

CONFORMED COPY

CREDIT NUMBER 2945-ER

Development Credit Agreement

(Road Sector Engineering Project)

between

STATE OF ERITREA

and

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Dated April 24, 1997

CREDIT NUMBER 2945-ER

DEVELOPMENT CREDIT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, dated April 24, 1997, between STATE OF ERITREA (the Borrower) and INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (the Association).

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

WHEREAS the Association has agreed on the basis, inter alia, of the foregoing to extend the Credit 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 Development Credit Agreements" of the Association, dated January 1, 1985, with the modifications set forth below (the General Conditions) constitute an integral part of this Agreement:

- (a) The last sentence of Section 3.02 is deleted.

(b) The second sentence of Section 5.01 is modified to read:

"Except as the Association and the Borrower shall otherwise agree, no withdrawals shall be made: (a) on account of expenditures in the territories of any country which is not a member of the Bank or for goods produced in, or services supplied from, such territories; or (b) for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of the Association, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations."

(c) Section 6.03 is modified to read:

"Section 6.03. Cancellation by the Association. If (a) the right of the Borrower to make withdrawals from the Credit Account shall have been suspended with respect to any amount of the Credit for a continuous period of thirty days, or (b) at any time, the Association determines, after consultation with the Borrower, that an amount of the Credit will not be required to finance the Project's costs to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit, or (c) at any time, the Association determines, with respect to any contract to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit, that corrupt or fraudulent practices were engaged in by representatives of the Borrower or of a beneficiary of the Credit during the procurement or the execution of such contract, without the Borrower having taken timely and appropriate action satisfactory to the Association 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 Credit, or (d) at any time, the Association determines that the procurement of any contract to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit is inconsistent with the procedures set forth or referred to in the Development Credit 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 Credit, or (e) after the Closing Date, an amount of the Credit shall remain unwithdrawn from the Credit Account, the Association may, by notice to the Borrower, terminate the right of the Borrower to make withdrawals with respect to such amount. Upon the giving of such notice, such amount of the Credit shall be cancelled."

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) "First Project Year" means the twelve-month period beginning from the Effective Date and ending twelve months thereafter and "Project Year" means any twelve-month period beginning at the end of the First Project Year or the end of subsequent Project Years;

(b) "MOC" means the Borrower's Ministry of Construction;

(c) "RTCD" means Road Transport Construction Department of MOC; and

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

ARTICLE II

The Credit

Section 2.01. The Association agrees to lend to the Borrower, on the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in the Development Credit Agreement, an amount in various currencies equivalent to four million four hundred thousand Special Drawing Rights (SDR 4,400,000).

Section 2.02. (a) The amount of the Credit may be withdrawn from the Credit Account in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 1 to this Agreement for

expenditures made (or, if the Association 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 Credit.

(b) The Borrower may, for the purposes of the Project, open and maintain in dollars a separate special deposit account in its central bank on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Association. Deposits into, and payments out of, the Special Account shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 4 to this Agreement.

Section 2.03. The Closing Date shall be December 31, 2000 or such later date as the Association shall establish. The Association shall promptly notify the Borrower of such later date.

Section 2.04. (a) The Borrower shall pay to the Association a commitment charge on the principal amount of the Credit not withdrawn from time to time at a rate to be set by the Association as of June 30 of each year, but not to exceed the rate of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) per annum.

(b) The commitment charge shall accrue: (i) from the date sixty days after the date of this Agreement (the accrual date) to the respective dates on which amounts shall be withdrawn by the Borrower from the Credit Account or canceled; and (ii) at the rate set as of the June 30 immediately preceding the accrual date and at such other rates as may be set from time to time thereafter pursuant to paragraph (a) above. The rate set as of June 30 in each year shall be applied from the next date in that year specified in Section 2.06 of this Agreement.

(c) The commitment charge shall be paid: (i) at such places as the Association shall reasonably request; (ii) without restrictions of any kind imposed by, or in the territory of, the Borrower; and (iii) in the currency specified in this Agreement for the purposes of Section 4.02 of the General Conditions or in such other eligible currency or currencies as may from time to time be designated or selected pursuant to the provisions of that Section.

Section 2.05. The Borrower shall pay to the Association a service charge at the rate of three-fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%) per annum on the principal amount of the Credit withdrawn and outstanding from time to time.

Section 2.06. Commitment charges and service charges shall be payable semiannually on January 15 and July 15 in each year.

Section 2.07. (a) Subject to paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) below, the Borrower shall repay the principal amount of the Credit in semiannual installments payable on each January 15 and July 15 commencing July 15, 2007 and ending January 15, 2037. Each installment to, and including the installment payable on January 15, 2017, shall be one percent (1%) of such principal amount, and each installment thereafter shall be two percent (2%) of such principal amount.

(b) Whenever: (i) the Borrower's per capita gross national product (GNP), as determined by the Association, shall have exceeded for three consecutive years the level established annually by the Association for determining eligibility to access the Association's resources; and (ii) the Bank shall consider the Borrower creditworthy for Bank lending, the Association may, subsequent to the review and approval thereof by the Executive Directors of the Association and after due consideration by them of the development of the Borrower's economy, modify the repayment of installments under paragraph (a) above by: (A) requiring the Borrower to repay twice the amount of each such installment not yet due until the principal amount of the Credit shall have been repaid; and (B) requiring the Borrower to commence repayment of the principal amount of the Credit as of the first semiannual payment date referred to in paragraph (a) above falling six months or more after the date on which the Association notifies the Borrower that the events set out in this paragraph (b) have occurred, provided, however, that there shall be a grace period of a minimum of five years on such repayment of principal.

(c) If so requested by the Borrower, the Association may revise the modification referred to in paragraph (b) above to include, in lieu of some or all of the increase in the amounts of such installments, the payment of interest at an annual

rate agreed with the Association on the principal amount of the Credit withdrawn and outstanding from time to time, provided that, in the judgment of the Association, such revision shall not change the grant element obtained under the above-mentioned repayment modification.

(d) If, at any time after a modification of terms pursuant to paragraph (b) above, the Association determines that the Borrower's economic condition has deteriorated significantly, the Association may, if so requested by the Borrower, further modify the terms of repayment to conform to the schedule of installments as provided in paragraph (a) above.

Section 2.08. The currency of the United States of America is hereby specified for the purposes of Section 4.02 of the General Conditions.

ARTICLE III

Execution of the Project

Section 3.01. 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 RTCD with due diligence and efficiency and in conformity with appropriate technical, administrative and engineering practices, and shall provide, promptly as needed, the funds, facilities, services and other resources required for the Project.

Section 3.02. Except as the Association shall otherwise agree, procurement of the goods 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 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 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 Borrower and the Association, a plan for the future operation of the Project; and

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

Section 3.04. The Borrower shall, not later than December 31, 1998, take all necessary measures, acceptable to the Association, to ensure that the positions of mechanic trainer and operator trainer have been included in the authorized staffing positions in RTCD and have been suitably graded within the RTCD salary structure.

Section 3.05. 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 Association, the carrying out of the Project and the achievement of the objectives thereof;

(b) prepare under terms of reference, satisfactory to the Association, and furnish to the Association, on or about November 30, 1998, 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 Association, by December 31, 1998, or such later date as the Association shall request, the report referred to in paragraph (b) of this Section, 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 Association's views on the matter.

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 Association;

(ii) furnish to the Association, as soon as available, but in any case not later than six months after the end of each year, 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 and accounts and the audit thereof as the Association shall from time to time reasonably request.

(c) For all expenditures with respect to which withdrawals from the Credit 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 Association has received the audit report for the fiscal year in which the last withdrawal from the Credit Account was made, all records (contracts, orders, invoices, bills, receipts and other documents) evidencing such expenditures;

(iii) enable the Association'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

Effective Date; Termination

Section 5.01. The following events are specified as additional conditions to the effectiveness of the Development Credit Agreement within the meaning of Section 12.01 (b) of the General Conditions.

(a) The Borrower has furnished evidence, satisfactory to the Association, that the local costs, for the First Project Year equivalent to \$500,000, have been included in the Borrower's budget for fiscal year 1998;

(b) the Borrower has nominated its counterpart staff, including four civil engineers and two technicians, assigned to work full-time with the technical advisors, in connection with Parts B and C of the Project; and

(c) the Borrower has finalized the complete engineering designs for the construction of the mechanic training facility.

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 in charge of finance of the Borrower 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 and Development
P. O. Box 895
Asmara
State of Eritrea

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)

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.

STATE OF ERITREA

By /s/ Gebreslassie Yosief

Authorized Representative

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By /s/ Callisto Madavo

Regional Vice President
Africa

SCHEDULE 1

Withdrawal of the Proceeds of the Credit

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

Category	Amount of the Credit Allocated (Expressed in SDR Equivalent)	% of Expenditures to be Financed
(1) Goods	980,000	100% of foreign expenditures
(2) Consultants' services	2,860,000	100% of foreign expenditures
(3) Training	50,000	100% of foreign expenditures
(4) Unallocated	510,000	
	4,400,000	
TOTAL	=====	

2. For the purposes of this Schedule: 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.

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 Association may require withdrawals from the Credit Account to be made on the basis of statements of expenditure for expenditures for goods and services of consulting firms under contracts costing less than \$100,000 equivalent each, for all expenditures related to training, and for services of individual consultants under contracts costing less than \$50,000 equivalent each, under such terms and conditions as the Association shall specify by notice to the Borrower.

SCHEDULE 2

Description of the Project

The objectives of the Project are to: (i) provide the economic and design analysis for the improvement of the road infrastructure within the territory of the Borrower; (ii) establish contract administration capacity within RTCD; and (iii) improve the efficiency of RTCD's force account maintenance and construction capacity.

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

Part A:

Carrying out of feasibility study and design for the rehabilitation of the Keren-Barentu-Mendefera road and track.

Part B:

Preparation of a national bridge inventory and carrying out of condition survey, strength analysis and rehabilitation program thereof.

Part C:

1. Provision of technical advisory services in the areas of contract administration, procurement, and spare parts management.

2. Provision of training to equipment mechanics and operators.
3. Acquisition of spare parts and equipment for the benefit of RTCD.

* * *

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

SCHEDULE 3

Procurement and Consultants' Services

Section I. Procurement of Goods

Part A: General

Goods 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 (the Guidelines) and the following provisions of this Section, as applicable.

Part B: Limited International Bidding

1. Spare parts may be procured under contracts awarded through limited international bidding procedures on the basis of evaluation and comparison of bids invited from a list of at least three qualified suppliers eligible under the Guidelines and in accordance with the procedures set forth in Sections I and II of the Guidelines (excluding paragraphs 2.8, 2.9, 2.55 and 2.56 thereof).

2. Direct Contracting

Spare parts which are of a proprietary nature and costing \$50,000 equivalent or less in the aggregate, may, with the Association's prior Agreement, be procured in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3.7 of the Guidelines.

IAPSO

3. All vehicles, computers and office equipment estimated to cost less than \$100,000 equivalent per contract, up to an aggregate amount not to exceed \$500,000 equivalent, may be procured through the UNDP's Inter-Agency Procurement Services (IAPSO).

Part C: Review by the Association of Procurement Decisions

1. Procurement Planning

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

2. Prior Review

With respect to each contract for goods 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.

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

1. Consultants' services shall be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of the "Guidelines for the Use of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers and by The World Bank as Executing Agency" published by the Bank in August 1981 (the Consultant Guidelines). For complex, time-based assignments, such contracts shall be based on the standard form of contract for consultants' services issued by the Bank, with such modifications thereto as shall have been agreed by the Association. Where no relevant standard contract documents have been issued by the Bank, other standard forms acceptable to the Association shall be used.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Section, the provisions of the Consultant Guidelines requiring prior Association review or approval of budgets, short lists, selection procedures, letters of invitation, proposals, evaluation reports and contracts, shall not apply to (a) contracts for the employment of consulting firms estimated to cost less than \$100,000 equivalent each or (b) contracts for the employment of individual consultants estimated to cost less than \$50,000 equivalent each. However, said exceptions to prior Association review shall not apply to (a) the terms of reference for such contracts, (b) single-source selection of consulting firms, (c) assignments of a critical nature, as reasonably determined by the Association, (d) amendments to contracts for the employment of consulting firms raising the contract value to \$100,000 equivalent or above, or (e) amendments to contracts for the employment of individual consultants raising the contract value to \$50,000 equivalent or above.

SCHEDULE 4

Special Account

1. For the purposes of this Schedule:

(a) the term "eligible Categories" means Categories (1) through (4) 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 Credit 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 \$400,000 in respect of the Special Account to be withdrawn from the Credit Account and deposited into the Special Account pursuant to paragraph 3(a) of this Schedule, provided, however, that unless the Association shall otherwise agree, the Authorized Allocation shall be limited to an amount equivalent to \$200,000 plus the total amount of all outstanding special commitments entered into by the Association pursuant to Section 5.02 of the General Conditions shall be equal to or exceed the equivalent of SDR 2,000,000.

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 Association 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 Association 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 Association shall, on behalf of the Borrower, withdraw from the Credit 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 Association requests for deposits into the Special Account at such intervals as the Association shall specify.

(ii) Prior to or at the time of each such request, the

Borrower shall furnish to the Association 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 Association shall, on behalf of the Borrower, withdraw from the Credit 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 Association from the Credit 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 Association shall reasonably request, furnish to the Association 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 Association shall not be required to make further deposits into the Special Account:

(a) if, at any time, the Association shall have determined that all further withdrawals should be made by the Borrower directly from the Credit 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 Association, 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 Association pursuant to said Section in respect of the audit of the records and accounts for the Special Account;

(c) if, at any time, the Association 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 Credit Account pursuant to the provisions of Section 6.02 of the General Conditions; or

(d) once the total unwithdrawn amount of the Credit allocated to the eligible Categories for the respective Special Account, minus the total amount of all outstanding special commitments entered into by the Association pursuant to Section 5.02 of the General Conditions, shall equal the equivalent of twice the amount of the Authorized Allocation.

Thereafter, withdrawal from the Credit Account of the remaining unwithdrawn amount of the Credit allocated to the eligible Categories for the Project shall follow such procedures as the Association shall specify by notice to the Borrower. Such further withdrawals shall be made only after and to the extent that the Association 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 Association 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 Association, the Borrower shall, promptly upon notice from the Association: (A) provide such additional evidence as the Association may request; or (B) deposit into the Special Account (or, if the Association shall so request, refund to the Association) an amount equal to the amount of such payment or the portion thereof not so eligible or justified. Unless the Association shall otherwise agree, no further deposit by the Association 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 Association 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 Association, refund to the Association such outstanding amount.

(c) The Borrower may, upon notice to the Association, refund to the Association all or any portion of the funds on deposit in the Special Account.

(d) Refunds to the Association made pursuant to paragraph 6 (a), (b) and (c) of this Schedule shall be credited to the Credit Account for subsequent withdrawal or for cancellation in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Agreement, including the General Conditions.

