

The World Bank

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

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CONFORMED COPY

February 1, 2011

H.E. Mr. Ken Edward Kandodo
Minister of Finance
Ministry of Finance
P.O. Box 30049
Lilongwe
Republic of Malawi

Re: Republic of Malawi: Advance Agreement for Preparation of
Proposed Financial Sector Technical Assistance Project (FSTAP)
Project Preparation Advance No. Q7550

Honorable Minister:

In response to the request for financial assistance made on behalf of the Republic of Malawi ("Recipient"), I am pleased to inform you that the International Development Association proposes to extend to the Recipient an advance out of the World Bank's Project Preparation Facility in an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand Dollars (\$500,000) ("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 support the development of a stable financial system that provides broad based financial access to the population of the Recipient's territory ("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.

Very truly yours,
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By: /s/ Olivier Godron
Olivier Godron
Acting Country Director for Malawi
Africa Region

AGREED:
REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

By: /s/ Ken Edward Kandodo
Authorized Representative

Name: Hon. Ken Edward Kandodo

Title: Minister of Finance

Date: February 21, 2011

Enclosures:

(1) "Standard Conditions for Advances Made by the World Bank under its Project Preparation Facility", dated July 31, 2010; and

(2) Disbursement Letter for the Advance, together with "World Bank Disbursement Guidelines for Projects", dated May 1, 2006.

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 terms have the following meaning:

- (a) “PMU” or “Project Management Unit” means the unit within the Reserve Bank of Malawi responsible for the implementation of the Project, with resources and with qualified and experienced staff, under terms and conditions satisfactory to the World Bank.
- (b) “RBM” means “Reserve Bank of Malawi”.
- (c) “RTGS” or “Real Time Gross Settlement” means a system for large-value interbank funds transfers which lessens settlement risks.

Article II

Execution of the Activities

2.01. **Description of the Activities.** The Activities for which the Advance is provided consist of:

- i) Preparing the procurement plan and implementation manual for the Project;
- ii) undertaking a comprehensive risk assessment of critical elements related to the RTGS upgrade path;
- iii) conducting a financial literacy survey of households in the Recipient’s territory;
- iv) developing a resolution framework and associated regulations for insurances companies;
- v) advising and drawing up options on the future of the Recipient’s switch centre;
- vi) developing the design and structure of the national pensions scheme based on the Recipient’s pensions bill; and
- vii) supporting staffing of the RBM PMU.

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 through the Reserve Bank of Malawi 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, with the modifications set forth in the Appendix to this Agreement.

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 Sections 2.09 (b) of the Standard Conditions. Such audit of the Financial Statements shall cover the period of one fiscal year of the Recipient, 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 months after the end of such period.

(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 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 months after the end of such period.

2.05. **Procurement**

(a) **General.** All consultant 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 in Sections I and IV of the “Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers” published by the World Bank in May 2004 and revised in October 2006 and May 2010 (“Consultant Guidelines”).

(b) **Definitions.** The capitalized terms used in the following paragraphs of this Section to describe particular procurement methods or methods of review by the World Bank of particular contracts, refer to the corresponding method described in the Consultant Guidelines.

(c) **Particular Methods of Procurement of Consultants’ Services**

(i) Except as otherwise provided in sub-paragraph (ii) below, consultants' services shall be procured under contracts awarded on the basis of Quality- and Cost-based Selection.

(ii) The following methods, other than Quality- and Cost-based Selection, may be used for the procurement of consultants' services for those assignments which are specified in the Procurement Plan: (A) Quality-based Selection; (B) Selection under a Fixed Budget; (C) Least Cost Selection; (D) Selection based on Consultants' Qualifications; (E) Single-source Selection; and (F) Selection of Individual Consultants.

(d) Review by the World Bank of Procurement Decisions. Except as the World Bank shall otherwise determine by notice to the Recipient, the following contracts shall be subject to Prior Review by the World Bank: (i) first contract for selection of individual or firm regardless of selection method; (ii) contracts for consulting firms estimated to cost US\$100,000 or more equivalent; (iii) contracts for individual consultants estimated to cost US\$50,000 or more equivalent; and (iv) all single source/direct contracting estimated to cost US\$1,000 or more equivalent. All other contracts shall be subject to Post Review by 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 "World Bank Disbursement Guidelines for Projects" dated May 2006, 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)
Consultants' services	500,000	100%
TOTAL AMOUNT	500,000	

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 August 30, 2011.

Article IV Terms of the Advance

4.01. **Service Charge.** The Recipient shall pay a service charge on the Withdrawn Advance Balance at the rate of three-fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%) per annum. The service charge shall accrue from the respective dates on which amounts of the Advance are withdrawn and shall be paid in arrears in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.02 of this Agreement. Service charges shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

4.02. **Repayment.** The Withdrawn Advance Balance shall be repaid by the Recipient to the World Bank (together with any service charges accrued thereon) in accordance with the provisions of Article IV of the Standard Conditions and the following provisions:

(a) **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 repaid to the World Bank (together with any service charges accrued on the Advance to the date of repayment) as soon as the Refinancing Agreement becomes effective, by means of a withdrawal by the World Bank of an amount of the Refinancing Proceeds equivalent to the Withdrawn Advance Balance plus such service charges, in accordance with the provisions of the Refinancing Agreement.

(b) **Repayment in the absence of a Refinancing Agreement:** 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:

- (i) if the amount of the Withdrawn Advance Balance does not exceed \$50,000, it shall be repaid by the Recipient to the World Bank (together with service charges accrued on the Withdrawn Advance Balance to the date of repayment) on such date as the World Bank shall specify in a notice to the Recipient, which shall in no event be earlier than 60 days following the date of dispatch of such notice; and
- (ii) if the amount of the Withdrawn Advance Balance exceeds \$50,000, it (together with service charges accrued on the Withdrawn Advance Balance to the Notice Date) (the "Aggregate Balance") shall be paid by the Recipient to the World Bank in ten approximately equal semiannual installments, in the amounts and on the dates ("Payment Dates") which the World Bank shall specify in a notice to the Recipient. In no event shall the first Payment Date be set earlier than 60 days following the date ("Notice Date") of dispatch of such notice. The Recipient shall pay a service charge on the Aggregate Balance at the rate of three-fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%) per annum, payable in arrears on each Payment Date. The service charge shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

Article V

Recipient's Representative; Addresses

5.01. **Recipient's Representative.** The Recipient's Representative referred to in Section 9.02 of the Standard Conditions is its Minister responsible of Finance.

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

Minister of Finance
Ministry of Finance
Lilongwe
Republic of Malawi

Cable:	Telex:	Facsimile:
FINANCE Lilongwe	44407 MI	265-1-789173

5.03. **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

Cable:	Telex:	Facsimile:
INDEVAS Washington, D.C.	248423 (MCI) or 64145 (MCI)	1-202-477-6391

APPENDIX
Modifications to the Anti-Corruption Guidelines

The modifications to the Anti-Corruption Guidelines are as follows:

1. Section 5 is re-numbered as Section 5(a) and a new Section 5(b) is added to read as follows:

“...(b) These Guidelines also provide for the sanctions and related actions to be imposed by the Bank on Borrowers (other than the Member Country) and all other individuals or entities who are recipients of Loan proceeds, in the event that the Borrower or the individual or entity has been debarred by another financier as a result of a determination by such financier that the Borrower or the individual or 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.”

2. Section 11(a) is modified to read as follows:

“... (a) sanction in accordance with prevailing Bank’s sanctions policies and procedures (fn13) a Borrower (other than a Member Country) (fn 14) or an individual or entity, including (but not limited to) declaring such Borrower, individual or entity ineligible publicly, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time: (i) to be awarded a Bank-financed contract; (ii) to benefit from a Bank-financed contract, financially or otherwise, for example as a sub-contractor; and (iii) to otherwise participate in the preparation or implementation of the project or any other project financed, in whole or in part, by the Bank, if at any time the Bank determines (fn 15) that such Borrower, individual or entity has engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive practices in connection with the use of loan proceeds, or if another financier with which the Bank has entered into an agreement for the mutual enforcement of debarment decisions has declared such person or entity 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 Borrower or the individual or 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.”

Footnotes:

“13. An individual or entity may be declared ineligible to be awarded a Bank financed contract upon completion of sanctions proceedings pursuant to the Bank’s sanctions policies and procedures, or under the procedures of temporary suspension or early temporary suspension in connection with an ongoing sanctions proceeding, or following a sanction by another financier with whom the Bank has entered into a cross debarment agreement, as a result of a determination by such financier that the firm or individual has engaged in fraudulent, corrupt, coercive or collusive practices in connection with the use of the proceeds of a financing made by such financier.”

“14. Member Country includes officials and employees of the national government or of any of its political or administrative subdivisions, and government owned enterprises and agencies that are

not eligible to bid under paragraph 1.8(b) of the Procurement Guidelines or participate under paragraph 1.11(c) of the Consultant Guidelines.”

“15. The Bank has established a Sanctions Board, and related procedures, for the purpose of making such determinations. The procedures of the Sanctions Board sets forth the full set of sanctions available to the Bank. In addition, the Bank has adopted an internal protocol outlining the process to be followed in implementing debarments by other financiers, and explaining how cross-debarments will be posted on the Bank’s website and otherwise be made known to staff and other stakeholders.”