

**CONFORMED**

**CREDIT NUMBER 4008 COB**

# **Development Credit Agreement**

**(Economic Recovery Credit)**

**between**

**THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

**and**

**INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**

**Dated December 16, 2004**

**CONFORMED**

**CREDIT NUMBER 4008 COB**

**DEVELOPMENT CREDIT AGREEMENT**

AGREEMENT, dated December 16, 2004, between THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO (the Borrower) and INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (the Association).

WHEREAS (A) the Association has received from the Borrower a letter dated July 29, 2004 (the "LDP"), describing a program of actions, objectives and policies designed to achieve structural adjustment of the Borrower's economy (hereinafter called the Program), declaring the Borrower's commitment to the execution of the Program, and requesting assistance from the Association in support of the Program during the execution thereof; and

(B) on the basis, *inter alia*, of the foregoing, the Association has decided in support of the Program to provide such assistance to the Borrower by making the Credit available in two tranches as hereinafter provided;

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 May 1, 2004) with the modifications set forth below (the General Conditions) constitute an integral part of this Agreement:

(a) Section 2.01, paragraph 12, is modified to read:

“‘Project’ means the Program, referred to in paragraph A of the preamble to the Development Credit Agreement, in support of which the Credit is made.”;

- (b) Section 4.01 is modified to read:

“Except as the Borrower and the Association shall otherwise agree, withdrawals from the Credit Account shall be made in the currency of the deposit account specified in Section 2.02 of the Development Credit Agreement.”;

- (c) Section 5.01 is modified to read:

“The Borrower shall be entitled to withdraw the proceeds of the Credit from the Credit Account in accordance with the provisions of the Development Credit Agreement and of these General Conditions”;

- (d) The last sentence of Section 5.03 is deleted;

- (e) Section 9.06 (c) is modified to read:

“(c) Not later than six months after the Closing Date or such later date as may be agreed for this purpose between the Borrower and the Association, the Borrower shall prepare and furnish to the Association a report, of such scope and in such detail as the Association shall reasonably request, on the execution of the Program referred to in paragraph A of the preamble to the Development Credit Agreement, the performance by the Borrower and the Association of their respective obligations under the Development Credit Agreement and the accomplishment of the purposes of the Credit.”; and

- (f) Section 9.04 is deleted and Sections 9.05, 9.06 (as modified above), 9.07 and 9.08 are renumbered, respectively, Sections 9.04, 9.05, 9.06 and 9.07.

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

(a) “CFAF” means “*Franc de la Communauté Financière Africaine*”, the currency of the Borrower ;

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

(c) “Effectiveness Tranche” means the Tranche of the proceeds of the Credit allocated to Category (1) in the table set forth in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to this Agreement to be released by the Association on or after the Effective Date;

(d) “FY” means the Borrower’s fiscal year beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31 of each calendar year;

(e) “LDP” means the Letter of Development Policy referred to in the first paragraph of the Preamble to this Agreement;

(f) “SDD” means the stock of Domestic Debt, which is further referred to in paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement;

(g) “Second Tranche” means the Tranche of the proceeds of the Credit allocated to Category (2) in the table set forth in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to this Agreement;

(h) “SNPC Action Plan” means the action plan, established in Annex to the LDP, including measures aimed at improving efficiency and transparency in the management of oil revenues accruing to the Borrower through SNPC’s operations and further referred in Schedule 2 to this Agreement;

(i) “SNPC” means Société Nationale des Pétroles du Congo, a state-owned corporation established and operating pursuant to the commercial laws of the Borrower; and

(j) “Tranche” means any of the following: the Effectiveness Tranche and the Second Tranche.

## **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 million five hundred thousand Special Drawing Rights (SDR 20,500,000).

Section 2.02. (a) Subject to the provisions of paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of this Section, the Borrower shall be entitled to withdraw the proceeds of the Credit from the Credit Account in support of the Program.

(b) The Borrower shall open, prior to furnishing to the Association the first request for withdrawal from the Credit Account, and thereafter maintain in its central bank, a Deposit Account in CFAF on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Association. All withdrawals from the Credit Account shall be deposited by the Association into the Deposit Account.

(c) The Borrower undertakes that the proceeds of the Credit shall not be used to finance expenditures excluded pursuant to the provisions of Schedule 1 to this Agreement. If the Association shall have determined at any time that any proceeds of the Credit shall have been used to make a payment for an expenditure so excluded, the Borrower shall, promptly upon notice from the Association: (i) deposit into the Deposit Account an amount equal to the amount of said payment, or (ii) if the Association shall so request, refund such amount to the Association. Amounts refunded to the Association upon such request shall be credited to the Credit Account for cancellation.

Section 2.03. The Closing Date shall be December 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 cancelled; 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 1 and October 1 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 1 and October 1 commencing April 1, 2015 and ending October 1, 2044. Each installment to and including the installment payable on October 1, 2024 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 the Association 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 French Republic is hereby specified for the purposes of Section 4.02 of the General Conditions.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **Particular Covenants**

Section 3.01. (a) The Borrower and the Association shall from time to time, at the request of either party, exchange views on the progress achieved in carrying out the Program and the actions specified in Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

(b) Prior to each such exchange of views, the Borrower shall furnish to the Association for its review and comment a report on the progress achieved in carrying out the Program, in such detail as the Association shall reasonably request.

(c) Without limitation upon the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Section, the Borrower shall exchange views with the Association on any proposed action to be taken after the disbursement of the Credit which would have the effect of materially reversing the objectives of the Program, or any action taken under the Program, including any action specified in Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

(d) If, after said exchange of views, the Association is not so satisfied, the Association may give notice to the Borrower to that effect and, if within 90 days after such notice, the Borrower shall not have taken steps satisfactory to the Association, in respect of (a), (b) and (c) above, as the case may be, then the Association may, by notice to the Borrower, cancel the unwithdrawn amount of the Credit or any part thereof.

Section 3.02. Upon the Association's request, the Borrower shall:

(a) have the Deposit Account audited in accordance with appropriate auditing principles consistently applied, by independent auditors acceptable to the Association;

(b) furnish to the Association as soon as available, but in any case not later than four months after the date of the Association's request for such audit, a certified copy of the report of such audit by said auditors, of such scope and in such detail as the Association shall have reasonably requested; and

(c) furnish to the Association such other information concerning the Deposit Account and the audit thereof as the Association shall have reasonably requested.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

##### **Additional Event of Suspension**

Section 4.01. Pursuant to Section 6.02 (l) of the General Conditions, the following additional event is specified, namely, that a situation has arisen which shall make it improbable that the Program, or a significant part thereof, will be carried out.

#### **ARTICLE V**

##### **Termination**

Section 5.01. 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 VI**

##### **Representative of the Borrower; Addresses**

Section 6.01. The Minister of Finance of the Borrower is designated as the representative of the Borrower for the purposes of Section 11.03 of the General Conditions.



Section 6.02. The following addresses are specified for the purposes of Section 11.01 of the General Conditions:

For the Borrower:

Minister of Economy, Finance and Budget  
Ministry of Economy, Finance and Budget  
B.P. 2083  
Brazzaville  
Republic of Congo

Facsimile:  
242 814 369

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.

THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO

By /s/ Jean-Christophe Lingoua  
Authorized Representative

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By /s/ Mahmood Ayub  
Authorized Representative

**SCHEDULE 1**

**Withdrawal of the Proceeds of the  
Credit and Excluded Expenditures**

1. Subject to the provisions set forth or referred to in this Schedule, the table below sets forth the amounts allocated to specific Tranches to be withdrawn from the Credit Account:

<u>Expenditures Categories</u>	<u>Amount of the Credit Allocated (Expressed in SDR Equivalent)</u>	<u>% of to be Financed</u>
(1) Effectiveness Tranche	11,600,000	100%
(2) Second Tranche	<u>8,900,000</u>	100%
Total	20,500,000	
	=====	

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 above, and for purposes of Section 2.02 (c) of this Agreement, the proceeds of the Credit shall not be used to finance the following expenditures:

(a) expenditures in the currency of the Borrower or for goods or services supplied from the territory of the Borrower;

(b) expenditures for goods or services supplied under a contract which any national or international financing institution or agency other than the Bank or the Association shall have financed or agreed to finance, or which the Association or the Bank shall have financed or agreed to finance under another credit or a loan;

(c) expenditures for goods included in the following groups or subgroups of the Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 3 (SITC, Rev. 3), published by the United Nations in Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 34/Rev. 3 (1986) (the SITC), or any successor groups or subgroups under future revisions to the SITC, as designated by the Association by notice to the Borrower:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Subgroup</u>	<u>Description of Items</u>
112	-	Alcoholic beverages
121	-	Tobacco, unmanufactured, tobacco refuse
122 manufactured	-	Tobacco,  (whether or not containing tobacco substitutes)
525	-	Radioactive and associated materials
667	-	Pearls, precious and semiprecious stones, unworked or worked
718	718.7	Nuclear reactors, and parts thereof; fuel elements (cartridges), non-irradiated, for nuclear reactors
728	728.43	Tobacco processing machinery
897	897.3	Jewelry of gold, silver or platinum group metals (except watches and watch cases) and goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares (including set gems)

- |     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| 971 | - | Gold, non-monetary<br>(excluding gold<br>ores and<br>concentrates); |
|-----|---|---|
- (d) expenditures for goods intended for a military or paramilitary purpose or for luxury consumption;
  - (e) expenditures for environmentally hazardous goods (for purposes of this paragraph the term “environmentally hazardous goods” means goods, the manufacture, use or import of which is prohibited under the laws of the Borrower or international agreements to which the Borrower is a party;
  - (f) expenditures on account of any payment to persons or entities, or any import of goods, if such payment or import is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations; and
  - (g) expenditures under a contract in respect of which the Association determines that corrupt or fraudulent practices were engaged in by representatives of the Borrower or of a beneficiary of the Credit during the procurement or execution of such contract, without the Borrower having taken timely and appropriate action satisfactory to the Association to remedy the situation.

3. No withdrawals shall be made from the Credit Account under Category (2) of the table in paragraph 1 of this Schedule unless:

- (a) the full amount of the Effectiveness Tranche has been withdrawn by the Borrower under the Development Credit Agreement; and
- (b) the Association shall be satisfied, after an exchange of views as described in Section 3.01 of this Agreement based on evidence satisfactory to the Association: (i) that the macroeconomic policy framework of the Borrower is consistent with the objectives of the Program, (ii) with the progress achieved by the Borrower in the carrying out of the Program, and (iii) that the actions described in Schedule 2 to this Agreement have been taken.

## SCHEDULE 2

### Actions Referred to in Section 3.01 (a) of this Agreement

#### Conditions for the release of the Second Tranche

1. The Borrower has furnished to the Association documentary evidence establishing that the Borrower has implemented the SNPC Action Plan.
2. The Borrower has:
  - (i) adopted and implemented an action plan aimed at reforming and improving the management of investment projects to be financed out the Borrower's domestic revenues;
  - (ii) submitted to the Association physical and financial audit reports for public investment expenditures carried out by the Borrower for its FY 2004; and
  - (iii) submitted its draft public investment program for its FY 2006 and 2007 to the Association for its review.
3. The Borrower has furnished to the Association evidence in form and substance satisfactory to the Association pursuant to paragraphs 24-35 of the LDP establishing, *inter alia*, that:
  - (i) the amount of arrears pertaining to the SDD has been validated by the Borrower pursuant to procedures satisfactory to the Association.
  - (ii) a cut-off date after which domestic creditors are precluded from:
    - (a) submitting claims to be included in the SDD; or
    - (b) completing or modifying already submitted claims to be included in the SDD, has been published in the Borrower's Official Gazette and the press and media of wide circulation in the Borrower's territory;
  - (iii) an agreement, has been concluded between the Borrower and its domestic creditors representing at least 75 percent of arrears due under the SDD, pertaining to a common discount factor, or discount factors, as the case may be, satisfactory to the Association, applicable to the entire SDD; and

(iv) a commercial bank, acceptable to the Association, has been appointed by the Borrower, following a transparent competitive selection process satisfactory to the Association, to effect payment to entitled domestic creditors pursuant to the agreement set forth in sub-paragraph (iii) above.