## **LOAN NUMBER 4689 RU**

# **Loan Agreement**

(Customs Development Project)

between

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION** 

and

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dated August 27, 2003

#### **LOAN NUMBER 4689 RU**

#### LOAN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, dated August 27, 2003, between RUSSIAN FEDERATION (the Borrower) and INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (the Bank).

WHEREAS 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 Bank to assist in the financing of the Project;

WHEREAS the Bank has agreed, on the basis, inter alia, of the foregoing, to extend the Loan to the Borrower upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement;

NOW THEREFORE the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

#### **ARTICLE I**

#### **General Conditions; Definitions**

Section 1.01. The "General Conditions Applicable to Loan and Guarantee Agreements for Single Currency Loans" of the Bank, dated May 30, 1995 (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 and in the Preamble to this Agreement have the respective meanings therein set forth and the following additional terms have the following meanings:

- (a) "Financial Monitoring Report" or "FMR" means each report prepared in accordance with Section 4.02 of this Agreement;
- (b) "Managing Council for Project Implementation" means the council for the Project established pursuant to SCC order No. 1388, of December 20, 2002.
- (c) "MOF" means the Borrower's Ministry of Finance, or any successor thereto:

- (d) "Operational Manual" means the manual adopted pursuant to Section 5.01 of this Agreement, setting forth procedures and rules related to Project implementation, as the same may be amended from time to time;
- (e) "SCC" means the Borrower's State Customs Committee, or any successor thereto;
- (f) "Special Account" means the account referred to in Section 2.02 (b) of this Agreement; and
  - (g) "WTO" means the World Trade Organization.

#### ARTICLE II

#### The Loan

Section 2.01. The Bank agrees to lend to the Borrower, on the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in the Loan Agreement, an amount equal to one hundred forty million dollars (\$140,000,000).

Section 2.02. (a) The amount of the Loan may be withdrawn from the Loan Account in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 1 to this Agreement for expenditures made (or, if the Bank shall so agree, to be made) in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 Loan.

- (b) The Borrower may, for the purposes of the Project open and maintain in Dollars a special deposit account in a bank acceptable to the Bank, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Bank, including appropriate protection against set-off, seizure and attachment. Deposits into, and payments out of, the Special Account shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 6 to this Agreement.
- Section 2.03. The Closing Date shall be June 30, 2009, or such later date as the Bank shall establish. The Bank shall promptly notify the Borrower of such later date.

Section 2.04. The Borrower shall pay to the Bank a fee in an amount equal to one percent (1%) of the amount of the Loan. Such fee shall be payable not later than sixty (60) days after the Effective Date.

Section 2.05. The Borrower shall pay to the Bank a commitment charge at the rate of three fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%) per annum on the principal amount of the Loan not withdrawn from time to time.

Section 2.06. (a) The Borrower shall pay interest on the principal amount of the Loan withdrawn and outstanding from time to time, at a rate for each Interest Period equal to LIBOR Base Rate plus LIBOR Total Spread.

## (b) For the purposes of this Section:

- (i) "Interest Period" means the initial period from and including the date of this Agreement to, but excluding, the first Interest Payment Date occurring thereafter, and after the initial period, each period from and including an Interest Payment Date to, but excluding the next following Interest Payment Date.
- (ii) "Interest Payment Date" means any date specified in Section 2.07 of this Agreement.
- (iii) "LIBOR Base Rate" means, for each Interest Period, the London interbank offered rate for six-month deposits in US dollars for value the first day of such Interest Period (or, in the case of the initial Interest Period, for value the Interest Payment Date occurring on or next preceding the first day of such Interest Period), as reasonably determined by the Bank and expressed as a percentage per annum.
- (iv) "LIBOR Total Spread" means, for each Interest Period: (A) three-fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%); (B) minus (or plus) the weighted average margin, for such Interest Period, below (or above) the London interbank offered rates, or other reference rates, for six-month deposits, in respect of the Bank's outstanding borrowings or portions thereof allocated by the Bank to fund single currency loans or portions thereof made by it that include the Loan; as reasonably determined by the Bank and expressed as a percentage per annum.
- (c) The Bank shall notify the Borrower of LIBOR Base Rate and LIBOR Total Spread for each Interest Period, promptly upon the determination thereof.
- (d) Whenever, in light of changes in market practice affecting the determination of the interest rates referred to in this Section 2.06, the Bank determines

that it is in the interest of its borrowers as a whole and of the Bank to apply a basis for determining the interest rates applicable to the Loan other than as provided in said Section, the Bank may modify the basis for determining the interest rates applicable to the Loan upon not less than six (6) months' notice to the Borrower of the new basis. The new basis shall become effective on the expiry of the notice period unless the Borrower notifies the Bank during said period of its objection thereto, in which case said modification shall not apply to the Loan.

Section 2.07. Interest and other charges shall be payable semiannually in arrears on May 15 and November 15 in each year.

Section 2.08. The Borrower shall repay the principal amount of the Loan in accordance with the amortization schedule set forth in Schedule 3 to this Agreement.

#### 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 obligations under the Loan Agreement, shall carry out the Project through SCC with due diligence and efficiency and in conformity with appropriate administrative, financial and technical practices; and shall provide, promptly as needed, the funds, facilities, services and other resources required for the Project.

- (b) Without limitation upon the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Section and except as the Borrower and the Bank shall otherwise agree, the Borrower shall carry out the Project in accordance with the Implementation Program set forth in Schedule 5 to this Agreement.
- Section 3.02. Except as the Bank shall otherwise agree, procurement of the goods and consultants' services required for the Project and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Loan shall be governed by the provisions of Schedule 4 to this Agreement.

Section 3.03. For the purposes of Section 9.07 of the General Conditions and without limitation thereto, the Borrower shall:

(a) prepare, on the basis of guidelines acceptable to the Bank and furnish to the Bank not later than six (6) months before the Closing Date or such later date as may be agreed for this purpose between the Borrower and the Bank, a plan designed to ensure the continued achievement of the Project's objectives; and

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

#### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **Financial Covenants**

Section 4.01. (a) The Borrower shall cause to be maintained a financial management system, including records and accounts, and cause to be prepared, financial statements, all in accordance with accounting standards acceptable to the Bank, consistently applied, adequate to reflect the operations, resources and expenditures related to the Project.

#### (b) The Borrower shall:

- (i) ensure that records, accounts and financial statements (statements of sources and uses of funds, and related statements) for the Project for each fiscal year are audited, in accordance with auditing standards consistently applied, by independent auditors acceptable to the Bank;
- (ii) cause to be furnished to the Bank as soon as available, but in any case not later than six (6) months after the end of each such year, (A) certified copies of the financial statements referred to in subparagraph (i) of this Section for such year so audited, and (B) an opinion on such statements, records and accounts, and report of such audit by said auditors of such scope and in such detail as the Bank shall have reasonably requested; and
- (iii) cause to be furnished to the Bank such other information concerning such records and accounts, and the audit thereof, and concerning said auditors, as the Bank shall from time to time reasonably request.
- (c) For all expenditures with respect to which withdrawals from the Loan Account were made on the basis of statements of expenditure, the Borrower shall:
  - (i) cause to be maintained, in accordance with paragraph (a) of this Section, records and separate accounts reflecting such expenditures are maintained;

- (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 Bank has received the audit report for the fiscal year in which the last withdrawal from the Loan Account was made; and
- (iii) enable the Bank's representatives to examine such records.

#### (d) The Borrower shall:

- (i) ensure that the records and accounts referred to in paragraph (c)
  (i) of this Section and those for the Special Account for each fiscal year are audited, in accordance with appropriate auditing principles consistently applied, by independent auditors acceptable to the Bank;
- (ii) cause to be furnished to the Bank as soon as available, but in any case not later than six (6) 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 Bank shall have reasonably requested, including a separate opinion by said auditors on the financial monitoring reports (FMRs) submitted during such fiscal year, and as to whether the 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) cause to be furnished to the Bank such other information concerning such records and accounts and the audit thereof as the Bank shall from time to time reasonably request.
- Section 4.02. (a) Without limitation upon the Borrower's progress reporting obligations set out in Paragraph D of Schedule 5 to this Agreement, the Borrower shall furnish to the Bank a financial monitoring report, in form and substance satisfactory to the Bank, 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 Loan;
  - (ii) describes physical progress in Project implementation, both cumulatively and for the period covered by said report; 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 Bank not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of the first full 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 full calendar quarter; thereafter, each FMR shall be furnished to the Bank not later than forty-five (45) days after each subsequent calendar quarter, and shall cover such calendar quarter.

#### **ARTICLE V**

#### **Effective Date; Termination**

Section 5.01. The following event is specified as an additional condition to the effectiveness of the Loan Agreement within the meaning of Section 12.01 (c) of the General Conditions, namely, that a Project Operational Manual governing the carrying out of the Project has been adopted by the Managing Council for Project Implementation satisfactory to the Bank.

Section 5.02. 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 or authorized Deputy Minister of Finance is designated as 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:

Ministry of Finance Ilyinka Street 9 103097 Moscow Russian Federation

Telex: Facsimile:

112008 (7-095) 925-0889

For the Bank:

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development 1818 H Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20433 United States of America

Cable address: Telex:

Facsimile:

INTBAFRAD 248423 (MCI) or (1-202)

477-6391

Washington, D.C. 64145 (MCI)

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

## **RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

By /s/ Mikhail V. Vanin

Authorized Representative

## INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

By /s/ Julian Schweitzer

Authorized Representative

## Withdrawal of the Proceeds of the Loan

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

	Category	Amount of the Loan Allocated (Expressed in Dollars)	% of Expenditures to be Financed
Part A			
(A1)	Goods and Technical Services, including local transportation and insurance	118,000,000	100% of foreign expenditures; 100% of local expenditures (ex-factory cost); 80% of local expenditures for other items procured locally
(A2) social Part B	Consultants' Services and Training  Project Management	15,000,000	87% of individual consultants; 100% of eligible charges; 79% of expenditures on consulting firms; 100% of training costs
(B1)	Goods	200,000	100% of foreign expenditures; 100% of local expenditures (ex-factory cost); 80% of local expenditures for

items procured locally

Amount of the % of Loan Allocated (Expressed **Expenditures** in Dollars) to be Financed Category (B2) Consulting Services, 2,800,000 of 87% individual including project audit consultants; 100% of eligible social charges; 79% of expenditures on consulting firms, including

project audit

(B3) Unallocated 4,000,000

TOTAL 140,000,000

## 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;
- (b) the term "local expenditures" means expenditures in the currency of the Borrower for goods or services supplied from the territory of the Borrower;
- (c) the term "Training" means Project related costs and expenses related to study tours, seminars, workshops and other training activities which are not carried out through a supply of goods, consultant services or technical services contract; and
- (d) the term "eligible social charges" comprises social security charges representing a payment for future benefit.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 above, no withdrawals shall be made in respect of: (a) payments made for expenditures prior to the date of this Agreement; and (b) any expenditures under any Category in the table in paragraph 1

above, unless the Bank has received payment in full of the front-end fee referred to in Section 2.04 of this Agreement.

4. The Bank may require withdrawals from the Loan Account to be made on the basis of statements of expenditure for expenditures, under such terms and conditions as the Bank shall specify by notice to the Borrower, for: (a) goods and technical services under contracts not exceeding \$100,000 equivalent each; (b) services of consulting firms under contracts not exceeding \$100,000 equivalent each; (c) services of individual consultants under contracts not exceeding \$50,000 equivalent each; and (d) training.

## **Description of the Project**

The objective of the Project is to carry out a systematic reform and modernization of the customs administration of the Borrower, with a view to: (a) promoting internationally acceptable practices for processing of international trade flows by Customs, so as to further integrate the Borrower into the world trading community, improve the investment climate, and secure the benefits from foreign and domestic investments in the economy; and (b) increase taxpayer compliance with the Customs Code and ensure uniformity in its application, to support macro-economic stability and increase transparency, timely transfer of collected revenues to the Federal budget, and equity and predictability in customs operations.

The Project consists of the following parts, subject to such modifications thereof as the Borrower and the Bank may agree upon from time to time to achieve such objectives:

## Part A: Customs Operations

#### 1. Customs Control and Clearance

Provision of support to SCC, consisting of consultants' services, training, and goods, for activities aimed at: developing a strategy to introduce selectivity in customs control during the clearance process based on risk analysis and management systems; improved cooperation between the customs authorities and the tax authorities, other executive authorities and the trading community to increase compliance, uniformity of application of the customs legislation and transparency of customs actions.

#### 2. Trade Facilitation

Provision of support to SCC, consisting of consultants' services, training, and goods, for the development of a comprehensive program to facilitate international trade, including preparation and development of new procedures, development and implementation of new mechanisms of cooperation between the customs administration and trade community, implementation of e-filing for customs declarations and dissemination of information on the new procedures.

## 3. <u>Fiscal Policy</u>

Provision of assistance to SCC, consisting of consultants' services, training, and goods, aimed at enhancing SCC capacity to provide information and analytical support to the government with respect to customs duties, customs exemptions and non-tariff customs policies, supporting development of methods and techniques for customs revenue forecasting, development and implementation of a new system of cost-based customs fees in compliance with WTO standards, improving the system for accounting of customs revenues paid to the federal budget and simplification and standardization of procedures for control over customs collection.

## 4. Legal Framework

Provision of legal technical assistance to SCC involving consultants' services, technical services and goods for training of staff; conducting a mass information campaign on the changes introduced to customs laws and rules with the adoption of the new Customs Code; preparation of legislative proposals to ensure consistency of the Russian legislation with WTO standards and the revised Kyoto Convention; introduction of a new administrative appeals system; improved coordination with the judiciary; measures to strengthen SCC capacity in presentation of customs cases in courts; and measures to enhance SCC law enforcement function.

#### Part B: Organizational Structure and Management

#### 1. Organizational Structure and Operational Management

Provision of technical assistance, consisting of consultants' services, training and goods, involving activities aimed at optimization of the organizational structure of customs authorities to improve coordination and links between different administrative levels, eliminate duplication of efforts, as well as to take into account new systems and procedures introduced by the project; improved performance evaluation through developing and promoting use of performance indicators system in key areas, introducing feedback systems and strengthening incentives systems for SCC staff.

#### 2. Financial Management

Provision of support to SCC, consisting of consultants' services, training, and goods, for the development of SCC automated system for budget planning based on improved principles of budgeting to allow greater flexibility in resource management and greater accountability for results; and introduction of a new financial management information system.

## 3. Human Resources Management and Training

Provision of technical assistance to SCC consisting of consultants' services, training, and goods, aimed at:

- (a) developing and implementing a comprehensive human resources development strategy; enhancing human resource management regulations, procedures and practices and developing proposals for improving the remuneration and non-monetary benefits of SCC staff and managers;
- (b) development and implementation of a human resource management information system;
- (c) carrying out a systemic training needs analysis and development and implementation of a comprehensive SCC training strategy; and
- (d) development of curriculum in subjects related to customs operations, development and implementation of distance learning courses, and strengthening the capacity of the Russian Customs Academy and regional SCC training centers.

## 4. <u>Improving the Integrity of the Customs Service</u>

Provision of consultants' services for the development and implementation of a comprehensive customs integrity strategy.

#### Part C: Information Technologies

#### 1. IT Infrastructure Development

Renewal/upgrading of IT equipment and operating system software, creating/upgrading LANs at customs offices and SCC units; provision of up to 20 relocatable complexes for inspection of large trucks and containers, risk minimization, and prevention of fraud and smuggling; and provision of training to staff in connection with the use of the special equipment.

- 2. Development and Implementation of the SCC Unified Automated Information System
- 3. Strengthening Executive Management
- 4. Improving Management of Application Software Development

- 5. Strengthening IT Human Resources
- 6. Transparency and Compliance with International Standards
- 7. Developing Customs Information Database

## Part D: Project Management

Provision of technical assistance consisting of consulting services and goods to strengthen the SCC capacity to manage project implementation and monitor its progress and impact.

\* \* \*

The Project is expected to be completed by December 31, 2008.

## **Amortization Schedule**

Date Payment Due

Payment of Principal (Expressed in Dollars)\*

On each May 15 and November 15

beginning November 15, 2008 through November 15, 2019

May 15, 2020

5,795,000

 $<sup>^{*}</sup>$  The figures in this column represent the amount in Dollars to be repaid, except as provided in Sections 4.04 (d) of the General Conditions.

#### **Procurement and Consultants' Services**

#### Section I. Procurement of Goods and Technical Services

#### Part A: General

Goods and technical services shall be procured in accordance with the provisions of Section I of the "Guidelines for Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits" published by the Bank in January 1995 and revised in January and August 1996, September 1997 and January 1999 (the Guidelines) and the following provisions of Section I of this Schedule.

#### Part B: International Competitive Bidding

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in Part C of this Section, goods and technical services shall be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of Section II of the Guidelines and paragraph 5 of Appendix 1 thereto.
- 2. The following provisions shall apply to goods and technical services to be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Part B.

#### (a) Grouping of contracts

To the extent practicable, contracts shall be grouped in bid packages estimated to cost \$100,000 equivalent or more each.

#### (b) Preference for domestically manufactured goods

The provisions of paragraphs 2.54 and 2.55 of the Guidelines and Appendix 2 thereto may be applied to goods manufactured in the territory of the Borrower.

#### Part C: Other Procurement Procedures

#### 1. National Competitive Bidding

Goods and technical services for training and automation estimated to cost less than \$300,000 equivalent per contract, up to an aggregate amount not to exceed

\$2,900,000 equivalent, may be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4 of the Guidelines.

## 2. <u>International Shopping</u>

Equipment (i.e., initial batches of automated work station equipment, audio visual and office equipment, and upgrading and updates of equipment and software) estimated to cost less than \$100,000 equivalent per contract, up to an aggregate amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 equivalent, may be procured under contracts awarded on the basis of international shopping procedures, after at least three quotations have been obtained, in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6 of the Guidelines.

### 3. <u>National Shopping</u>

Minor sundry items, small equipment, network and power cabling estimated to cost less than \$50,000 equivalent per contract up to an aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,400,000 equivalent, may be procured under contracts awarded on the basis of national shopping procedures, after at least three quotations have been obtained, in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6 of the Guidelines.

## 4. Direct Contracting

Goods and spare parts which must be procured as an extension of an existing contract, or must be purchased from the original supplier to be compatible with existing equipment, or are of a proprietary nature, or must be procured from a particular supplier as a condition of a performance guarantee, and costing \$1,200,000 equivalent or less in the aggregate, may, with the Bank's prior agreement, be procured in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3.7 of the Guidelines.

#### Part D: Review by the Bank of Procurement Decisions

#### 1. <u>Procurement Planning</u>

Prior to the issuance of any invitations to bid for contracts, the proposed procurement plan for the Project shall be furnished to the Bank for its review and approval, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of Appendix 1 to the Guidelines. Procurement of all goods and technical services shall be undertaken in accordance with such procurement plan as shall have been approved by the Bank, and with the provisions of said paragraph 1.

## 2. Prior Review

- (a) With respect to each contract estimated to cost the equivalent of \$100,000 or more, the procedures set forth in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Appendix 1 to the Guidelines shall apply.
- (b) With respect to: (i) the first three contracts for goods to be procured in accordance with procedures referred to in each of Parts C.2 and C.3 above; and (ii) all contracts to be procured in accordance with the procedures referred to in C.4 above, the following procedures shall apply:
  - (i) prior to the issuance of invitation to quote, the Borrower shall provide to the Bank a copy of the specifications and draft contract;
  - (ii) prior to the execution of any contract, the Borrower shall provide to the Bank a report on the comparison and evaluation of quotation(s) received; and
  - (iii) the procedures set forth in paragraphs 2(f), 2(g) and 3 of Appendix 1 to the Guidelines shall apply.

#### 3. Post Review

With respect to each contract not governed by paragraph 2 of this Part, the procedures set forth in paragraph 4 of Appendix 1 to the Guidelines shall apply.

#### Section II. Employment of Consultants

#### Part A: General

- 1. Consultants' services shall be procured in accordance with the provisions Sections I and IV of the "Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers" published by the Bank in January 1997 and revised in September 1997, January 1999 and May 2002 (the Consultant Guidelines) and the following provisions of Section II of this Schedule.
- 2. The short list of consultants for services estimated to cost less than \$200,000 equivalent per contract, may comprise entirely national consultants in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2.7 of the Consultant Guidelines.

## Part B: Quality- and Cost-based Selection

Except as otherwise provided in Part C of this Section, consultants' services shall be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of Section II of the Consultant Guidelines, paragraph 3 of Appendix 1 thereto, Appendix 2 thereto, and the provisions of paragraphs 3.13 through 3.18 thereof applicable to quality- and cost-based selection of consultants.

#### Part C: Other Procedures for the Selection of Consultants

## 1. Quality-based Selection

Services for contracting consulting services related to the design of a corporate telecommunications network and to the development of the architecture for data interchange, software, hardware and telecommunications specifications for the Customs payment accounting system shall be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3.1 through 3.4 of the Consultant Guidelines.

## 2. Selection Under a Fixed Budget

Services for contracting consulting services related to the development of pilot campaigns for dissemination of Customs-related information may be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3.1 and 3.5 of the Consultant Guidelines.

#### 3. Least-Cost Selection

Services for consulting related to project audits may be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3.1 and 3.6 of the Section III of the Consultant Guidelines.

#### 4. Selection Based on Consultants' Qualifications

Services for contracting consulting services related to development of interaction between customs authorities and trading community, design of new customs procedures, consulting services related to development of customs legal framework and appeals procedures services as agreed between the Borrower and the Bank, and estimated to cost less than \$100,000 per contract, may be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3.1 and 3.7 of the Consultant Guidelines.

## 5. <u>Public Institutions Engaged in Institutional Development or Public</u> Administration

Services of a unique or exceptional nature may, with the Bank's prior approval, be procured from Government-owned independent institutions specialized in the fields of institutional development or public administration in accordance with the selection procedures referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4 above if it has been established to the satisfaction of the Bank that no suitably qualified private sector consultant is readily available for the assignment.

#### 6. Individual Consultants

Specialized services related to contract consultants for highly specialized assignments, and for consultancies related to project management, procurement, financial management, etc., and estimated to cost less than \$3,000,000 in the aggregate, may be procured under contracts awarded to individual consultants in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 5.1 through 5.3 of the Consultant Guidelines.

## Part D: Review by the Bank of the Selection of Consultants

## 1. Selection Planning

Prior to the issuance to consultants of any requests for proposals, the proposed plan for the selection of consultants under the Project shall be furnished to the Bank for its review and approval, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of Appendix 1 to the Consultant Guidelines. Selection of all consultants' services shall be undertaken in accordance with such selection plan as shall have been approved by the Bank, and with the provisions of said paragraph 1.

#### 2. Prior Review

- (a) With respect to each contract for the employment of consulting firms estimated to cost the equivalent of \$200,000 or more, the procedures set forth in paragraphs 1, 2 (other than the third subparagraph of paragraph 2(a)) and 5 of Appendix 1 to the Consultant Guidelines shall apply.
- (b) With respect to each contract for the employment of consulting firms estimated to cost the equivalent of \$100,000 or more, but less than the equivalent of \$200,000, the procedures set forth in paragraphs 1, 2 (other than the second subparagraph of paragraph 2(a)) and 5 of Appendix 1 to the Consultant Guidelines shall apply.

- (c) With respect to each contract for the employment of individual consultants estimated to cost the equivalent of \$50,000 or more, the qualifications, experience, terms of reference and terms of employment of the consultants shall be furnished to the Bank for its prior review and approval. The contract shall be awarded only after the said approval shall have been given.
- (d) With respect to each contract for the employment of consulting firms and individual consultants not referred to in paragraphs (b) and (c) above, terms of reference shall be furnished to the Bank for its prior review and approval. The contract shall be awarded only after the said approval shall have been given.

#### 3. Post Review

With respect to each contract not governed by paragraph 2 of this Part, the procedures set forth in paragraph 4 of Appendix 1 to the Consultant Guidelines shall apply.

#### Section III. Procurement of Other Services

- 1. Services related to external study tours for SCC staff, specialized project and change management training and conference participation estimated to cost less than \$1,000,000 equivalent in the aggregate may be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of 3.8 through 3.11 of the Consultant Guidelines.
- 2. Services of suitably qualified agencies to provide "travel logistic services," estimated to cost less than \$1,300,000 in the aggregate, may be hired after comparison of not less than three substantially responsive price quotations.

#### **Implementation Program**

#### A. Arrangements for Project Implementation and Management

- 1. The Borrower through SCC shall maintain and support the Managing Council for Project Implementation established on December 20, 2002, as per SCC Order No. 1388, chaired by the First Deputy Chairman of SCC, and comprising representatives of the SCC, other relevant federal authorities and organizations. The Managing Council for Project Implementation shall be responsible for an overall oversight and Project coordination.
- 2. The Borrower through SCC shall maintain and support the Project Management Directorate, and Coordination and Expert Council within the SCC established on December 20, 2002, as per SCC Order No. 1388, with staff and resources acceptable to the Bank. The Project Management Directorate shall be responsible for: (i) provision of methodological support for Project implementation; (ii) appointment of coordinators for the Project components; (iii) review of terms of reference and technical specifications for goods and services to be procured under the Project; (iv) provision of technical support to the SCC in the preparation of bidding documents; (v) review of the reports, Project plans and FMRs; and (vi) preparation of documents for consideration by the Managing Council for Project Implementation referred to in paragraph 1 of this Schedule.
- 3. SCC shall be responsible for ensuring the efficient overall implementation of the Project with appropriate management, qualified staff, and provision of adequate facilities and resources.
- 4. The Borrower shall carry out the Project in accordance with the provisions of the Operational Manual; and shall not amend, abrogate or waive the provisions of the Operational Manual without agreement with the Bank.

## B. Training

- 1. Regarding the training programs to be carried out under the Project, the Borrower shall:
- (a) select the beneficiaries of such training programs in accordance with criteria satisfactory to the Bank and providers in accordance with procedures agreed with the Bank; and

(b) not later than December 31 of each year, exchange views with the Bank on the training programs to be carried out in the following calendar year.

## C. Counterpart Funding Requirements for the Project

Without limitation upon any of its obligations under Section 3.01 of this Agreement, the Borrower shall ensure that sufficient annual allocations will be made with the Borrower's budget for the Borrower's counterpart contribution to the costs of the Project.

## D. Monitoring and Evaluation

The Borrower shall:

- (a) maintain policies and procedures adequate to enable it to monitor and evaluate on an ongoing basis, in accordance with indicators acceptable to the Bank, the carrying out of the Project and the achievement of the objectives thereof;
- (b) furnish to the Bank, on or about March 31, 2006, 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 Bank, by June 1, 2006, or such later date as the Bank shall request, the report referred to in sub-paragraph (b) of this paragraph, 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 Bank's views on the matter.

#### **Special Account**

- 1. For the purposes of this Schedule:
- (a) the term "eligible Categories" means Categories (A1), (A2), (B1) and (B2) 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 Loan 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 \$2,000,000 to be withdrawn from the Loan Account and deposited into the Special Account pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) of this Schedule, provided, however, that unless the Bank shall otherwise agree, the Authorized Allocation shall be limited to an amount equivalent to \$1,000,000 until the aggregate amount of withdrawals from the Loan plus the total amount of all outstanding special commitments entered into by the Bank pursuant to Section 5.02 of the General Conditions shall be equal to or exceed the equivalent of \$5,000,000.
- 2. Payments out of the respective Special Account shall be made exclusively for eligible expenditures in accordance with the provisions of this Schedule.
- 3. After the Bank has received evidence satisfactory to it that the respective Special Account has been duly opened, withdrawals of the Authorized Allocation and subsequent withdrawals to replenish the respective Special Account shall be made as follows:
- (a) For withdrawals of the Authorized Allocation, the Borrower shall furnish to the Bank a request or requests for deposit into the respective 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 Bank shall, on behalf of the Borrower, withdraw from the Loan Account and deposit into the respective Special Account such amount or amounts as the Borrower shall have requested.
  - (b) (i) For replenishment of the respective Special Account, the Borrower shall furnish to the Bank requests for deposits into the respective Special Account at such intervals as the Bank shall specify.

- (ii) Prior to or at the time of each such request, the Borrower shall furnish to the Bank 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 Bank shall, on behalf of the Borrower, withdraw from the Loan 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 Bank from the Loan 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 Special Account, the Borrower shall, at such time as the Bank shall reasonably request, furnish to the Bank 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 Bank shall not be required to make further deposits into the Special Account:
- (a) if, at any time, the Bank shall have determined that all further withdrawals should be made by the Borrower directly from the Loan 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 Bank, 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 Bank pursuant to said Section in respect of the audit of the records and accounts for the Special Account;
- (c) if, at any time, the Bank 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 Loan Account pursuant to the provisions of Section 6.02 of the General Conditions; or
- (d) once the total unwithdrawn amount of the Loan allocated to the eligible Categories, minus the total amount of all outstanding special commitments entered into by the Bank 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 Loan Account of the remaining unwithdrawn amount of the Loan allocated to the eligible Categories shall follow such procedures as the Bank shall specify by notice to the Borrower. Such further withdrawals shall be made only after and to the extent that the Bank 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 Bank 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 Bank, the Borrower shall, promptly upon notice from the Bank: (A) provide such additional evidence as the Bank may request; or (B) deposit into the Special Account (or, if the Bank shall so request, refund to the Bank) an amount equal to the amount of such payment or the portion thereof not so eligible or justified. Unless the Bank shall otherwise agree, no further deposit by the Bank 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 Bank 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 Bank, refund to the Bank such outstanding amount.
- (c) The Borrower may, upon notice to the Bank, refund to the Bank all or any portion of the funds on deposit in the Special Account.
- (d) Refunds to the Bank made pursuant to paragraphs 6 (a), (b) and (c) of this Schedule shall be credited to the Loan Account for subsequent withdrawal or for cancellation in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Agreement, including the General Conditions.