

CONFORMED COPY

CREDIT NUMBER 3671-ALB

Development Credit Agreement

(Power Sector Rehabilitation and Restructuring Project)

between

ALBANIA

and

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Dated June 26, 2002

CREDIT NUMBER 3671-ALB

DEVELOPMENT CREDIT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, dated June 26, 2002, between ALBANIA (the Borrower) and INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (the Association).

WHEREAS (A) the Borrower, having satisfied itself as to the feasibility and priority of the project described in Schedule 2 to this Agreement (the Project), has requested the Association to assist in the financing of the Project;

(B) the Project will be carried out by Albanian Power Corporation (KESH) with the Borrower's assistance and, as part of such assistance, the Borrower will make the proceeds of the credit provided for in Article II of this Agreement (the Credit) available to KESH, as set forth in this Agreement; and

WHEREAS the Association has agreed, on the basis, inter alia, of the foregoing, to extend the Credit to the Borrower upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement and in the agreement of even date herewith between the Association and KESH (the Project Agreement);

NOW THEREFORE the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

General Conditions; Definitions

Section 1.01. The "General Conditions Applicable to Development Credit Agreements" of the Association, dated January 1, 1985 (as amended through October 6, 1999), (the General Conditions), constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

Section 1.02. Unless the context otherwise requires, the several terms defined in the General Conditions have the respective meanings therein set forth and the following additional terms have the following meanings:

(a) "EMPs" means the Environmental Management Plans, satisfactory to the Association, adopted by KESH on March 22, 2002, setting forth measures to mitigate any adverse impacts to the environment;

(b) "Energy Sector Study" means the comprehensive study of energy sector issues;

(c) "ERE" means the Electricity Regulatory Authority established pursuant to the provisions of Law No. 7970 on "the Regulation of the Electric Power Sector", dated July 20, 1995;

(d) "Financial Monitoring Report" or "FMR" means each report prepared in accordance with Section 4.02 of this Agreement;

(e) "KESH" means Albanian Power Corporation, an anonymous company established pursuant to the provisions of Law No. 7926, dated April 20, 1995;

(f) "Lek" means the currency of the Borrower;

(g) "LIBOR" means the London interbank offered rate for six-month deposits in Dollars;

(h) “PIP” means the project implementation plan for the Project, dated March 29, 2002, as the same may be amended from time to time by agreement between the Association and KESH;

(i) “Power Sector Policy Statement” means the Power Sector Policy Statement adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Borrower on April 19, 2002;

(j) “Project Account” means the account referred to in paragraph 7 of Schedule 2 to the Project Agreement, maintained by the Borrower in local currency and to be used for financing the Borrower’s contribution to Project expenditures;

(k) “Project Agreement” means the agreement between the Association and KESH of even date herewith, as the same may be amended from time to time, and such term includes all schedules and agreements supplemental to the Project Agreement;

(l) “Special Account” means the account referred to in Section 2.02 (b) of this Agreement;

(m) “Subsidiary Loan Agreement” means the agreement to be entered into between the Borrower and KESH pursuant to Section 3.01 (b) of this Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time, and such term includes all schedules to the Subsidiary Loan Agreement, and the term “Subsidiary Loan” means the Subsidiary Loan provided under the Subsidiary Loan Agreement; and

(n) “Two-Year Action Plan” means the plan adopted by the Borrower and KESH on January 28, 2002, setting out actions and targets to improve the performance of the power sector for the period of 2002 and 2003, and annual revisions made thereafter, acceptable to the Association.

ARTICLE II

The Credit

Section 2.01. The Association agrees to lend to the Borrower, on the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in the Development Credit Agreement, an amount in various currencies equivalent to twenty-four million Special Drawing Rights (SDR 24,000,000).

Section 2.02. (a) The amount of the Credit may be withdrawn from the Credit Account in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 1 to this Agreement for expenditures made (or, if the Association shall so agree, to be made) in respect of the reasonable cost of goods and services required for the Project and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit.

(b) The Borrower may, for the purposes of the Project, open and maintain in dollars

a special deposit account in a bank on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Association, including appropriate protection against set-off, seizure or attachment. Deposits into, and payments out of, the Special Account shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 3 to this Agreement.

Section 2.03. The Closing Date shall be March 31, 2006 or such later date as the Association shall establish. The Association shall promptly notify the Borrower of such later date.

Section 2.04. (a) The Borrower shall pay to the Association a commitment charge on the principal amount of the Credit not withdrawn from time to time at a rate to be set by the Association as of June 30 of each year, but not to exceed the rate of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) per annum.

(b) The commitment charge shall accrue: (i) from the date sixty days after the date of this Agreement (the accrual date) to the respective dates on which amounts shall be withdrawn by the Borrower from the Credit Account or canceled; and (ii) at the rate set as of the June 30 immediately preceding the accrual date and at such other rates as may be set from time to time thereafter pursuant to paragraph (a) above. The rate set as of June 30 in each year shall be applied from the next date in that year specified in Section 2.06 of this Agreement.

(c) The commitment charge shall be paid: (i) at such places as the Association shall reasonably request; (ii) without restrictions of any kind imposed by, or in the territory of, the Borrower; and (iii) in the currency specified in this Agreement for the purposes of Section 4.02 of the General Conditions or in such other eligible currency or currencies as may from time to time be designated or selected pursuant to the provisions of that Section.

Section 2.05. The Borrower shall pay to the Association a service charge at the rate of three-fourths of one percent ($3/4$ of 1%) per annum on the principal amount of the Credit withdrawn and outstanding from time to time.

Section 2.06. Commitment charges and service charges shall be payable semiannually on April 15 and October 15 in each year.

Section 2.07. (a) Subject to paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) below, the Borrower shall repay the principal amount of the Credit in semiannual installments payable on each April 15 and October 15 commencing October 15, 2012 and ending April 15, 2042. Each installment to and including the installment payable on April 15, 2022 shall be one percent (1%) of such principal amount, and each installment thereafter shall be two percent (2%) of such principal amount.

(b) Whenever: (i) the Borrower's per capita gross national product (GNP), as determined by the Association, shall have exceeded for three consecutive years the level established annually by the Association for determining eligibility to access the Association's resources; and (ii) the Bank shall consider the Borrower creditworthy for Bank lending, the Association may, subsequent to the review and approval thereof by the Executive Directors of the Association and after due consideration by them of the development of the Borrower's

economy, modify the repayment of installments under paragraph (a) above by:

- (A) requiring the Borrower to repay twice the amount of each such installment not yet due until the principal amount of the Credit shall have been repaid; and
- (B) requiring the Borrower to commence repayment of the principal amount of the Credit as of the first semiannual payment date referred to in paragraph (a) above falling six months or more after the date on which the Association notifies the Borrower that the events set out in this paragraph (b) have occurred, provided, however, that there shall be a grace period of a minimum of five years on such repayment of principal.

(c) If so requested by the Borrower, the Association may revise the modification referred to in paragraph (b) above to include, in lieu of some or all of the increase in the amounts of such installments, the payment of interest at an annual rate agreed with the Association on the principal amount of the Credit withdrawn and outstanding from time to time, provided that, in the judgment of the Association, such revision shall not change the grant element obtained under the above-mentioned repayment modification.

(d) If, at any time after a modification of terms pursuant to paragraph (b) above, the Association determines that the Borrower's economic condition has deteriorated significantly, the Association may, if so requested by the Borrower, further modify the terms of repayment to conform to the schedule of installments as provided in paragraph (a) above.

Section 2.08. The currency of the United States of America is hereby specified for the purposes of Section 4.02 of the General Conditions.

ARTICLE III

Execution of the Project

Section 3.01. (a) The Borrower declares its commitment to the objectives of the Project as set forth in Schedule 2 to this Agreement, and, to this end, without any limitation or restriction upon any of its other obligations under the Development Credit Agreement, shall cause KESH to perform in accordance with the provisions of the Project Agreement and the PIP all the obligations of KESH therein set forth, shall take and cause to be taken all action, including the provision of funds, facilities, services and other resources, necessary or appropriate to enable KESH to perform such obligations, and shall not take or permit to be taken any action which would prevent or interfere with such performance.

(b) The Borrower shall relend out of the proceeds of the credit the amount allocated from time to time under Categories (1) and (2) to KESH under a subsidiary loan agreement entered between the Borrower and KESH, under terms and conditions which shall have been approved by the Association, which shall include the principal terms and conditions specified in paragraph

(c) of this section.

(c) The principal terms of the conditions of the Subsidiary Loan Agreement shall be as follows: (i) the term of the Subsidiary Loan shall be twenty years including a grace period of five years; (ii) interest on the amount of the Subsidiary Loan withdrawn and outstanding from time to time shall be at a rate, adjusted every six months, equal to the average rate of LIBOR plus three quarter of one percent (0.75%); (iii) the Subsidiary Loan shall be denominated in Lek; and (iv) the principal amount of the Subsidiary Loan repayable to the Borrower shall be the equivalent in Lek of the amount of the Subsidiary Loan withdrawn and outstanding, such equivalent to be expressed as of the date or respective dates of withdrawal from the Credit Account on account of expenditures incurred by KESH.

(d) The Borrower shall exercise its rights under the Subsidiary Loan Agreement in such manner as to protect the interests of the Borrower and the Association and to accomplish the purposes of the Credit, and, except as the Association shall otherwise agree, the Borrower shall not assign, amend, abrogate or waive the Subsidiary Loan Agreement or any provision thereof.

Section 3.02. Except as the Association shall otherwise agree, procurement of the goods and services required for the Project and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit shall be governed by the provisions of Schedule 1 to the Project Agreement.

Section 3.03. For the purposes of Section 9.06 of the General Conditions and without limitation thereto, the Borrower shall:

(a) prepare, on the basis of guidelines acceptable to the Association, and furnish to the Association not later than six (6) months after the Closing Date or such later date as may be agreed for this purpose between the Borrower and the Association, a plan for the future operation of the Project; and

(b) afford the Association a reasonable opportunity to exchange views with the Borrower on said plan.

Section 3.04. The Borrower shall:

(a) by November 30 of each year, update the Two-Year Action Plan in order to fix targets for the succeeding two years; and

(b) meet its quarterly targets set out in the Two-Year Action Plan with respect to the payment to KESH of arrears of budgetary and non-budgetary entities of the Borrower.

Section 3.05. By March 31, 2003, the Borrower shall undertake to: (a) implement the recommendations of the Energy Sector Study regarding protection of low-income consumers from the impact of higher energy costs; and (b) facilitate the implementation of recommendations

of the Energy Sector Study regarding establishment of a new electricity tariff structure.

Section 3.06. The Borrower shall:

(a) maintain policies and procedures adequate to enable it to monitor and evaluate on an ongoing basis, in accordance with indicators satisfactory to the Association, the carrying out of the Project and the achievement of the objectives thereof;

(b) prepare, under terms of reference satisfactory to the Association, and furnish to the Association, on or about February 28, 2004, a report integrating the results of the monitoring and evaluation activities performed pursuant to paragraph (a) of this Section, on the progress achieved in the carrying out of the Project during the period preceding the date of said report and setting out the measures recommended to ensure the efficient carrying out of the Project and the achievement of the objectives thereof during the period following such date; and

(c) review with the Association, by March 31, 2004, or such later date as the Association shall request, the report referred to in paragraph (b) of this Section, and, thereafter, take all measures required to ensure the efficient completion of the Project and the achievement of the objectives thereof, based on the conclusions and recommendations of the said report and the Association's views on the matter.

ARTICLE IV

Financial Covenants

Section 4.01. (a) For all expenditures with respect to which withdrawals from the Credit Account were made on the basis of statements of expenditure, the Borrower shall:

- (i) maintain or cause to be maintained in accordance with sound accounting practices, records and separate accounts reflecting such expenditures;
- (ii) ensure that all records (contracts, orders, invoices, bills, receipts and other documents) evidencing such expenditures are retained until at least one year after the Association has received the audit report for the fiscal year in which the last withdrawal from the Credit Account was made; and
- (iii) enable the Association's representatives to examine such records.

(b) The Borrower shall:

- (i) have the records and accounts referred to in paragraph (a) (i) of this Section and those for the Special Account for each fiscal year audited, in accordance with appropriate auditing principles consistently applied, by

independent auditors acceptable to the Association;

- (ii) furnish to the Association as soon as available, but in any case not later than six months after the end of each such year the report of such audit by said auditors, of such scope and in such detail as the Association shall have reasonably requested, including a separate opinion by said auditors as to whether statements of expenditure submitted during such fiscal year, together with the procedures and internal controls involved in their preparation, can be relied upon to support the related withdrawals; and
- (iii) furnish to the Association such other information concerning said records and accounts and the audit thereof as the Association shall from time to time reasonably request.

Section 4.02. (a) Without limitation upon the Borrower's progress reporting obligations set out in Section 3.06 of this Agreement, the Borrower shall cause KESH to prepare and furnish to the Association a Financial Monitoring Report in form and substance satisfactory to the Association, which:

- (i) sets forth sources and uses of funds for the Project, both cumulatively and for the period covered by said report, showing separately funds provided under the Credit, and explains variances between the actual and planned uses of such funds;
- (ii) describes physical progress in Project implementation, both cumulatively and for the period covered by said report, and explains variances between the actual and planned Project implementation; and
- (iii) sets forth the status of procurement under the Project, as at the end of the period covered by said report.

(b) The first FMR shall be furnished to the Association not later than 45 days after the end of the first calendar quarter after the Effective Date, and shall cover the period from the incurrence of the first expenditure under the Project through the end of such first calendar quarter; thereafter, each FMR shall be furnished to the Association not later than 45 days after each subsequent calendar quarter, and shall cover such calendar quarter.

ARTICLE V

Remedies of the Association

Section 5.01. Pursuant to Section 5.02 (1) of the General Conditions, the following additional events are specified:

(a) KESH shall have failed to perform any of its obligations under the Project Agreement.

(b) As a result of events which have occurred after the date of the Development Credit Agreement, an extraordinary situation shall have arisen which shall make it improbable that KESH will be able to perform its obligations under the Project Agreement.

(c) The law, decree, charter or other founding documents of KESH, including any legal or regulatory enactments upon which such instruments are based, or any licenses granted to KESH related to the Project shall have been amended, suspended, abrogated, repealed or waived so as to affect materially and adversely the ability of KESH to perform any of its obligations under the Project Agreement.

(d) The Borrower or any authority having jurisdiction shall have taken any action for the dissolution and disestablishment of KESH or for the suspension of its operations.

(e) The Borrower shall have failed to substantially implement the measures recommended by the Power Sector Policy Statement.

Section 5.02. Pursuant to Section 7.01(h) of the General Conditions, the following additional events are specified: (a) any event specified in paragraph (a) of Section 5.01 of this Agreement shall occur and shall continue to occur for a period of 60 days of the notice thereof shall have been given by the Association to the Borrower; and (b) any event specified in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) of Section 5.01 of this Agreement shall occur.

ARTICLE VI

Effective Date; Termination

Section 6.01. The following events are specified as additional conditions to the effectiveness of the Development Credit Agreement within the meaning of Section 12.01 (b) of the General Conditions, namely that the Subsidiary Loan Agreement has been executed on behalf of the Borrower and KESH.

Section 6.02. The following are specified as additional matters, within the meaning of Section 12.02 (b) of the General Conditions, to be included in the opinion or opinions to be furnished to the Association:

(a) that the Project Agreement has been duly authorized or ratified by KESH and is legally binding upon KESH in accordance with its terms; and

(b) that the Subsidiary Loan Agreement has been duly authorized or ratified by the Borrower and KESH and is legally binding upon the Borrower and KESH in accordance with its terms.

Section 6.03. The date ninety (90) days after the date of this Agreement is hereby specified for the purposes of Section 12.04 of the General Conditions.

ARTICLE VII

Representative of the Borrower; Addresses

Section 7.01. The Minister of Finance of the Borrower is designated as representative of the Borrower for the purposes of Section 11.03 of the General Conditions.

Section 7.02. The following addresses are specified for the purposes of Section 11.01 of the General Conditions:

For the Borrower:

Ministry of Finance
Bulevardi "Deshmoret e Kombit"
Tirana
Albania

Facsimile:

355 42 28494

For the Association:

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

Cable address:

Telex:

Facsimile:

INDEVAS
Washington, D.C.

248423 (MCI) or
64145 (MCI)

(202) 477-6391

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto, acting through their duly authorized representatives, have caused this Agreement to be signed in their respective names in the District of Columbia, United States of America, as of the day and year first above written.

ALBANIA

By: /s/ Z. Fatos Tarifa

Authorized Representative

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By: /s/ Christiaan J. Poortman

Authorized Representative

SCHEDULE 1

Withdrawal of the Proceeds of the Credit

1. The table below sets forth the Categories of items to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit, the allocation of the amounts of the Credit to each Category and the percentage of expenditures for items so to be financed in each Category:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount of the Credit Allocated (Expressed in SDR Equivalent)</u>	<u>% of Expenditures to be Financed</u>
(1) Goods (including supply and install contract)	18,800,000 (ex-factory cost) and 85% of local expenditures for other items procured locally	100% of foreign expenditures, 100% of local expenditures
(2) Consultant's services and training	2,700,000	85%
(3) Unallocated	2,500,000	
TOTAL	24,000,000	

2. For the purposes of this Schedule:

(a) the term "foreign expenditures" means expenditures in the currency of any country other than that of the Borrower for goods or services supplied from the territory of any country other than that of the Borrower; and

(b) the term "local expenditures" means expenditures in the currency of the Borrower or for goods or services supplied from the territory of the Borrower;

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 above, no withdrawals shall be made in respect of payments made for expenditures prior to the date of this Agreement.

4. The Association may require withdrawals from the Credit Account to be made on the basis of statements of expenditure for expenditures for consultant's services and training under contracts costing less than \$200,000 equivalent each, under such terms and conditions as the Association shall specify by notice to the Borrower.

SCHEDULE 2

Description of the Project

1. The objective of the Project is to achieve significant improvement in the operational effectiveness of the power sector.

Part A:

Construction and rehabilitation of transmission lines and sub-stations, and development of a distribution network in Durres, Elbasan and Kucova Regions of the Borrower.

Part B:

Installation of individual meter boxes and collective meter boxes.

Part C:

1. Support of the power sector reform process including determination of the optimum structure of the sector for privatization and other pre-privatization measures.

2. Assistance to strengthen KESH's management and operational capabilities through provision of consultant's services and training.

3. Revaluation of KESH's assets, and their allocation to the various units of KESH.

4. Carrying out of consumer satisfaction surveys to assist KESH in improving the delivery of services and billing and payment procedures.

* * *

The Project is expected to be completed by September 30, 2005.

SCHEDULE 3

Special Account

1. For the purposes of this Schedule:

(a) the term “eligible Categories” means Categories (1) through (2) set forth in the table in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to this Agreement;

(b) the term “eligible expenditures” means expenditures in respect of the reasonable cost of goods and services required for the Project and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit allocated from time to time to the eligible Categories in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 1 to this Agreement; and

(c) the term “Authorized Allocation” means an amount equivalent to \$500,000 to be withdrawn from the Credit Account and deposited into the Special Account pursuant to paragraph 3(a) of this Schedule, provided, however, that unless the Association shall otherwise agree, the Authorized Allocation shall be limited to an amount equivalent to \$250,000 until the aggregate amount of withdrawals from the Credit Account plus the total amount of all outstanding special commitments entered into by the Association pursuant to Section 5.02 of the General Conditions shall be equal to or exceed the equivalent of SDR 1,000,000.

2. Payments out of the Special Account shall be made exclusively for eligible expenditures in accordance with the provisions of this Schedule.

3. After the Association has received evidence satisfactory to it that the Special Account has been duly opened, withdrawals of the Authorized Allocation and subsequent withdrawals to replenish the Special Account shall be made as follows:

(a) For withdrawals of the Authorized Allocation, the Borrower shall furnish to the Association a request or requests for deposit into the Special Account of an amount or amounts which do not exceed the aggregate amount of the Authorized Allocation. On the basis of such request or requests, the Association shall, on behalf of the Borrower, withdraw from the Credit Account and deposit into the Special Account such amount or amounts as the Borrower shall have requested.

(b) (i) For replenishment of the Special Account, the Borrower shall furnish to the Association requests for deposits into the Special Account at such intervals as the Association shall specify.

(ii) Prior to or at the time of each such request, the Borrower shall furnish to the Association the documents and other evidence required pursuant to paragraph 4 of this Schedule for the payment or payments in respect of which replenishment is requested. On the basis of each such request, the Association shall, on behalf of the Borrower, withdraw from the Credit Account and deposit into the Special Account such amount as the Borrower shall have requested and as shall have been shown by said documents and other evidence to have been paid out of the Special Account for eligible expenditures. All such deposits shall be withdrawn by the Association from the Credit Account under the respective eligible

Categories, and in the respective equivalent amounts, as shall have been justified by said documents and other evidence.

4. For each payment made by the Borrower out of the respective Special Account, the Borrower shall, at such time as the Association shall reasonably request, furnish to the Association such documents and other evidence showing that such payment was made exclusively for eligible expenditures.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 3 of this Schedule, the Association shall not be required to make further deposits into the Special Account:

(a) if, at any time, the Association shall have determined that all further withdrawals should be made by the Borrower directly from the Credit Account in accordance with the provisions of Article V of the General Conditions and paragraph (a) of Section 2.02 of this Agreement;

(b) if the Borrower shall have failed to furnish to the Association, within the period of time specified in Section 4.01 (b)(ii) of this Agreement, any of the audit reports required to be furnished to the Association pursuant to said Section in respect of the audit of the records and accounts for the Special Account;

(c) if, at any time, the Association shall have notified the Borrower of its intention to suspend in whole or in part the right of the Borrower to make withdrawals from the Credit Account pursuant to the provisions of Section 6.02 of the General Conditions; or

(d) once the total unwithdrawn amount of the Credit allocated to the eligible Categories, minus the total amount of all outstanding special commitments entered into by the Association pursuant to Section 5.02 of the General Conditions with respect to the Project, shall equal the equivalent of twice the amount of the Authorized Allocation.

Thereafter, withdrawal from the Credit Account of the remaining unwithdrawn amount of the Credit allocated to the eligible Categories shall follow such procedures as the Association shall specify by notice to the Borrower. Such further withdrawals shall be made only after and to the extent that the Association shall have been satisfied that all such amounts remaining on deposit in the Special Account as of the date of such notice will be utilized in making payments for eligible expenditures.

6. (a) If the Association shall have determined at any time that any payment out of the Special Account: (i) was made for an expenditure or in an amount not eligible pursuant to paragraph 2 of this Schedule; or (ii) was not justified by the evidence furnished to the Association, the Borrower shall, promptly upon notice from the Association: (A) provide such additional evidence as the Association may request; or (B) deposit into the Special Account (or, if the Association shall so request, refund to the Association) an amount equal to the amount of such payment or the portion thereof not so eligible or justified. Unless the Association shall otherwise agree, no further deposit by the Association into the Special Account shall be made until the Borrower has provided such evidence or made such deposit or refund, as the case may

be.

(b) If the Association shall have determined at any time that any amount outstanding in the Special Account will not be required to cover further payments for eligible expenditures, the Borrower shall, promptly upon notice from the Association, refund to the Association such outstanding amount.

(c) The Borrower may, upon notice to the Association, refund to the Association all or any portion of the funds on deposit in the Special Account.

(d) Refunds to the Association made pursuant to paragraphs 6 (a), (b) and (c) of this Schedule shall be credited to the Credit Account for subsequent withdrawal or for cancellation in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Agreement, including the General Conditions.

