaces and supersedes any Authorization currently in the Association records with respect to this Agreement.

[Name], [position] Specimen Signature: _____

[Name], [position] Specimen Signature: _____

[Name], [position] Specimen Signature: _____

Yours truly,

/ signed /

Attachment 3
 The World Bank
 APPLICATION FOR
 WITHDRAWAL
 STATEMENT OF
 EXPENDITURES –
 CUSTOMIZED (SOE)⁶

PBF Category No.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Item No.	Name and Address of Beneficiary	Cash Transfer Reference/ Agreement No. & Date (or other ref.)	Brief Description of Cash transfer Activities	Currency and Total Amount of Cash Compensation	Total amount Cash Compensation payment request covered by application (net of retention)	File No.	Payment request Eligible for Financing	Amount Paid From Designated Account (if any)	Date of Payment	Remarks

⁶ Supporting documents for this Customized SOE retained at:(insert location)

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