

Date: **12.2 FEB 2022**

H.E. M. Rigobert Roger Andely
Minister of Finance, Budget and Public Portfolio
Ministry of Finance, Budget and Public Portfolio
Boulevard Denis Sassou-N'guessou
B.P. 2083
Brazzaville
Republic of Congo

Re: Republic of Congo
TF0B6091
TF0B5388
Northern Congo Agroforestry Project
Additional Instructions: Disbursement and Financial Information Letter

Excellency:

I refer to the Loan and Grant Agreements (“Agreements”) between the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/International Development Association (“World Bank”), acting as an implementing entity of the Forest Investment Program under the Strategic Climate Fund, and the Republic of Congo (the “Recipient”) for the above-referenced project. The Standard Conditions, as defined in the Loan and Grant Agreements, provide that the World Bank may issue additional instructions regarding the withdrawal of the proceeds of TF0B6091 (“Grant”) and TF0B5388 (“Loan”), and may set out Project specific financial reporting requirements. This letter (“Disbursement and Financial Information Letter”), as revised from time to time, constitutes such additional instructions.

I. Disbursement Arrangements and Withdrawal of the Loan and Grant Funds

The *World Bank Disbursement Guidelines for Projects*, dated February 1, 2017, (“Disbursement Guidelines”) are available in the World Bank's public website at <https://www.worldbank.org>, and are an integral part of the Disbursement and Financial Information Letter. The manner in which the provisions in the Disbursement Guidelines apply to the Loan and Grant is specified below. Sections and subsections in parentheses below refer to the relevant sections and subsections in the Disbursement Guidelines and, unless otherwise defined in this letter, the capitalized terms used have the meanings ascribed to them in the Disbursement Guidelines.

(i) Disbursement Arrangements

The table in **Schedule 1** provides 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 advances), instructions on supporting documentation, and frequency of reporting on the Designated Account.

(ii) Withdrawal of Loan Funds (Electronic Delivery) Section 7.01 (c) of the Standard Conditions.

The Recipient will deliver Withdrawal Applications (with supporting documents) electronically through the Bank's web-based portal “Client Connection” at <https://clientconnection.worldbank.org>. This

option will be effected after the officials designated in writing by the Recipient who are authorized to sign and deliver Withdrawal Applications have registered as users of “Client Connection”. The designated officials will deliver 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 Applications and supporting documents to the Bank 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 Bank. By designating officials to use SIDC and by choosing to deliver the Applications electronically, 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 Applications and Supporting Documentation, available in the World Bank'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 Section 2.07 (a) and (b) of the Standard Conditions.

(i) Financial Reports.

The Recipient must prepare and furnish to the Bank not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of each calendar quarter, interim unaudited financial reports (“IFR”) for the Project covering the quarter.

(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 Bank not later than six (6) months after the end of such period.

III. Other Important Information

For additional information on disbursement arrangements, please refer to the Loan Handbook available on the World Bank’s website (<http://www.worldbank.org>) and “Client Connection”. The World Bank recommends that you register as a user of “Client Connection”. From this website you will be able to prepare and deliver Applications, monitor the near real-time status of 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 World Bank by email at AskLoans@WorldBank.org using the above reference.

Very truly yours,

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION


Abdoulaye Seck
Country Director for Congo
Africa Region



Attachments

1. Form of Authorized Signatory Letter
2. Form of Statement of Expenditure (SOE)
3. Form of Customized Statement of Expenditures (SOE) for Microprojects
4. Form of Customized Statement of Expenditures (SOE) for Conditional Cash Transfers (CCT)
5. Form of Customized Statement of Expenditures (SOE) for PES Subprojects

Schedule 1 - Disbursement Provisions

| Basic Information | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Grant Numbers Loan Number | TF0B6091 TF0B5388 | Country | The Republic of Congo | Closing Date | Section III.B.2 of Schedule 2 to the Loan Agreement |
| | | Recipient | The Republic of Congo | | |
| | | Name of the Project | Northern Congo Agroforestry Project | Disbursement Deadline Date <i>Subsection 3.7</i> ** | 04 months after the closing date |
| Disbursement Methods, and Supporting Documentation | | | | | |
| Disbursement Methods <i>Section 2 (**)</i> | Methods Available | Supporting Documentation <i>Subsections 4.3 and 4.4 (**)</i> | | | |
| Direct Payment | Yes | Copy of Records | | | |
| Reimbursement | Yes | Customized Statement of Expenditures for in the format provided in attachment 3A;3B,3C of the DFIL for Microprojects, Conditional Cash Transfers and PES Subprojects under Category 2 of Section III.A of Schedule 2 of the Loan Agreement Statement of Expenditure (SOE) in the format provided in Attachment 2 of the DFIL for all other Eligible Expenditures | | | |
| Advance (into a Designated Account) | Yes | Customized Statement of Expenditures for in the format provided in attachment 3A;3B,3C of the DFIL for Microprojects, Conditional Cash Transfers and PES Subprojects under Category 2 of Section III.A of Schedule 2 of the Loan Agreement Statement of Expenditure (SOE) in the format provided in Attachment 2 of the DFIL for all other Eligible Expenditures | | | |
| Special Commitments | Yes | Copy of Letter of Credit | | | |
| Designated Account (Section 5 and 6 **) | | | | | |
| Type | Pooled | Ceiling | Fixed | | |
| Financial Institution - Name | Credit du Congo | Currency | XAF | | |
| Frequency of Reporting, Subsection 6.3 (**) | Monthly | Amount | 500 million | | |
| Minimum Value of Applications (subsection 3.5) | | | | | |
| The Minimum Value of Applications for Reimbursement, Direct Payment and Special Commitment is 20% of the ceiling of the Designated Account | | | | | |

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|--|
| Authorized Signatures <i>(Subsection 3.1 and 3.2 **)</i> <i>The form for Authorized Signatories Letter is provided in Attachment 1 of this letter</i> |
| Withdrawal and Documentation Applications <i>(Subsection 3.3 and 3.4 **)</i> |
| A letter in the form attached (Attachment 1) should be furnished to the World Bank at the address indicated below providing the name(s) and specimen signature(s) of the official(s) authorized to sign Application: |
| <p>The World Bank Country Office Yaoundé, Cameroon Attention: Abdoulaye Seck Country Director for the Republic of Congo</p> |
| All Withdrawal Applications and its supporting documentation will be electronically sent via the World Bank's system ClientConnection. |
| Additional Instructions |
| NA |
| Other |
| NA |

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

Attachment I - Form of Authorized Signatory Letter

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

[DATE]

The World Bank
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
United States of America

Attention: [Country Director]

Dear [Country Director]:

Re: TF0B6091 and TF0B5388
Northern Congo Agroforestry Project

I refer to the Loan and Grant Agreements (“Agreements”) between the [International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/International Development Association] (“[World Bank]”/“[Association]”), acting as an implementing entity of the Forest Investment Program under the Strategic Climate Fund and [name of recipient] (the “Recipient”), dated _____, providing the above Loan and Grant. For the purposes of Section 3.04 (b) of the Standard Conditions, as defined in the Agreement, any [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.

For the purpose of delivering Applications to the [World Bank] [Association], ²[each] of the persons whose authenticated specimen signatures appears below is authorized on behalf of the Recipient, acting ³[individually] ⁴[jointly], to deliver Applications, and evidence in support thereof on the terms and conditions specified by the [World Bank] [Association].

¹ Instruction to the Recipient when sending this letter to the World Bank: 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 World Bank/Association.

² 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 World Bank/Association.

³ 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 World Bank/Association.

⁴ 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 World Bank/Association.

⁵[This confirms that the Recipient is authorizing such persons to accept Secure Identification Credentials (SIDC) and to deliver the Applications and supporting documents to the [World Bank] [Association] by electronic means. In full recognition that the [World Bank] [Association] shall rely upon such representations and warranties, including without limitation, the representations and warranties contained in the *Terms and Conditions of Use of Secure Identification Credentials in connection with Use of Electronic Means to Process Applications and Supporting Documentation* ("Terms and Conditions of Use of SIDC"), the Recipient represents and warrants to the [World Bank] [Association] that it will cause such persons to abide by those terms and conditions.]

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

[Name], [position] Specimen Signature: _____

[Name], [position] Specimen Signature: _____

[Name], [position] Specimen Signature: _____

Yours truly,

/ signed /

[Position]

⁵ Instruction to the Recipient: Add this paragraph if the Recipient wishes to authorize the listed persons to accept Secure Identification Credentials and to deliver Applications by electronic means; if this is not applicable, please delete the paragraph. *Please delete this footnote in final letter that is sent to the World Bank/Association.*

IDA Credit No. _____
 Customized Statement of Expenditures for Microprojects under Part 1 (of the Project
 Category _____
 Period: DD/MM/YY to DD/MM/YY

The World Bank
 APPLICATION FOR WITHDRAWAL
 STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES – CUSTOMIZED
 (SOE)¹

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|----------|---------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---------|--|--|-----------------|---------|
| Item No. | Name and Address of Beneficiary | Microproject Agreement No. & Date (or other ref.) | Brief Description of Microproject Activities | Currency and Total Amount of Microproject | Total amount Microproject payment request covered by application (net of retention) | Elig. % | Payment request Eligible for Financing | Amount Paid from Designated Account (if any) | Date of Payment | Remarks |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

¹ Supporting documents for this Customized SOE retained at:(insert location)

IDA Credit No. _____
 Customized Statement of Expenditures for PES Subproject under Part 2.2.1 of the Project
 Category _____
 Period: DD/MM/YY to DD/MM/YY

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

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|----------|---------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---------|--|--|-----------------|---------|
| Item No. | Name and Address of Beneficiary | PES Subproject Agreement No. & Date (or other ref.) | Brief Description of PES Subproject Activities | Currency and Total Amount of PES Subproject | Total amount PES Subproject payment request covered by application (net of retention) | Elig. % | Payment request Eligible for Financing | Amount Paid from Designated Account (if any) | Date of Payment | Remarks |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

³ Supporting documents for this Customized SOE retained at:(insert location)

IDA Credit No. _____
 Customized Statement of Expenditures for Conditional Cash Transfers (CCT) under Part 2.1 of the Project
 Category _____
 Period: DD/MM/YY to DD/MM/YY

The World Bank
 APPLICATION FOR WITHDRAWAL
 STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES – CUSTOMIZED
 (SOE)²

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|----------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---------|--|--|-----------------|---------|
| Item No. | Name and Address of Beneficiary | CCT Agreement No. & Date (or other ref.) | Brief Description of CCT Activities | Currency and Total Amount of CCT | Total amount CCT payment request covered by application (net of retention) | Elig. % | Payment request Eligible for Financing | Amount Paid from Designated Account (if any) | Date of Payment | Remarks |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

² Supporting documents for this Customized SOE retained at:(insert location)

