

CONFORMED COPY

LOAN NUMBER 4181 RU

Loan Agreement

(Electricity Sector Reform Support Project)

between

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

and

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dated October 9, 1997

LOAN NUMBER 4181 RU

LOAN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, dated October 9, 1997, between RUSSIAN FEDERATION (the Borrower) and the INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (the Bank).

WHEREAS (A) the Borrower, having satisfied itself as to the feasibility and priority of the Project described in Schedule 2 to this Agreement, has requested the Bank to assist in the financing of the Project; and

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

Section 6.03 is modified to read:

"Section 6.03. Cancellation by the Bank. If (a) the right of the Borrower to make withdrawals from the Loan Account shall have been suspended

with respect to any amount of the Loan for a continuous period of thirty days, or (b) at any time, the Bank determines, after consultation with the Borrower, that an amount of the Loan will not be required to finance the Project's costs to be financed out of the proceeds of the Loan, or (c) at any time, the Bank determines, with respect to any contract to be financed out of the proceeds of the Loan, that corrupt or fraudulent practices were engaged in by representatives of the Borrower or of a beneficiary of the Loan during the procurement or the execution of such contract, without the Borrower having taken timely and appropriate action satisfactory to the Bank to remedy the situation, and establishes the amount of expenditures in respect of such contract which would otherwise have been eligible for financing out of the proceeds of the Loan, or (d) at any time, the Bank determines that the procurement of any contract to be financed out of the proceeds of the Loan is inconsistent with the procedures set forth or referred to in the Loan Agreement and establishes the amount of expenditures in respect of such contract which would otherwise have been eligible for financing out of the proceeds of the Loan, or (e) after the Closing Date, an amount of the Loan shall remain unwithdrawn from the Loan Account, or (f) the Bank shall have received notice from the Guarantor pursuant to Section 6.07 with respect to an amount of the Loan, the Bank may, by notice to the Borrower and the Guarantor, terminate the right of the Borrower to make withdrawals with respect to such amount. Upon the giving of such notice, such amount of the Loan shall be canceled."

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

(a) "Special Account" means the account referred to in Section 2.02 (b) of this Agreement;

(b) "ERIU" means the Electricity Reform Implementation Unit of the Borrower established under the Inter-Ministerial Working Group which was established under Government Order No. BN-P6-13678 dated May 6, 1997.

(c) "RAO" means RAO EES Rossi, the Russian Unified Electric Systems Company, a legal entity of the Borrower.

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 forty million Dollars (\$40,000,000).

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 described in Schedule 2 to this Agreement 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 Commercial Bank acceptable to the Association on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Bank. 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 December 31, 2000, 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 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 2.05. (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 2.06 of this Agreement.

(iii) "LIBOR Base Rate" means, for each Interest Period, the London interbank offered rate for six-month deposits in 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) one half of one percent (1/2 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 2.05, 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 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 2.06. Interest and other charges shall be payable semiannually on February 15 and August 15 in each year.

Section 2.07. 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, shall carry out the Project through ERIU with due diligence and efficiency and in conformity with appropriate administrative, financial, engineering, environmental, 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 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 9.08 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 Bank not later than six (6) months after 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 sustainability of the Project; 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 maintain or cause to be maintained records and accounts adequate to reflect in accordance with sound accounting practices the operations, resources and expenditures in respect of the Project of the departments or agencies of the Borrower responsible for carrying out the Project or any part thereof.

(b) The Borrower shall:

(i) have the records and accounts referred to in paragraph (a) of this Section including those for the Special Account for each fiscal year audited, in accordance with appropriate auditing principles consistently applied, by independent auditors acceptable to the Bank;

(ii) furnish 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; and

(iii) furnish to the Bank such other information concerning said records and accounts and the audit thereof 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) maintain or cause to be maintained, in accordance with paragraph (a) of this Section, records and accounts reflecting such expenditures;

(ii) retain, 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, all records (contracts, orders, invoices, bills, receipts and other documents) evidencing such expenditures;

(iii) enable the Bank's representatives to examine such records; and

(iv) ensure that such records and accounts are included in the annual audit referred to in paragraph (b) of this Section and that the report of such audit contains a separate opinion by said auditors 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.

ARTICLE V

Termination

Section 5.01. The date ninety (90) days after the date of this Agreement is

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; and

(b) the term "local expenditures" means expenditures in the currency of the Borrower or for goods or services supplied from the territory of the Borrower.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 above, no withdrawals shall be made in respect of payments made for expenditures prior to the date 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 for: (i) goods and services provided by consulting firms under contracts not exceeding \$200,000 equivalent; and (ii) services provided by individual consultants under contracts not exceeding \$50,000 equivalent, under such terms and conditions as the Bank shall specify by notice to the Borrower.

SCHEDULE 2

Description of the Project

The objectives of the Project are to assist in: (i) refining and developing the Russian electricity sector reform program; (ii) implementing the said reform program; and (iii) commercializing the Russian electricity sector companies.

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: RAO Commercializing and Restructuring

The provision of consultants' services, training and equipment to introduce modern management practices and restructure the operations of RAO.

Part B: Transmission Network

The provision of consultants' services, training and equipment to develop RAO's operations in high voltage transmission grid into a financially viable commercial entity.

Part C: Generation

The provision of consultants' services, training and equipment to develop independent power generation companies.

Part D: Wholesale Market Operations

The provision of consultants' services, training and equipment to assist in establishing an organization for the wholesale market of power.

Part E: Federal Energy Commission

The provision of consultants' services, training and equipment to improve the internal organization and operation of the Federal Energy Commission of the Borrower.

Part F: Regional Energy Commissions

The provision of consultants' services, training and equipment to improve the internal organization and operation of the Regional Energy Commissions of the Borrower.

Part G: Local Energy Companies

The provision of consultants' services, training and equipment to improve the internal organization and operation of the local energy companies in the territory of

the Borrower.

Part H: ERIU

The provision of consultants' services, training and equipment to support the operation of the ERIU for implementation of the electricity sector reform program.

* * *

The Project is expected to be completed by June 30, 2000.

SCHEDULE 3

Amortization Schedule

Date Payment Due	Payment of Principal (expressed in Dollars)*
On each February 15 and August 15 beginning February 15 , 2003 through February 15 , 2014	1 ,665,000
On August 15 ,2014	1 ,705,000

* 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.

SCHEDULE 4

Procurement and Consultants' Services

Section I. Procurement of Goods

Goods shall be procured under contracts awarded on the basis of national shopping procedures in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6 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.

Section II. Employment of Consultants

Part A: General

Consultants' services shall be procured in accordance with the provisions of the Introduction and Section IV of the "Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers" published by the Bank in January 1997 (the Consultant Guidelines) and the following provisions of Section II of this Schedule.

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 Consultants' 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. Single source selection procedures for an expert panel and other similar requirements subject to a maximum amount not to exceed \$2.5 million under Part H of the Project, may, with the Bank's prior agreement, be procured in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3.8 through 3.11 of the Consultants' Guidelines.

2. Individual Consultants Services for Project's coordination under Part H of the Project shall be procured under contracts awarded to individual consultants in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 5.1 through 5.3 of the Consultants' 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 Consultants' 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 Consultants' Guidelines shall apply.

(b) 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 said approval shall have been given.

3. Post Review

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

SCHEDULE 5

Implementation Program

1. The Borrower shall:

(a) maintain policies and procedures adequate to enable it to monitor and evaluate on an ongoing basis, in accordance with indicators satisfactory to the Bank, the carrying out of the Project and the achievement of the objectives thereof;

(b) prepare, under terms of reference satisfactory to the Bank, and furnish to the Bank, on or about March 31 and September 30 of each year, 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 April 30 and October 31 of each year, or such later date as the Bank shall request, the report referred to in subparagraph (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 views on the matter.

SCHEDULE 6

Special Account

1. For the purposes of this Schedule:

(a) the term "eligible Categories" means Categories (1) and (2) 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 \$1,000,000 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 \$500,000 until the aggregate amount of withdrawals from the Loan Account 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 \$2,500,000.

2. Payments out of the 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 Special Account has been duly opened, withdrawals of the Authorized Allocation and subsequent withdrawals to replenish the 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 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 Special Account such amount or amounts as the Borrower shall have requested.

(b) (i) For replenishment of the Special Account, the Borrower shall furnish to the Bank requests for deposits into the 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.

