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LOAN NUMBER 9167-SC

# Loan Agreement

(Strengthening Quality of the Social Protection System Program)

between

**REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES**

and

**INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION  
AND DEVELOPMENT**

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**LOAN AGREEMENT**

AGREEMENT dated as of the Signature Date between the REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES (“Borrower”) and the INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (“Bank”). The Borrower and the Bank hereby agree as follows:

**ARTICLE I — GENERAL CONDITIONS; DEFINITIONS**

- 1.01. The General Conditions (as defined in the Appendix to this Agreement) apply to and form part of this Agreement.
- 1.02. Unless the context requires otherwise, the capitalized terms used in this Agreement have the meanings ascribed to them in the General Conditions or in the Appendix to this Agreement.

**ARTICLE II — LOAN**

- 2.01. The Bank agrees to lend to the Borrower the amount of thirty million United States Dollars (\$30,000,000), as such amount may be converted from time to time through a Currency Conversion (“Loan”), to assist in financing the program described in Schedule 1 to this Agreement (“Program”).
- 2.02. The Borrower may withdraw the proceeds of the Loan in accordance with Section IV of Schedule 2 to this Agreement. All withdrawals from the Loan Account shall be deposited by the Bank into an account specified by the Borrower and acceptable to the Bank.
- 2.03. The Front-end Fee is one quarter of one percent (0.25%) of the Loan amount.
- 2.04. The Commitment Charge is one quarter of one percent (0.25%) per annum on the Unwithdrawn Loan Balance.
- 2.05. The interest rate is the Reference Rate plus the Variable Spread or such rate as may apply following a Conversion; subject to Section 3.02(e) of the General Conditions.
- 2.06. The Payment Dates are February 15 and August 15 in each year.
- 2.07. The principal amount of the Loan shall be repaid in accordance with Schedule 4 to this Agreement.

**ARTICLE III — PROGRAM**

- 3.01. The Borrower declares its commitment to the objectives of the Program. To this end, the Borrower shall carry out the Program in accordance with the provisions of Article V of the General Conditions and Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

**ARTICLE IV — EFFECTIVENESS; TERMINATION**

- 4.01. The Additional Condition of Effectiveness consists of the following: the Program manual (“Program Manual”) has been prepared and adopted in form and substance satisfactory to the Bank.
- 4.02. The Effectiveness Deadline is the date ninety (90) days after the Signature Date.

**ARTICLE V — REPRESENTATIVE; ADDRESSES**

- 5.01. The Borrower’s Representative is the minister responsible for finance, economic planning and trade.
- 5.02. For purposes of Section 10.01 of the General Conditions:

(a) the Borrower’s address is:

P.O. Box 313  
Liberty House  
Victoria, Mahè  
Seychelles; and

(b) the Borrower’s Electronic Address is:

Facsimile:	E-mail:
248-432 5161	minister@finance.gov.sc

- 5.03. For purposes of Section 10.01 of the General Conditions:

(a) the Bank’s address is:

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development  
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

AGREED as of the Signature Date.

**REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES**

By

*NHassan PM*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Authorized Representative**

**Name:** Naadir Hassan \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** Minister \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** 23-Apr-2021 \_\_\_\_\_

**INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR  
RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT**

By

*Idah Z. Pswarayi-Riddihough*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Authorized Representative**

**Name:** Idah Z. Pswarayi-Riddihough \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** Country Director for Madagascar \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** 02-Apr-2021 \_\_\_\_\_

## SCHEDULE 1

### Program Description

The objective of the Program is to strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of social protection programs in the Seychelles.

The Program consists of the following activities:

#### ***Result Area 1: Improving the allocative efficiency of social protection programs:***

1. Increasing the retirement age under the Borrower's national pension system to 65 years old.
2. Implement retirement pension reforms including, *inter alia*: (a) further increases to the retirement age; and/or (b) introducing indexation rules for the retirement pension benefit; and/or (c) coordinating the benefit with the contributory pension, to reduce projected spending on retirement pension as a percentage of government budget.
3. Improving efficiency of the Home Care Program ("HCP") to focus on those with the greatest physical and financial needs through the adoption of World Health Organization Disability Assessment Standards ("WHODAS 2.0") criteria for home care assessment and the revision of the means-test criteria applicable to the HCP.
4. Revising and merging the assessment for access to invalidity and disability pensions undertaken by the Agency for Social Protection ("ASP") and Seychelles Pension Fund ("SPF") to bring it in line with WHODAS 2.0 criteria, and to avoid administrative duplication and burdens on Beneficiaries.
5. Broadening the criteria for means-testing under the social welfare assistance benefit to include socioeconomic needs.
6. Re-engineering the social protection system (including the payroll system business processes) to enhance transparency and strengthen internal controls within ASP.

#### ***Result Area 2: Providing social protection program Beneficiaries with better quality services, increasing access to other services and ensuring timely delivery of social assistance support during emergencies:***

1. Establishing an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Social Protection ("ICSP") with a Technical Working Group ("TWG") to articulate policy decisions in cross-sectoral interventions, and to monitor and evaluate implementation of the Program.
2. Establishing inter-agency protocols for case management of Beneficiaries to ensure cross-sector coordination at the local level, and to provide harmonized entry to social protection programs and support cross-sectoral referral processes.
3. Establishing a social registry for households accessing social protection programs.

4. Developing a training program and curriculum and ensuring training and supervision of caregivers and a grievance and redress mechanism, to improve the quality of home care services.
5. Supporting social protection programs covered by the Program to allow for timely delivery of social assistance during emergencies to mitigate the impacts of an emergency, including through, the provision of benefits and technical assistance.

## SCHEDULE 2

### Program Execution

#### Section I. Implementation Arrangements

##### A. Program Institutions

1. The Borrower shall vest the overall responsibility for the implementation of the Program activities in the MFEPT and the Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs (“MESA”). To this end, the Borrower shall:
  - (a) establish not later than one (1) month after the Effective Date, and thereafter maintain throughout Program implementation, an ICSP, chaired by MFEPT and MESA, and comprising of, *inter alia*, representatives from the Ministry of Education (“MOE”), Ministry of Health (“MOH”), MESA, Ministry for Local Government and Community Development and other relevant MDAs, with a mandate, terms of reference, functions and resources satisfactory to the Bank, to be responsible for: (i) overseeing the implementation of the Program, monitor key outcomes and ensure policy coordination among different Ministries, Departments and Agencies (“MDAs”); (ii) reviewing and adopting specific measures for implementation of the Program; and (iii) providing a consultative forum for specific normative instruments to be submitted for legislative process;
  - (b) maintain, within MESA, throughout the period of implementation of the Program, the ASP, which shall be provided with competent, experienced and qualified staff, in sufficient numbers and under terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, to be responsible for: (i) providing technical secretariat services to the ICSP; (ii) chairing the TWG; and (iii) implementing activities related to the ASP’s function; and
  - (c) establish within the ICSP, by not later than one (1) month after the Effective Date, and thereafter maintain, throughout the period of implementation of the Program, a TWG, chaired by a representative of the ASP, and comprising of the Principal Secretaries of the ICSP MDAs and the Department of Information Communications Technology, which shall be provided with competent, experienced and qualified staff, in sufficient numbers and under terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, to be responsible for: (i) monitoring and evaluation activities under the Program, including the monitoring of Program outcomes, and disbursement linked indicators; (ii) reporting on Program progress and fiduciary aspects of implementation; (iii) technical analysis of Program specific measures; (iv) preparation of Annual Work Plan and Budget; and (v) supporting the ICSP in its functions.

##### B. Program Manual

1. The Borrower shall prepare and adopt, in form and substance satisfactory to the Bank, a Program Manual, containing detailed guidelines and procedures for: procurement and financial management processes and technical specifications for ICPS; roles and responsibilities of MDAs participating in Program implementation; the Verification Protocol

and related arrangements; and such other arrangements and procedures as shall be required for the effective implementation of the Program.

2. The Borrower shall not amend, abrogate, review or fail to enforce the provisions of the Program Manual, without prior written agreement of the Bank, provided, however, that in the event of any conflict between the provision of the Program Manual and those of this Agreement, the provision of this Agreement shall prevail.

**C. Program Action Plan**

1. The Borrower shall, through MFEPT and MESA:
  - (a) implement the Program Action Plan agreed with the Bank, in a manner and substance satisfactory to the Bank; and
  - (b) refrain from amending, revising, waiving, voiding, suspending or abrogating, any provision of the Program Action Plan, whether in whole or in part, without the prior written concurrence of the Bank.
2. In the event of any conflict between the provision of the Program Action Plan and those of this Agreement, the provision of this Agreement shall prevail.

**Section II. Excluded Activities**

The Borrower shall ensure that the Program excludes any activities which:

- (a) in the opinion of the Bank, are likely to have significant adverse impacts that are sensitive, diverse, or unprecedented on the environment and/or affected people; or
- (b) involve the procurement of: (i) works, estimated to cost USD115,000,000 equivalent or more per contract; (ii) goods, estimated to cost USD 75,000,000 equivalent or more per contract; (iii) non-consulting services, estimated to cost USD 75,000,000 equivalent or more per contract; or (iv) consulting services, estimated to cost USD 30,000,000 equivalent or more per contract.

**Section III. Program Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation**

**A. Program Reports**

The Borrower shall furnish to the Bank each Program Report not later than one (1) month after the end of each calendar semester, covering the calendar semester.

**B. Verification Protocols**

The Borrower shall, through the Office of the Auditor General:

- (a) undertake a verification process, at least annually, in accordance with the terms of reference agreed with the Bank, to certify the fulfillment of the Disbursement Linked



Results (“DLRs”) set out in Schedule 3 to this Agreement pursuant to the verification criteria set out in the Verification Protocol; and

- (b) furnish to the Bank corresponding verification report(s), in form and substance agreed with the Bank, no later than forty-five (45) days after the completion of the verification to which it relates.

**C. Mid-term Review**

The Borrower shall:

- (a) carry out jointly with the Bank, no later than thirty (30) months after the Effective Date, or such other period as may be agreed with the Bank, a midterm review of the Program to assess the status of Program implementation, as measured against the indicators agreed with the Bank and the legal covenants included or referred to in this Agreement;
- (b) to this end, prepare and furnish to the Bank at least one (1) month before such review, a report, in scope and detail satisfactory to the Bank and integrating the results of the monitoring and evaluation activities performed pursuant to Section III.A of this Schedule and the verification activities carried out in accordance with Section III.B of this Schedule, on the progress achieved in the carrying out of the Program during the period preceding the date of such report (including compliance with the Program Action Plan) and setting out the measures recommended to ensure the efficient carrying out of the Program and the achievement of the objectives thereof during the period following such date; and
- (c) review jointly with the Bank the report referred to in the immediately preceding paragraph and thereafter take all measures required to ensure the efficient completion of the Program and the achievement of the objectives thereof, based on the conclusions and recommendations of such report and the Bank’s views on the matter.

**Section IV. Withdrawal of Loan Proceeds**

**A. General**

1. Without limitation upon the provisions of Article II of the General Conditions and in accordance with the Disbursement and Financial Information Letter, the Borrower may withdraw the proceeds of the Loan to: (a) pay the Front-end Fee; (b) pay each Interest Rate Cap or Interest Rate Collar premium; and (c) finance Program Expenditures (inclusive of Taxes), on the basis of the results DLRs achieved by the Borrower, as measured against specific indicators (“Disbursement Linked Indicators” or “DLIs”); all as set forth in the table in paragraph 2 of this Part A in conjunction with Schedule 3 to this Agreement.
2. The following table specifies each category of withdrawal of the proceeds of the Loan (including the Disbursement Linked Indicators as applicable) (“Category”), the Disbursement Linked Results for each Category (as applicable), and the allocation of the amounts of the Loan to each Category:

<b>Category (including Disbursement Linked Indicator as applicable)</b>	<b>Amount of the Loan Allocated (expressed in USD)</b>
(1) DLI #1: Improving fiscal sustainability of retirement pension	4,000,000
(2) DLI #2: Improving efficiency and transparency of social protection programs	8,000,000
(3) DLI #3: Adopt an interdisciplinary approach to social protection by coordinating across MDAs and establishing a social registry which can be used to coordinate services across the MDAs.	3,500,000
(4) DLI #4: Providing better quality services to social protection Beneficiaries	3,500,000
(5) DLI #5: ASP increasing number of social welfare Beneficiaries in response to the COVID-19 crisis	10,925,000
(6) Front-end Fee to be paid pursuant to Section 2.03 of this Agreement in accordance with Section 2.05 (b) of the General Conditions	75,000
(7) Interest Rate Cap or Interest Rate Collar premium to be paid pursuant to Section 4.05 (c) of the General Conditions	0
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>30,000,000</b>

**B. Withdrawal Conditions; Withdrawal Period**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Part A of this Section, no withdrawal shall be made:
  - (a) on the basis of DLRs achieved prior to the Signature Date, except that withdrawals up to an aggregate amount not to exceed USD1,000,000 may be made on the basis of DLRs achieved prior to this date but on or after May 1, 2019; and
  - (b) for any DLR under Categories (1) through (5) until and unless the Borrower has furnished evidence satisfactory to the Bank that said DLR has been achieved.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Part B.1(b) of this Section, if a DLR has not been achieved by the date by which the said DLR is set to be achieved, the Bank may, by notice to the Borrower, decide, in its sole discretion, to:

- (a) in the case of DLRs #2.6, #2.8, #2.9, #3.1, #3.2, #4.1, #4.2 and #5.1, authorize the withdrawal of such lesser amount of the unwithdrawn proceeds of the Loan then allocated to said DLR which, in the opinion of the Bank, corresponds to the extent of achievement of said DLR, said lesser amount to be calculated in accordance with the applicable scalability formula set forth for such DLR in Schedule 3 to this Agreement;
  - (b) withhold all or a portion of the proceeds of the Loan allocated to said DLR(s) until such DLR(s) is/are, satisfactorily met;
  - (c) reallocate all or a portion of the proceeds of the Loan then allocated to said DLR to any other DLR and/or Category; and/or
  - (d) cancel all or a portion of the proceeds of the Loan then allocated to said DLR.
3. The Closing Date is December 31, 2024.

**SCHEDULE 3**

**Disbursement-Linked Indicators, Disbursement Linked Results and Allocated Amounts**

DISBURSEMENT LINKED INDICATORS	DISBURSEMENT LINKED RESULTS <sup>1</sup>				
	MAY 2021	DECEMBER 2021	DECEMBER 2022	DECEMBER 2023	DECEMBER 2024
1. Improving fiscal sustainability of retirement pension			1.1. The Recipient has enacted and published in the Government Gazette a law increasing the retirement age for the Retirement Pension to 65 years old, beginning on January 1, 2023.	1.2. The Recipient's Cabinet has issued a decision on further retirement pension reform(s) expected to reduce the projected spending on retirement pension as a percentage of government budget by 10% in 2050	
<b>Allocated Amount</b>			USD 3,000,000	USD 1,000,000	

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<sup>1</sup> The time periods indicated in this table are indicative and the achievement of DLRs is not timebound, except for the achievement of: (i) DLRs 4.1 and 4.2, which shall be verified on any one calendar year of Project implementation (at the choice of the Recipient); and (ii) 5.1., which shall be completed on or before May 31, 2021.

<p>2. Improving efficiency and transparency of social protection programs</p>	<p>2.1. MOH has adopted the WHODAS 2.0 criteria for home care assessment.</p>	<p>2.2. ASP and SPF have merged their assessment boards and adopted WHODAS 2.0 criteria for assessing applicant eligibility for invalidity and disability benefits</p> <p>2.3. ASP has implemented immediate fiduciary controls which have: (i) eliminated multiple payroll records for the same beneficiary; (ii) ensured all beneficiaries have their own bank accounts; and (iii) created an audit trail.</p>	<p>2.4. ASP has adopted a revised socioeconomic needs assessment based on non-income dimensions of poverty.</p> <p>2.5 ASP has conducted a comprehensive review of ASP internal controls and payroll systems to ascertain adequacy and adherence to established country system controls.</p>	<p>2.6 MOH and ASP have assessed 100% of the new applicants to invalidity benefits and disability benefits pursuant to the WHODAS 2.0 criteria.</p> <p>2.7 ASP has reengineered the payroll system business processes based on the results of a comprehensive review and revalidated each beneficiary’s eligibility</p>	<p>2.8. HCA and ASP have assessed 100% of the new HCP applicants pursuant to the WHODAS 2.0 criteria and revised socioeconomic needs assessment.</p> <p>2.9 ASP has assessed 100% of the new applicants to SWA pursuant to the revised socioeconomic needs assessment.</p>
<p><b>Allocated Amount</b></p>	<p>USD 1,000,000</p>	<p>(i) For DLR 2.2: USD 500,000</p> <p>(ii) For DLR 2.3: USD 500,000</p>	<p>(i) For DLR 2.4: USD 1,000,000</p> <p>(ii) For DLR 2.5: USD 500,000</p>	<p>(i) For DLR 2.6: USD 600,000 for every 20% of new applicants assessed pursuant to the WHODAS 2.0 criteria (from at least one (1) year since the adoption of said criteria) until reaching 60%, and thereafter USD 100,000 for every additional 20% of new applicants similarly assessed</p>	<p>(i) For DLR 2.8: USD 200,000 for every 30% of new applicants assessed pursuant to the WHODAS 2.0 criteria and revised socioeconomic needs criteria (from at least one (1) year since the adoption of said criteria and new assessment means) until reaching 60%, and thereafter USD 50,000 for every additional 20% of new applicants similarly</p>

				<p>(i.e. by applying the WHODAS 2.0 criteria)</p> <p>For DLR 2.7: USD 500,000</p>	<p>assessed (i.e. by applying the WHODAS 2.0 criteria and the revised socioeconomic needs assessment)</p> <p>(ii) For DLR 2.9: USD 200,000 for every 30% of the new applicants assessed pursuant to the revised socioeconomic needs assessment (from at least one (1) year since the adoption of said revised assessment), until reaching 60%, and thereafter USD 50,000 for every additional 20% of new applicants similarly assessed (i.e. using the revised socioeconomic needs assessment)</p>
<p>3. Adopt an interdisciplinary approach to social protection by coordinating across MDAs and establishing a social registry which can be used to coordinate services across the MDAs</p>		<p>3.1. ASP has signed inter-agency case management protocols with each of the MESA, MOH and MOE (including obtaining all necessary regulatory approvals where applicable) for information sharing, including referral and</p>		<p>3.2. Recipient has established a social registry that includes at least 60% of existing social protection Beneficiaries</p>	

		counter-referral mechanisms			
<b>Allocated Amount</b>		USD 133,300 for every inter-agency case management protocol signed.		USD 1,000,000 for every 20% of existing social protection Beneficiaries registered in the Recipient's new social registry, up to a maximum of USD 3,000,000	
4. Providing better quality services to social protection Beneficiaries		4.1 Trained caregivers within HCA, ASP and MOH are providing home care to at least 60% of new high need Beneficiaries of the HCP			4.2. ASP has referred 50% of the female Beneficiaries of SWA during twelve (12) consecutive months to MDAs for accessing their employability and social services
<b>Allocated Amount</b>		USD 500,000 for every 20% of high need Beneficiaries in a given calendar year who have received home care from a trained caregiver, up to a maximum of USD 1,500,000			USD 400,000 for every 10% of the Beneficiaries of female SWA having been referred to MDAs for accessing employability and social services, up to a maximum of USD 2,000,000
5. ASP increasing number of social welfare Beneficiaries in response to the COVID-19 crisis		5.1. ASP has increased the coverage of SWA to at least 3,800 people per month between May 2020 and April 2021, to assist households in response to the COVID-19 crisis			

<b>Allocated Amount</b>		USD 8,000,000 if SWA coverage reaches at least 3,400 people per month, and USD 10,000,000 if SWA coverage reaches at least 3,600 people per month, and the full USD 10,925,000 if SWA coverage reaches the desirable amount of 3,8000 people per month, between May 2020 and April 2021			
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**SCHEDULE 4**

**Commitment-Linked Amortization Repayment Schedule**

The following table sets forth the Principal Payment Dates of the Loan and the percentage of the total principal amount of the Loan payable on each Principal Payment Date (“Installment Share”).

**Level Principal Repayments**

<b>Principal Payment Date</b>	<b>Installment Share</b>
On each February 15 and August 15 Beginning August 15, 2026	5.00%
On February 15, 2036	5.00%

## APPENDIX

### Definitions

1. “Agency for Social Protection” or “ASP” means the Borrower’s agency operating under the auspices of the Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs and which is responsible for the implementation of most of the social protection programs.
2. “Allocated Amounts” means the amount allocated to each individual PBC or part of a PBC, as indicated in the table in Schedule 3 to this Agreement, as such amount might be reallocated and/or cancelled (whether partially or in its entirety) by the Association, from time to time as the case may be, in accordance with the provisions of Section III.B of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
3. “Annual Work Plan and Budget” means each annual work plan, together with the related budget, for the Program approved by the Bank pursuant to the provisions of Section I.A.1(c) of Schedule 2 to this Agreement
4. “Anti-corruption Guidelines” means, for purposes of paragraph 5 of the Appendix to the General Conditions, the Bank’s “Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Program-for-Results Financing,” dated February 1, 2012, and revised July 10, 2015.
5. “Beneficiaries” means beneficiaries eligible to receive social protection benefits under the Borrower’s various social protection programs.
6. “Cabinet” means the Borrower’s committee of ministers responsible for various ministerial portfolios.
7. “Category” means a category set forth in the table in Section IV.A.2 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
8. “COVID-19” means the mild to severe respiratory syndrome caused by the SARS-CoV-2.
9. “Department of Information Communications Technology” means the Borrower’s department within the Office of the Vice President and which is responsible for providing information systems to support efficient and effective decision-making and delivery of the Borrower’s services.
10. “Disbursement Linked Indicator” or “DLI” means in respect of a given Category, the indicator related to said Category as set forth in the table in Section IV.A.2 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
11. “Disbursement Linked Result” or “DLR” means in respect of a given Category, the result under said Category as set forth in the table in Section IV.A.2 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement, on the basis of the achievement of which, the amount of the Loan allocated to said result may be withdrawn in accordance with the provisions of said Section IV.

12. “General Conditions” means the “International Bank for Reconstruction and Development General Conditions for IBRD Financing, Program-for-Results Financing”, dated December 14, 2018 (revised on August 1, 2020).
13. “Home Care Program” or “HCP” means a mean-tested program within the benefit schemes administered by the Borrower’s Agency for Social Protection which provides caregivers for Beneficiaries requiring home care assistance.
14. “Inter-Ministerial Committee on Social Protection” or “ICSP” means the Borrower’s inter-ministerial committee on social protection to be established pursuant to Section I.A.1(a) of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
15. “Program Manual” means the Borrower’s manual referred to in Section I.B.1 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement, as said manual may be amended from time to time with the prior written agreement of the Association, and such term includes any annexes or schedules to such manual.
16. “Ministries, Departments and Agencies” or “MDAs” means the Borrower’s ministries, departments and budget dependent agencies involved in the Borrower’s intersectoral social protection strategy intended to ensure coordination and complementarity of services.
17. “Ministry of Education” or “MOE” means the Borrower’s Ministry of Education or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
18. “Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs” or “MESA” means the Borrower’s Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
19. “Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Trade” or “MFPEPT” means the Borrower’s Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Trade or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
20. “Ministry of Health” or “MOH” means the Borrower’s Ministry of Health or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
21. “Ministry for Local Government and Community Affairs” means the Borrower’s Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
22. “Office of the Auditor General” means the Borrower’s office mandated to carry out regulatory, financial and performance audits and established in terms of the Auditor General Act of 2010.
23. “Program Action Plan” means the action plan agreed between the Borrower and the Bank dated September 8, 2020, and referred to in Section I.C of Schedule 2 to this Agreement, as may be amended from time to time with the agreement of the Bank.
24. “SARS-CoV-2” means the coronavirus of the genus *Betacoronavirus*, identified in 2019.
25. “Seychelles Pension Fund” or “SPF” means the pension fund dedicated to managing and securing funds for retirement and related benefits for its members and established in terms of the Seychelles Pension Fund Act No. 8 of 2005.

26. “Signature Date” means the later of the two dates on which the Borrower and the Bank signed this Agreement and such definition applies to all references to “the date of the Loan Agreement” in the General Conditions.
27. “Social Benefits” means the social benefits as stipulated under the Recipient’s Social Security Act, 2010.
28. “Social Welfare Assistance” or “SWA” means the Borrower’s main poverty targeted social protection program providing social welfare assistance to Beneficiaries.
29. “Technical Working Group” or “TWG” means the Borrower’s technical working group to be established pursuant to Section I.A.1(c) of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
30. “Verification Protocol” means the verification protocol agreed between the Borrower and the Bank, dated September 8, 2020, setting forth the means by which the achievement of DLRs will be verified under the Project, as such Verification Protocol may be amended from time to time with the prior written agreement of the Bank.
31. “World Health Organization Disability Assessment Standards” or “WHODAS 2.0” means the World Health Organization’s practical, generic assessment instrument that can measure health and disability at population level or in clinical practice.