

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS



THE WORLD BANK
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Feb 9, 2018

Mr. Marcel A. de Souza
President
Economic Community of West African States
Abuja
Federal Republic of Nigeria

Re: Africa: Advance Agreement for the Preparation of the Proposed
West Africa Identification for Development Project
Project Preparation Advance No. V1470

Dear Sir:

In response to the request for financial assistance made on behalf of the Economic Community of West African States ("Recipient" or "ECOWAS"), I am pleased to inform you that the International Development Association ("World Bank") proposes to extend to the Recipient, an advance out of the World Bank's Project Preparation Facility in an amount not to exceed six hundred fifty thousand Dollars (\$650,000) ("Advance") on the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in this letter agreement ("Agreement"), which includes the attached Annex, to assist in financing the activities described in the Annex ("Activities"). The objective of the Activities is to facilitate the preparation of a proposed project designed to promote the development of robust and inclusive identification systems, with mutual recognition that facilitate access to services ("Project"), for the carrying out of which the Recipient has requested the World Bank's financial assistance.

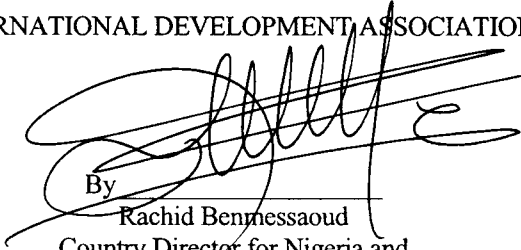
The Recipient represents, by confirming its agreement below, that: (a) it understands that the provision of the Advance does not constitute or imply any commitment on the part of IBRD or IDA to assist in financing the Project; and (b) it is authorized to enter into this Agreement and to carry out the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

Please confirm the Recipient's agreement to the foregoing by having an authorized official of the Recipient sign and date the enclosed copy of this Agreement, and returning it to the World

Bank. Upon receipt by the World Bank of this countersigned copy, this Agreement shall become effective as of the date of the countersignature; provided, however, that the offer of this Agreement shall be deemed withdrawn if the World Bank has not received this countersigned copy within ninety (90) days after the date of signature of this Agreement by the World Bank, unless the World Bank has established a later date for such purpose.

Very truly yours,

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION



By
Rachid Benmessaoud
Country Director for Nigeria and
Coordinating Director for West African Regional Integration Program
Africa Region

AGREED:
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS)

By: 
Authorized Representative

Name: EDWARD SINGHATEY

Title: VICE - PRESIDENT

Date: FEBRUARY 16, 2018

Enclosures:

- (1) "Standard Conditions for Advances Made by the World Bank under its Project Preparation Facility", dated July 31, 2010.
- (2) Disbursement Letter for the Advance of the same date as this Agreement, together with "World Bank Disbursement Guidelines for Projects", dated May 1, 2006.
- (3) "Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants", dated October 15, 2006 and revised in January 2011 and as of July 1, 2016.

Article I
Standard Conditions; Definitions

1.01. **Standard Conditions.** The “Standard Conditions for Advances Made by the World Bank under its Project Preparation Facility”, dated July 31, 2010 (“Standard Conditions”), constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

1.02. **Definitions.** Unless the context requires otherwise, the capitalized terms used in this Agreement have the meanings ascribed to them in the Standard Conditions or in this Agreement, and the following additional terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) “ECOWAS Member States” means Burkina Faso, the Republic of Benin, the Republic of Cape Verde, the Republic Cote d’Ivoire, Republic of The Gambia, the Republic of Ghana, the Republic of Guinea, the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, the Republic of Liberia, the Republic of Mali, the Republic of Niger, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Republic Senegal, the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Republic of Togo.

(b) “ECOWAS Treaty” means the treaty signed in Lagos State, Nigeria on May 28, 1975 to create an economic and monetary union for promoting economic growth and development in West Africa.

(c) “ENBIC” means ECOWAS national biometric identification card.

Article II
Execution of the Activities

2.01. **Description of the Activities.** The Activities for which the Advance is provided consist of the following, namely, provision of technical assistance to, *inter alia*: (a) develop and implement change management and strategic communication plans and support to host meetings and discussions between stakeholders within and across the participating ECOWAS Member States; (b) develop a roadmap for each participating ECOWAS Member States to progress from a foundational identification system to ENBIC; (c) develop a baseline and indicators to monitor the progress towards achievement of foundational identification systems and ENBIC across ECOWAS Member States; and (d) support the preparation of the Project’s procurement and financial management aspects.

2.02. **Execution of the Activities Generally.** The Recipient declares its commitment to the objectives of the Activities. To this end, the Recipient shall carry out the Activities in accordance with the provisions of: (a) Article II of the Standard Conditions; (b) this Article II; and (c) the “Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants”, dated October 15, 2006 and revised in January 2011 and as of July 1, 2016.

2.03. **Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation of the Activities.** The Recipient shall monitor and evaluate the progress of the Activities in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.08 of the Standard Conditions.

2.04. **Financial Management.** (a) The Recipient shall ensure that a financial management system is maintained in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.09 of the Standard Conditions.

(b) The Recipient shall ensure that interim un-audited financial reports for the Activities are prepared and furnished to the World Bank not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of each calendar quarter, covering the quarter, in form and substance satisfactory to the World Bank.

(c) The Recipient shall have its Financial Statements audited in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.09 (b) of the Standard Conditions.

(i) If, on or before the Refinancing Date, a Refinancing Agreement has been executed by all of its parties, the Recipient shall have the Financial Statements included in the first audit of financial statements required under the Refinancing Agreement.

(ii) If, by the Refinancing Date, no Refinancing Agreement has been executed by all of its parties, such audit of the Financial Statements shall cover the period of the Advance, commencing with the fiscal year in which the first withdrawal under the Advance was made. The audited Financial Statements for such period shall be furnished to the World Bank not later than six (6) months after the end of the Recipient's fiscal year in which the Refinancing Date occurs.

(iii) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this Section, the World Bank may request an audit of the Financial Statements prior to the Refinancing Date, covering such period as is indicated in its request. The audited Financial Statements for such period shall be furnished to the World Bank not later than six (6) months after the end of such period.

2.05. **Procurement**

All non-consulting services and consulting services required for the Activities and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Advance shall be procured in accordance with the requirements set forth or referred to in the "World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" dated July 2016, revised November 2017 ("Procurement Regulations") and the provisions of the Recipient's procurement plan for the Activities dated December 8, 2017 ("Procurement Plan") provided for under Section IV of the Procurement Regulations, as the same may be updated from time to time in agreement with the World Bank.

Article III Withdrawal of the Advance

3.01. **Eligible Expenditures.** The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Advance in accordance with the provisions of: (a) Article III of the Standard Conditions; (b) this Section; and (c) such additional instructions as the World Bank may specify by notice to the Recipient (including the "Disbursement Guidelines for Investment Project Financing" dated February 2017, as revised from time to time by the World Bank and as made applicable to this Agreement pursuant to such instructions), to finance Eligible Expenditures as set forth in the following table. The table specifies each category of Eligible Expenditures that may be financed out of the proceeds of the Advance ("Category"), the amount of the Advance allocated to each Category, and the percentage of expenditures to be financed for Eligible Expenditures in each Category:

Category	Amount of the Advance Allocated (expressed in Dollars)	Percentage of Expenditures to be Financed (inclusive of Taxes)
(1) Non-consulting services and consulting services under the Activities	650,000	100%
TOTAL AMOUNT	650,000	

3.02. **Withdrawal Conditions.** Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3.01 of this Agreement, no withdrawal shall be made for payments made prior to the date of countersignature of this Agreement by the Recipient.

3.03. **Refinancing Date.** The Refinancing Date is June 30, 2018.

**Article IV
Terms of the Advance**

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

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

**Article V
Additional Remedies**

5.01. **Additional Events of Suspension.** The Additional Events of Suspension consist of the following:

(a) IBRD or IDA has declared the Recipient ineligible to receive proceeds of any financing made by IBRD or IDA or otherwise to participate in the preparation or implementation of any project financed in whole or in part by IBRD or IDA, as a result of a declaration by another financier that the Recipient is ineligible to receive proceeds of financings made by such financier or otherwise to participate in the preparation or implementation of any project financed in whole or in part by such financier as a result of a determination by such financier that the Implementing Entity has engaged in fraudulent, corrupt, coercive or collusive practices in connection with the use of the proceeds of a financing made by such financier.

(b) The ECOWAS Treaty has been amended, suspended, abrogated, repealed or waived so as to affect materially and adversely the ability of the Recipient to perform any of its obligations under the Advance Agreement.

5.02. **Additional Events of Acceleration.** The Additional Event of Acceleration consists of the following, namely that the event specified in paragraph (a) of Section 5.01 of this Agreement occurs.

Article VI
Recipient's Representative; Addresses

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

6.02. **Recipient's Address.** The Recipient's Address referred to in Section 9.01 of the Standard Conditions is:

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
101, Yakubu Gowon Crescent
Asokoro District
PMB 401 Abuja
Nigeria

Facsimile:

(239) (9) 3143005 / (234) (9) 3147646

6.03. **World Bank's Address.** The World Bank's Address referred to in Section 9.01 of the Standard Conditions is:

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

Telex:

Facsimile:

248423 (MCI) or
64145 (MCI)

(1)-202-477-6391