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Country Director  
Central America Countries  
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Date: 09-Aug-2023

His Excellency Jerson Posada  
Minister of Finance  
Ministry of Finance  
Boulevard de Los Héroes No. 1231  
San Salvador  
Republic of El Salvador

*Subject:*           **Republic of El Salvador: Loan No. 9065-SV  
Growing Up Healthy Together: Comprehensive Early Childhood  
Development in El Salvador Project  
Amendment to the Loan Agreement**

Excellency:

We refer to the Loan Agreement between the Republic of El Salvador (“Borrower”) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (“Bank”) for the Growing Up Healthy Together: Comprehensive Early Childhood Development in El Salvador Project (“Project”) dated May 24, 2021 (“Loan Agreement”). The capitalized terms used in this letter (“Amendment Letter”) and not defined herein have the respective meanings ascribed to them in the Loan Agreement.

We also refer to:

- (a) your letter dated October 21, 2022, requesting, among others: (i) the activation of the Contingency Emergency Response (CER) Part 3 of the Project to fund emergency response activities related to the effects of tropical storm Julia; (ii) addition of the Project development objectives for the CER Part of the Project; and (iii) a change in implementation arrangements; and
- (b) the Bank’s letter dated January 23, 2023 confirming activation of the CER Part; and
- (c) your letter dated February 24, 2023 requesting a reallocation of the proceeds of the Loan.

We are pleased to inform you that the Bank concurs with your request, and therefore amends the Loan Agreement as follows:

1. The Project objective set forth in Schedule 1 of the Loan Agreement is replaced in its entirety to read as follows:

“The objectives of the Project are to: (i) strengthen health promotion behaviors among children aged 0 to 7 and their mothers during preconception and gestation; (ii) strengthen the early identification of risks and developmental delays in children aged 0 to 7; (iii) improve the provision of quality maternal and child health care services; and (iv) in case of an Eligible Emergency, respond promptly and effectively to it.”

2. Paragraphs 1.1(a) and 1.1(b) under Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Loan Agreement are hereby amended to read as follows:

“1.1. (a) Promoting interventions to support women of reproductive age and strengthening the national network of MCH services through, *inter alia*: (i) the design and implementation of the National Certification Guidelines to improve the quality of MCH care in both primary health care facilities and hospitals across the country; (ii) the construction, rehabilitation and climate proofing of health care network infrastructure and equipment including through the application of a Green Verification Checklist and measures such as energy efficiency improvements in buildings, lighting, appliances and equipment, rehabilitation of cooling systems with lower GHG emissions and the procurement of solar panels; (iii) the inclusion of early pregnancy identification in the first level of care and community and inclusion of ECD education and the early detection of risks and delays in the provision of MCH; (iv) ensuring quality of care in All Levels of Care including maternity homes; (v) the provision of adolescent motherhood health care services; and (vi) the development of instruments, manuals and guides for preventing gender-based violence and negligence, obstetric violence and, adolescent pregnancy in the context of the National Mental Health Plan.

(b) Providing prenatal and childbirth care through, *inter alia*: (i) the construction and rehabilitation of health facilities, laboratories, and maternity homes, including Climate Smart Measures as they relate to the infrastructure and facilities’ rehabilitation and retrofit; (ii) the development of: Clubs for expectant mothers to provide them with information on ECD and on the proper care of the newborn and Corners of Knowledge; (iii) the procurement and maintenance of medical and non-medical equipment, including computer software; (iv) the procurement of prenatal and childbirth supplies; and (v) the provision of specialized and general training to health care professionals and support staff of All Levels of Care, including on the development of skills for effective and quality service delivery, the development of a client-orientated behavior, the use of climate change mitigation measures and practices, and the execution of effective post-disasters strategies and responses.”

3. Paragraph 1.2 (b) under Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Loan Agreement is hereby amended to read as follows:

“(b) Supporting pediatric services through, *inter alia*: (i) the construction and rehabilitation of health facilities, procurement and maintenance of medical and non-medical equipment under low-carbon and climate resilient standards; (ii) the procurement of supplies for neonatal and specialized services to newborn children (hormonal testing, cochlear implants, or other needs related to congenital diseases); (iii) the provision of specialized and general pediatric training in All Levels of Care; (iv) the development of multisectoral coordination with other institutions to harmonize quality and standards of care among providers, including

the carrying-out of forums, meetings and advocacy initiatives; (v) the development of IT solutions to facilitate the early detection of delays in development including implementing alerts in children’s growth check-ups for appropriate referrals and care; (vi) the provision of workshops and training initiatives on nutrition and breastfeeding; and (vii) strengthening the provision of pediatric services in All Levels of Care as well as the provision of training to mothers in rural nutrition centers.”

3. The table under Section III.A of Schedule 2 to the Loan Agreement is hereby amended to read as follows:

<b>“Category</b>	<b>Amount of the Loan Allocated (expressed in USD)</b>	<b>Percentage of Expenditures to be financed (inclusive of Taxes)</b>
(1) Goods, works, non-consulting services, consulting services, Training and Operating Costs for Parts 1, 2 and 4 of the Project	229,375,000	100%
(2) Emergency Expenditures under Part 3 of the Project	20,000,000	100%
(3) Front-end Fee	625,000	Amount payable pursuant to Section 2.03 of this Agreement, in accordance with Section 2.07(b) of the General Conditions
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>250,000,000”</b>	

4. Paragraph 14 of the Appendix to the Loan Agreement is hereby amended to read as follows:

“14. “Environmental and Social Commitment Plan” or the acronym “ESCP” means the updated environmental and social commitment plan, agreed to between the Borrower and the Bank, which sets out the material measures and actions that the Borrower shall carry out or cause to be carried out to address the potential environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project, including the timing of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, and any instruments to be prepared thereunder; as the ESCP may be revised from time to time, with prior written agreement of the Bank.”

Please confirm your agreement with the foregoing, on behalf of the Borrower, by signing and dating this Amendment Letter in the spaces provided below. All other provisions of the Loan Agreement except as amended through this Amendment Letter shall remain in full force and effect. This Amendment Letter shall be executed in two (2) counterparts each of which shall be an original.

The provisions set forth in this Amendment Letter shall become effective on the date of the last signature, upon receipt by the Bank of a fully executed Amendment Letter.

Please also note that the Restructuring Paper dated August 1, 2023, will be disclosed on the Bank's external website.

Sincerely,

**INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR  
RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT**



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Michel Kerf  
Country Director  
Central America Countries  
Latin America and the Caribbean Region

CONFIRMED AND AGREED:

**REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR**

By: Jerson Posada  
Authorized Representative

Name: Jerson Posada

Title: Minister of Finance

Date: 23-Aug-2023