

CONFORMED COPY

CREDIT NUMBER 2825 AM

Development Credit Agreement

Structural Adjustment Technical Assistance Project

between

REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

and

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Dated March 4, 1996

CREDIT NUMBER 2825 AM

DEVELOPMENT CREDIT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, dated March 4, 1996, between REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA (the Borrower) and INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (the Association).

WHEREAS (A) the Borrower having satisfied itself as to the feasibility and priority of Project described in Schedule 2 to this Agreement, and requesting assistance from the Association in the financing of the Project;

(B) the Association has received a letter dated January 25, 1996 from the Borrower describing a program of actions, objectives and policies designed to achieve structural adjustment of the Borrower's economy (hereinafter called the Program), declaring the Borrower's commitment to the execution of the Program and the Association has agreed to finance urgently needed imports and services required during the execution of the Program on the terms and conditions set forth in an agreement of even date herewith between the Borrower and the Association (the Structural Adjustment Credit Agreement); and

(C) on the basis, inter alia, of the foregoing, the Association has decided in support of the Program to provide such assistance to the Borrower by making this Structural Adjustment Technical Assistance Credit 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 thereof

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

(a) Section 5.01 is modified to read:

"The Borrower shall be entitled to withdraw from the Credit Account the proceeds of the Credit in accordance with the provisions of the Development Credit Agreement and of these General Conditions. 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 Association 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"; and

(b) The last sentence of Section 3.02 is deleted.

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) "ACMC" means the Aid Coordination and Management Center established within the Borrower's Ministry of Economy;

(b) "CBA" means Central Bank of Armenia; and

(c) "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 this Agreement, an amount in various currencies equivalent to two million six hundred thousand Special Drawing Rights (SDR 2,600,000).

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 shall open and maintain in dollars a Special Account in a commercial bank on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Association, including appropriate protection against set-off, seizure or attachment. Deposits into and 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, 1997 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 (60) 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 and service charges shall be payable semiannually on March 15 and September 15 in each year.

Section 2.07. (a) Subject to paragraphs (b) and (c) below, the Borrower shall repay the principal amount of the Credit in semi-annual installments payable on each March 15 and September 15 commencing March 15, 2006 and ending September 15, 2030. Each installment to and including the installment payable on September 15, 2015 shall be one and one-fourth percent (1-1/4%) of such principal amount, and each installment thereafter shall be two and one-half percent (2-1/2%) of such principal amount.

(b) Whenever:

- (i) the Borrower's gross national product per capita, as determined by the Association, shall have exceeded \$790 in constant 1985 dollars for five consecutive years; and
- (ii) the Association 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 terms of repayment of installments under paragraph (a) above by 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. If so requested by the Borrower, the Association may revise such modification 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.

(c) 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

Particular Covenants

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 with due diligence and efficiency and in conformity with appropriate administrative, technical and financial 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 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 9.08 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.

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 consistently maintained sound accounting practices the expenditures financed out of the proceeds of the Credit.

(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 such year, a certified copy of 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, or customs certificates, as appropriate) 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 audits 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

Additional Event of Suspension

Section 5.01. Pursuant to Section 6.02 (h) of the General Conditions, the following additional event is specified, namely, that a situation has arisen which shall make it improbable that the Program, or a significant part thereof, will be carried out.

ARTICLE VI

Termination

Section 6.01. 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 VII

Representative of the Borrower; Addresses

Section 7.01. The Minister of Finance of the Borrower is designated as representative of the Borrower for the purposes of Section 11.03 of the General Conditions.

Section 7.02. The following addresses are specified for the purposes of Section 11.01 of the General Conditions:

For the Borrower:

Ministry of Finance
1 Government House
Republic Square
Yerevan 375010
Armenia

Telex:

243331 LADA SU

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:

197688 (TRT),
248423 (RCA),
64145 (WUI) or
82987 (FTCC)

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.

REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

By /s/ Rouben Shougarian

Authorized Representative

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By /s/ Yukon Huang

Acting Regional Vice President
Europe and Central Asia

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:

Categories	Amount of the Credit Allocated Expressed in SDR Equivalent	% of Expenditures to be Financed
(1) Goods	500,000	100% of foreign expenditures; 100% of local expenditures (ex-factory cost) and 85% of local expenditures for other items procured locally.
(2) Consultants' services and training	2,050,000	100%
(3) Operating Costs of the ACMC	50,000	100%
TOTAL	2,600,000 =====	

2. For the purpose 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;

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

(c) the term "operating costs" means the incremental costs related to the operation of ACMC as a result of the Project, including communication costs, translation of Project documentation, office supplies and minor office equipment, but excluding salaries.

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. Withdrawals in respect of:

(a) expenditures under Category (1) under contracts for goods estimated to cost the equivalent of less than \$300,000 per contract;

(b) expenditures under Category (2) under contracts for the employment of consulting firms estimated to cost the equivalent of less than \$150,000;

(c) expenditures under Category (2) under contracts for the employment of individual consultants estimated to cost the equivalent of less than \$50,000, and

(d) expenditures under Category (3) for operating costs of the ACMC, may be permitted by the Association upon the basis of statements of expenditure under such terms and conditions as the Association shall specify.

SCHEDULE 2

Description of the Project

The objective of the Project is to strengthen the Borrower's institutional capacity to implement the measures under the Program.

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

(1) Privatization and post-privatization

Provision of technical assistance to support the implementation of the Privatization Program and the establishment of the framework for implementing bankruptcy and liquidation laws and procedures under the Program.

(2) Financial Sector

(a) Provision of technical assistance to establish a pilot work-out program in two selected commercial banks to assess the practicability of loan recovery work inside major banks.

(b) Provision of technical assistance to support the bank resolution unit within the CBA.

(3) Civil Service Reform

Provision of technical assistance to support the implementation of a public service review and functional reviews of key ministries of the Borrower.

(4) Resource Mobilization for Customs Department

Provision of goods and technical assistance to assist in improving the revenue performance of the Customs Department of the Borrower.

(5) Aid Coordination and Management Center

Provision of goods and services to assist in the operation of the ACMC.

* * *

The Project is expected to be completed by June 30, 1997.

SCHEDULE 3

Procurement and Consultants' Services

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

Part B: International Competitive Bidding

1. Except as otherwise provided in Part C of this Section, goods shall be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of Section II of the Guidelines and paragraph 5 of Appendix 1 thereto.

2. The provisions of paragraphs 2.54 and 2.55 of the Guidelines and Appendix 2 thereto shall apply to goods manufactured in the territory of the Borrower and procured under contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Part B1.

Part C: Other Procurement Procedures

International Shopping

Goods estimated to cost less than \$250,000 equivalent per contract, up to an aggregate amount not to exceed \$300,000 equivalent, may be procured under contracts awarded on the basis of international shopping procedures in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6 of the Guidelines.

Part D: 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 to be awarded under Part B and the first contract to be awarded under Part C, 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 Association, with such modifications thereto as shall have been agreed by the Association. Where no relevant standard contract documents have been issued by the Association, 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; 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), (2) and (3) 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 during the execution of 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 \$1,000,000 to be withdrawn from the Credit Account and deposited into the Special Account pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) of this Schedule.

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 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; or

(b) if the Borrower shall have failed to furnish to the Association, within the period of time specified in Section 3.04 (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; or

(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, minus the total amount of all outstanding special commitments entered into by the Association pursuant to Section 5.02 of the General Conditions with respect to the Technical Assistance Project, 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 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; and (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 paragraphs 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.

