

CONFORMED COPY

CREDIT NUMBER 3234 BEN

Project Agreement

(Decentralized City Management Project)

between

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

and

AGENCE D'EXECUTION DES TRAVAUX URBAINS

Dated July 1, 1999

CREDIT NUMBER 3234 BEN

PROJECT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, dated July 1, 1999, between INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (the Association) and AGENCE D'EXECUTION DES TRAVAUX URBAINS (AGETUR).

WHEREAS (A) by the Development Credit Agreement of even date herewith between Republic of Benin (the Borrower) and the Association, the Association has agreed to make available to the Borrower an amount in various currencies equivalent to eighteen million nine hundred thousand Special Drawing Rights (SDR 18,900,000), on the terms and conditions set forth in the Development Credit Agreement, but only on conditions that AGETUR agree to undertake such obligations toward the Association as are set forth in this Agreement;

(B) by a subsidiary agreement to be entered into between the Borrower and AGETUR, part of the proceeds of the credit provided for under the Development Credit Agreement will be made available to AGETUR on the terms and conditions set forth in said AGETUR Subsidiary Agreement; and

WHEREAS AGETUR, in consideration of the Association's entering into the Development Credit Agreement with the Borrower, has agreed to undertake the obligations set forth in this Agreement;

NOW THEREFORE the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

Definitions

Section 1.01. Unless the context otherwise requires, the several terms defined in the Development Credit Agreement, the Preamble to this Agreement and in the General Conditions (as so defined) have the respective meanings therein set forth.

## ARTICLE II

### Execution of the Project

Section 2.01. (a) AGETUR declares its commitment to the objectives of the Project as set forth in Schedule 2 to the Development Credit Agreement and, to this end, shall carry out Parts B, C.1 and C.2\* of the Project with due diligence and efficiency and in conformity with appropriate administrative, financial, engineering and technical practices, and shall provide, or cause to be provided, promptly as needed, the funds, facilities, services and other resources required for Parts B, C.1 and C.2\* of the Project.

(b) Without limitation upon the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Section and except as the Association and AGETUR shall otherwise agree, AGETUR shall carry out Parts B, C.1 and C.2\* of the Project in accordance with the Implementation Program set forth in Schedule 4 to the Development Credit Agreement.

Section 2.02. Except as the Association shall otherwise agree, procurement of the goods, works and consultants' services required for the Project and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit shall be governed by the provisions of Schedule 3 to the Development Credit Agreement.

Section 2.03. (a) AGETUR shall carry out the obligations set forth in Sections 9.03, 9.04, 9.05, 9.06 and 9.07 of the General Conditions (relating to insurance, use of goods and services, plans and schedules, records and reports, and maintenance, respectively) in respect of the Project Agreement.

(b) For the purposes of Section 9.07 of the General Conditions and without limitation thereto, AGETUR shall:

- (i) prepare jointly with the CUs, on the basis of guidelines acceptable to the Association and furnish to the Association not later than six (6) months after the Closing Date or such later date as may be agreed for this purpose between the Association and AGETUR, a plan for the future operation of Parts B, C.1 and C.2\* of the Project; and
- (ii) afford the Association a reasonable opportunity to exchange views with AGETUR on said plan.

Section 2.04. AGETUR shall duly perform all its obligations under the AGETUR Subsidiary Agreement. Except as the Association shall otherwise agree, AGETUR shall not take or concur in any action which would have the effect of amending, abrogating, assigning or waiving the AGETUR Subsidiary Agreement or any provision thereof.

Section 2.05. (a) AGETUR shall, at the request of the Association, exchange views with the Association with regard to the progress of the Project, the performance of its obligations under this Agreement and under the AGETUR Subsidiary Agreement, and other matters relating to the purposes of the Credit.

(b) AGETUR shall promptly inform the Association of any condition which interferes or threatens to interfere with the progress of the Project, the accomplishment of the purposes of the Credit, or the performance by AGETUR of its obligations under this Agreement and under the AGETUR Subsidiary Agreement.

## ARTICLE III

### Management and Operations of AGETUR

Section 3.01 AGETUR shall carry on its operations and conduct its affairs in accordance with sound administrative, financial, technical and environmental practices under the supervision of qualified and experienced management assisted by competent staff in adequate numbers.

Section 3.02. AGETUR shall at all times operate and maintain its assets, equipment and other property and, from time to time, promptly as needed, make all necessary repairs and renewals thereof, all in accordance with sound engineering, financial, technical and environmental practices.

Section 3.03. AGETUR shall take out and maintain with responsible insurers, or make other provision satisfactory to the Association for, insurance against such risks

and in such amounts as shall be consistent with appropriate practice.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### Financial Covenants

Section 4.01. (a) AGETUR shall maintain records and accounts adequate to reflect in accordance with sound accounting practices its operations and financial condition.

(b) AGETUR shall:

(i) have its records, accounts and financial statements (balance sheets, statements of income and expenses and related statements) for each fiscal year, including Special Account A and the AGETUR Project Account, audited, in accordance with appropriate auditing principles consistently applied, by independent auditors acceptable to the Association;

(ii) furnish to the Association as soon as available, but in any case not later than six months after the end of each such year, (A) certified copies of its financial statements for such year as so audited, and (B) the report of such audit by said auditors of such scope and in such detail as the Association shall have reasonably requested; and

(iii) furnish to the Association such other information concerning said records, accounts and financial statements as well as the audit thereof, as the Association shall from time to time reasonably request.

Section 4.02. (a) Without limitations upon the provisions of Section 4.01 of this Agreement, AGETUR shall carry out a time-bound action plan acceptable to the Association for the strengthening of its financial system for the Project in order to enable the Borrower, not later than June 30, 2001, or such later date as the Association shall agree, to prepare quarterly Project management reports, acceptable to the Association. Each such report shall:

(i) set forth actual sources and application of funds for the Project, both cumulatively and for the period covered by said report, and projected sources and application of funds for the Project for the six-month period following the period covered by said report, and show separately expenditures financed out of the proceeds of the Credit during the six-month period following the period covered by said report;

(ii) describe physical progress in Project implementation, both cumulatively and for the period covered by said report, and explain variances between the actual and previously forecast implementation targets; and

(iii) set forth the status of procurement under the Project and expenditures under contracts financed out of the proceeds of the Credit, as at the end of the period covered by said report.

(b) Upon completion of the action plan referred to in paragraph (a) of this Section, AGETUR shall prepare, in accordance with guidelines acceptable to the Association, and furnish to the Association not later than 45 days after the end of each calendar quarter a Project Management Report for such period.

#### ARTICLE V

##### Effective Date; Termination; Cancellation and Suspension

Section 5.01. This Agreement shall come into force and effect on the date upon which the Development Credit Agreement becomes effective.

Section 5.02. (a) This Agreement and all obligations of the Association and of AGETUR thereunder shall terminate on the earlier of the following two dates:

(i) the date on which the Development Credit Agreement shall terminate in accordance with its terms; or

(ii) the date fifteen years after the date of this Agreement.

(b) If the Development Credit Agreement terminates in accordance with its terms before the date specified in paragraph (a) (ii) of this Section, the Association shall promptly notify AGETUR of this event.

Section 5.03. All the provisions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect notwithstanding any cancellation or suspension under the General Conditions.

#### ARTICLE VI

##### Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 6.01. Any notice or request required or permitted to be given or made under this Agreement and any agreement between the parties contemplated by this Agreement shall be in writing. Such notice or request shall be deemed to have been duly given or made when it shall be delivered by hand or by mail, telegram, cable, telex or radiogram to the party to which it is required or permitted to be given or made at such party's address hereinafter specified or at such other address as such party shall have designated by notice to the party giving such notice or making such request. The addresses so specified are:

For the Association:

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

Cable address:

INDEVAS  
Washington, D.C.

Telex:

248423 (MCI) or  
64145 (MCI)

For AGETUR:

Agence d' Exécution des Travaux Urbains  
01 BP 2780 R.P.  
Cotonou,  
République du Bénin

Section 6.02. Any action required or permitted to be taken, and any document required or permitted to be executed, under this Agreement on behalf of AGETUR may be taken or executed by the Director General of AGETUR or such other person or persons as the Director General shall designate in writing, and AGETUR shall furnish to the Association sufficient evidence of the authority and the authenticated specimen signature of each such person.

Section 6.03. This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original, and all collectively but one instrument.

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.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By /s/ Theodore Ahlers

Regional Vice President  
Africa

AGENCE D'EXECUTION DES TRAVAUX URBAINS

By /s/ Lucien Tonoukouin

Authorized Representative

