

Date: 03-Aug-2023

Mr. Faiziddin Qahhorzoda  
Minister of Finance  
Ministry of Finance  
Foteh Niyosi Street  
Dushanbe, 734025  
Republic of Tajikistan

Re: Advance Agreement for Preparation of Proposed Dushanbe  
Sustainable Urban Development Project  
Project Preparation Advance No. IDA V4910-TJ

Excellency:

In response to the request for financial assistance made on behalf of the Republic of Tajikistan (“Recipient”), I am pleased to inform you that the International Development Association (“Bank”) proposes to extend to the Recipient an advance out of the Bank’s Project Preparation Facility in an amount not to exceed one million five hundred thousand Dollars (\$ 1,500,000) (“Advance”) on the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in this letter agreement (“Agreement”), which includes the attached Annex, to assist in financing the activities described in the Annex (“Activities”). The objective of the Activities is to facilitate the preparation of a proposed project designed to improve physical infrastructure and institutional capacity for sustainable solid waste service delivery in Dushanbe (“Project”), for the carrying out of which the Recipient has requested the Bank’s financial assistance.

The Recipient represents, by confirming its agreement below, that: (a) it understands that the provision of the Advance does not constitute or imply any commitment on the part of IBRD or IDA to assist in financing the Project; and (b) it is authorized to enter into this Agreement and to carry out the Activities, repay the Advance and perform its other obligations under this Agreement, all in accordance with the provisions of 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 Bank.

Upon receipt by the Bank of this countersigned copy, this Agreement shall become effective as of the date upon which the Bank dispatches the notice referred to in Section 8.02(a) of the Standard Conditions (as defined in Section 1.02 of the Annex to this Agreement).

Very truly yours,  
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By *Ozan Sevimli*  
Ozan Sevimli  
Country Manager  
World Bank Office, Tajikistan

AGREED:  
THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

By *Faiziddin Qahorzoda*  
Authorized Representative  
Name Faiziddin Qahorzoda  
Title Minister of Finance  
Date 10-Aug-2023

Enclosures:

- (1) Standard Conditions for Advances Made by the Bank under its Project Preparation Facility, dated August 1, 2022;
- (2) Disbursement and Financial Information Letter for the Advance of the same date as this Agreement, together with Disbursement Guidelines for Investment Project Financing, dated February 2017;
- (3) Environmental and Social Commitment Plan, dated July 24, 2023;
- (4) 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, and as of July 1, 2016; and
- (5) World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, dated November 2020.

**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 Section:

- (a) “Anti-Corruption Guidelines” means, for purposes of paragraph 11 of the Appendix to the Standard Conditions, 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, and as of July 1, 2016.
- (b) “Category” means a category set forth in the table in Section 3.01 of this Agreement.
- (c) “Environmental and Social Commitment Plan” or “ESCP” means the environmental and social commitment plan for the Project, dated July 24, 2023, as the same may be amended from time to time in accordance with the provisions thereof, which sets out the material measures and actions that the Recipient shall carry out or cause to be carried out to address the potential environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project, including the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, and any environmental and social instruments to be prepared thereunder.
- (d) “Environmental and Social Standards” or “ESSs” means, collectively: (i) “Environmental and Social Standard 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts”; (ii) “Environmental and Social Standard 2: Labor and Working Conditions”; (iii) “Environmental and Social Standard 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management”; (iv) “Environmental and Social Standard 4: Community Health and Safety”; (v) “Environmental and Social Standard 5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement”; (vi) “Environmental and Social Standard 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources”; (vii) “Environmental and Social Standard 7: Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities”; (viii) “Environmental and Social Standard 8: Cultural Heritage”; (ix) “Environmental and Social Standard 9: Financial Intermediaries”; (x) “Environmental and Social Standard 10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure”; effective on October 1, 2018, as published by the Bank.
- (e) “Implementation Agreement” has the meaning set forth in the Section 2.03(b) of this Agreement
- (f) “Implementing Entity” means the State Unitary Enterprise “Smart City” under executive state authority of Dushanbe city, established by the decision of the chairman of Dushanbe city dated May 7, 2019 no. 276, as amended.

- (g) “Implementation Group” means the group to be established within the Implementing Entity in accordance with Section 2.03 (a) of this Annex.
- (h) “Operating Costs” means reasonable costs, as shall have been approved by the Bank, for the incremental expenses incurred on account of the implementation of the Activities, management and monitoring including on account of operation and maintenance costs of office and office equipment, office supplies, salaries of Implementation Group staff , travel and supervision costs, per diem, but excluding the salaries and indemnities of officials and public servants of the Recipient’s civil service.
- (i) “Procurement Regulations” means, for purposes of paragraph 50 of the Appendix to the Standard Conditions, the “World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers”, dated November 2020.
- (j) “Standard Conditions” means the “Standard Conditions for Advances Made by the Bank under its Project Preparation Facility”, dated August 1, 2022.
- (k) “Training” means the reasonable costs associated with training, workshop participation and study tours under the Activities, consisting of travel and subsistence costs for training participants, costs (other than consulting services) associated with securing the services of trainers and presenters, rental of training facilities, translation and interpretation services, preparation and reproduction of training materials.

## **Article II**

### **Execution of the Activities**

2.01. ***Description of the Activities.*** The Activities for which the Advance is provided consist of the following parts:

- (a) carrying out feasibility studies for: (i) solid waste collection system improvements, including tariff and billing system; and (ii) landfill investments;
- (b) carrying out the environmental and social impact assessment(s) (including preparing respective instruments) related to the solid waste collection system and the landfill, addressing all relevant ESSs;
- (c) capacity building activities consisting of training on: (i) technical aspects of improved solid waste collection and landfill operations, including study tours; (ii) Project management, E&S, financial management and procurement;
- (d) recruitment of consultants in the Implementation Group; and
- (e) management of the Activities, such as workshops and consultations with relevant stakeholders, transportation, financial management, reporting, software and other equipment required for the implementation of the Activities, including the financing of Operating Costs.

2.02. ***Execution of the Activities Generally.*** The Recipient declares its commitment to the objectives of the Activities. To this end, the Recipient shall cause the Activities to be carried out

by the Implementing Entity in accordance with the provisions of: (a) Article II of the Standard Conditions; (b) this Article II; (c) the Anti-Corruption Guidelines; and (d) the Implementation Agreement.

2.03. ***Institutional and Other Arrangements.*** Without limitation upon the provisions of Section 2.02 above:

(a) The Recipient shall cause the Implementing Entity to establish not later than three (3) months after the Effective Date, and thereafter maintain during the implementation of the Activities, the Implementation Group with structure, functions, responsibilities, and staff adequate in composition, and with experience and qualifications satisfactory to the Bank, to be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Activities, including financial management, procurement, and monitoring and evaluation.

(b) The Recipient shall make the proceeds of the Advance available to the Implementing Entity under an agreement between the Recipient and the Implementing Entity, under terms and conditions approved by the Bank (“Implementation Agreement”), including causing the Implementing Entity to:

- (i) carry out the Activities with due diligence and efficiency and in accordance with sound technical, economic, financial, managerial, environmental and social standards and practices satisfactory to the Bank, including in accordance with the provisions of the Anti-corruption Guidelines;
- (ii) provide, promptly as needed, the resources required for the purpose;
- (iii) procure the goods and services required for the Activities and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Advance, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement;
- (iv) furnish all such information as the Recipient or the Bank shall reasonably request; and
- (v) promptly inform the Recipient and the Bank of any condition which interferes or threatens to interfere with the progress of the Activities and the performance of its obligations under the Implementation Agreement.

(c) The Recipient shall obtain rights adequate to protect its interests and those of the Bank and shall perform its obligations and exercise said rights under the Implementation Agreement in such a manner as to protect the interests of the Recipient and the Bank and to accomplish the purpose of the Advance. Except as the Bank shall otherwise agree, the Recipient shall not assign, amend, abrogate or waive the Implementation Agreement or any of its provisions.

2.04 ***Environmental and Social Standards.***

(a) The Recipient shall ensure that the Activities are carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.

(b) Without limitation upon paragraph (a) above, the Recipient shall, and shall cause the Implementing Entity to, ensure that the Activities are implemented in accordance with the

Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (“ESCP”), in a manner acceptable to the Bank. To this end, the Recipient shall, and shall cause the Implementing Entity to, ensure that:

- (i) the measures and actions specified in the ESCP are implemented with due diligence and efficiency, as provided in the ESCP;
  - (ii) sufficient funds are available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP;
  - (iii) policies and procedures are maintained, and qualified and experienced staff in adequate numbers are retained to implement the ESCP, as provided in the ESCP; and
  - (iv) the ESCP, or any provision thereof, is not amended, repealed, suspended or waived, except as the Bank shall otherwise agree in writing, as specified in the ESCP, and ensure that the revised ESCP is disclosed promptly thereafter.
- (c) In case of any inconsistencies between the ESCP and the provisions of this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.
- (d) The Recipient shall, and shall cause the Implementing Entity to, ensure that:
- (i) all measures necessary are taken to collect, compile, and furnish to the Bank through regular reports, with the frequency specified in the ESCP, and promptly in a separate report or reports, if so requested by the Bank, information on the status of compliance with the ESCP and the environmental and social instruments referred to therein, all such reports in form and substance acceptable to the Bank, setting out, *inter alia*: (A) the status of implementation of the ESCP; (B) conditions, if any, which interfere or threaten to interfere with the implementation of the ESCP; and (C) corrective and preventive measures taken or required to be taken to address such conditions; and
  - (ii) the Bank is promptly notified of any incident or accident related to or having an impact on the Activities which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers, in accordance with the ESCP, the environmental and social instruments referenced therein and the Environmental and Social Standards.
- (e) The Recipient shall, and shall cause the Implementing Entity to, establish, publicize, maintain and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances of Activities-affected people, and take all measures necessary and appropriate to resolve, or facilitate the resolution of, such concerns and grievances, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.

2.05. **Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation of the Activities.** The Recipient shall ensure that each Activity Report is furnished to the Bank not later than forty-five (45) days after each calendar semester, covering the calendar semester.

**Article III  
Withdrawal of the Advance**

3.01. **Eligible Expenditures.** The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Advance in accordance with the provisions of: (a) Article III of the Standard Conditions; and (b) this Section, to finance Eligible Expenditures as set forth in the following table. The table specifies each category of Eligible Expenditures that may be financed out of the proceeds of the Advance (“Category”), the amount of the Advance allocated to each Category, and the percentage of expenditures to be financed for Eligible Expenditures in each Category:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount of the Advance Allocated (expressed in Dollars)</b>	<b>Percentage of Expenditures to be Financed (exclusive of Taxes, other than custom duties, excise duties and withholding tax)</b>
(1) Goods, non-consulting services, consulting services, Operating Costs and Training	1,500,000	100%
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	

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. **Refinancing Date.** The Refinancing Date is July 31, 2024.

**Article IV  
Terms of the Advance**

4.01. **Refinancing under the Refinancing Agreement:** If, on or before the Refinancing Date, a Refinancing Agreement has been executed by all of its parties, then the full amount of the Withdrawn Advance Balance shall be paid to the Bank as soon as the Refinancing Agreement becomes effective, by means of a withdrawal by the Bank of such amount of the Refinancing Proceeds, in accordance with the provisions of the Refinancing Agreement.

4.02. **No Repayment in the absence of a Refinancing Agreement:** Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in the Standard Conditions, if, on or before the Refinancing Date, no Refinancing Agreement has been executed by all of its parties, or if, by such date, it has been so executed but terminates without becoming effective, then the Recipient shall not be obligated to repay the Withdrawn Advance Balance.

**Article V**  
**Effectiveness; Termination**

5.01. The Additional Condition of Effectiveness consists of the following, namely that the Implementation Agreement referred to in Section 2.03 (b) of this Annex has been executed on behalf of the Recipient and the Implementing Entity in a manner satisfactory to the Bank.

5.02. The Effectiveness Deadline is the date falling ninety (90) days after the date of this Agreement.

**Article VI**  
**Recipient's Representative; Addresses**

6.01. **Recipient's Representative.** The Recipient's Representative referred to in Section 9.02 of the Standard Conditions is its Minister of Finance.

6.02. **Recipient's Address.** For purposes of Section 9.01 of the Standard Conditions: (a) the Recipient's Address is:

Ministry of Finance  
Foteh Niyosi Street  
Dushanbe, 734025  
Republic of Tajikistan

(b) the Recipient's Electronic Address is:

Facsimile:  
(992-372)213329

6.03. **Bank's Address.** For purposes of Section 9.01 of the Standard Conditions: (a) the Bank's Address is:

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

(b) the Bank's Electronic Address is:

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