

**CONFORMED COPY**

**CREDIT NUMBER 3670-ALB**

# **Development Credit Agreement**

**(Poverty Reduction Support Credit)**

**between**

**ALBANIA**

**and**

**INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**

**Dated June 26, 2002**

**CREDIT NUMBER 3670-ALB**

## **DEVELOPMENT CREDIT AGREEMENT**

AGREEMENT, dated June 26, 2002, between Albania (the Borrower) and INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (the Association).

WHEREAS (A) the Association has received a letter dated May 7, 2002, (the Letter of Development Policy) from the Borrower describing a program of action, objectives and policies designed to eradicate poverty from the Borrower's territory (hereinafter called the Program), declaring the Borrower's commitment to the execution of the Program, and requesting assistance

from the Association in support of the Program during the execution thereof;

(B) the Borrower has carried out the measures and taken the actions described in Schedule 2 to this Agreement to the satisfaction of the Association; 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 the Credit as hereinafter provided;

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, (as amended through October 6, 1999) with the modifications thereof set forth below (the General Conditions) constitute an integral part of this Agreement:

(a) Section 2.01, paragraph 12, is modified to read:

“‘Project’ means the program, referred to in the Preamble to the Development Credit Agreement, in support of which the Credit is made”;

(b) Section 4.01 is modified to read:

“Except as the Borrower and the Association shall otherwise agree, withdrawals from the Credit Account shall be made in the currency of the deposit account specified in Section 2.02 of the Development Credit Agreement”;

(c) Section 5.01 is modified to read:

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

(d) The last sentence of Section 5.03 is deleted;

(e) Section 9.06 (c) is modified to read:

“(c) Not later than six months after the Closing Date or such later date as may be

agreed for this purpose between the Borrower and the Association, the Borrower shall prepare and furnish to the Association a report, of such scope and in such detail as the Association shall reasonably request, on the execution of the program referred to in the Preamble to the Development Credit Agreement, the performance by the Borrower and the Association of their respective obligations under the Development Credit Agreement and the accomplishment of the purposes of the Credit”; and

(f) Section 9.04 is deleted and Sections 9.05, 9.06 (as modified above), 9.07 and 9.08 are renumbered, respectively, Sections 9.04, 9.05, 9.06 and 9.07.

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

- (a) “Bank of Albania” means the central bank of the Borrower;
- (b) “Deposit Account” means the account referred to in Section 2.02 (b) of this Agreement;
- (c) “FY” means the fiscal year of the Borrower beginning on January 1 and ending December 31 of each year;
- (d) “INSTAT” means the Institute of Statistics of the Borrower;
- (e) “GPRS” means the Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy of the Borrower;
- (f) “Letter of Development Policy” means the Borrower’s letter referred to in Paragraph (A) of the Preamble to this Agreement; and
- (g) “MTEF” means the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework for the state budget and the budget of each state extrabudgetary fund together with details of major investments and other projects, adopted by the Borrower.

## **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 sixteen million Special Drawing Rights (SDR 16,000,000).

Section 2.02. (a) Subject to the provisions of paragraphs (b) and (c) of this Section, the Borrower shall be entitled to withdraw the proceeds of the Credit from the Credit Account in support of the Program.

- (b) The Borrower shall open, prior to furnishing to the Association the first request

for withdrawal from the Credit Account, and thereafter maintain in its central bank, a deposit account in Dollars on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Association. All withdrawals from the Credit Account shall be deposited by the Association into the Deposit Account.

(c) The Borrower undertakes that the proceeds of the Credit shall not be used to finance expenditures excluded pursuant to the provisions of Schedule 1 to this Agreement. If the Association shall have determined at any time that any proceeds of the Credit shall have been used to make a payment for an expenditure so excluded, the Borrower shall, promptly upon notice from the Association: (i) deposit into the Deposit Account an amount equal to the amount of said payment, or (ii) if the Association shall so request, refund such amount to the Association. Amounts refunded to the Association upon such request shall be credited to the Credit Account for cancellation.

Section 2.03. The Closing Date shall be June 30, 2003 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 cancelled; 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 April 15 and October 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 April 15 and October 15 commencing October 15, 2012 and ending April 15, 2042. Each installment to and including the installment payable on April 15, 2022 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 the Association 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**

#### **Particular Covenants**

Section 3.01. (a) The Borrower undertakes to implement the Program with due diligence to ensure that actions and policies adopted under the Program are put into effect.

(b) The Borrower and the Association shall from time to time, at the request of either party, exchange views on the progress achieved in carrying out the Program.

(c) Prior to each such exchange of views, the Borrower shall furnish to the Association for its review and comment a report on the progress achieved in carrying out the Program, in such detail as the Association shall reasonably request.

(d) Without limitation upon the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Section, the Borrower shall exchange views with the Association on any proposed action to be taken after the disbursement of the Credit which would have the effect of materially reversing the objectives of the Program, or any action taken under the Program.

Section 3.02. Upon the Association's request, the Borrower shall:

(a) have the Deposit Account audited in accordance with appropriate auditing principles consistently applied, by independent auditors acceptable to the Association;

(b) furnish to the Association as soon as available, but in any case not later than four months after the date of the Association's request for such audit, 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

(c) furnish to the Association such other information concerning the Deposit Account and the audit thereof as the Association shall have reasonably requested.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Additional Event of Suspension**

Section 4.01. Pursuant to Section 6.02 (l) 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 V**

### **Termination**

Section 5.01. 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 VI**

### **Representative of the Borrower; Addresses**

Section 6.01. The Minister of Finance of the Borrower is designated as the 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  
Bulevardi "Deshmoret e Kombit"  
Tirana  
Albania

Facsimile:

355 42 28494

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)

Facsimile:

(202) 477-6391

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.

ALBANIA

By: /s/ Z. Fatos Tarifa

Authorized Representative

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By: /s/ Christiaan J. Poortman

Authorized Representative

### **SCHEDULE 1**

#### **Excluded Expenditures**

For purposes of Section 2.02 (c) of this Agreement, the proceeds of the Credit shall not be used to finance any of the following expenditures:

1. expenditures in the currency of the Borrower or for goods or services supplied from the territory of the Borrower;
2. expenditures for goods or services supplied under a contract which any national or international financing institution or agency other than the Bank or the Association shall have financed or agreed to finance, or which the Bank or the Association shall have financed or agreed to finance under another credit or a loan;
3. expenditures for goods included in the following groups or subgroups of the Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 3 (SITC, Rev.3), published by the United Nations in Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 34/Rev.3 (1986) (the SITC), or any successor groups or subgroups under future revisions to the SITC, as designated by the Association by notice to the Borrower:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Subgroup</u>	<u>Description of Items</u>
112	-	Alcoholic beverages



121	-	Tobacco, unmanufactured, tobacco refuse
122	-	Tobacco, manufactured (whether or not containing tobacco substitutes)
525	-	Radioactive and associated materials
667	-	Pearls, precious and semiprecious stones, unworked or worked
718	718.7	Nuclear reactors, and parts thereof; fuel elements (cartridges), non-irradiated, for nuclear reactors
728	728.43	Tobacco processing machinery
897	897.3	Jewelry of gold, silver or platinum group metals (except watches and watch cases) and goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares (including set gems)
971	-	Gold, non-monetary (excluding gold ores and concentrates)

4. expenditures for goods intended for a military or paramilitary purpose or for luxury consumption;

5. expenditures for environmentally hazardous goods (for purposes of this paragraph the term "environmentally hazardous goods" means goods, the manufacture, use or import of which is prohibited under the laws of the Borrower or international agreements to which the Borrower is a party).

6. expenditures (a) in the territories of any country which is not a member of the Bank or for goods procured in, or services supplied from, such territories or (b) on account of any payment to persons or entities, or any import of goods, if such payment or import is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations; and

7. expenditures under a contract in respect of which the Association determines that corrupt or fraudulent practices were engaged in by representatives of the Borrower or of a beneficiary of the Credit during the procurement or execution of such contract, without the Borrower having taken timely and appropriate action satisfactory to the Association to remedy the situation.

## **SCHEDULE 2**

### **Program Actions Taken By the Borrower**

1. The Borrower has maintained a satisfactory macroeconomic framework.
2. The Borrower has implemented a satisfactory program of reforms of the public pension system.
3. The Borrower has submitted a satisfactory plan to strengthen policy monitoring and evaluation of the GPRS and its related programs in defined sector ministries covering objectives, indicators, inter-and intra-agency responsibilities, quantitative and qualitative data sources, data uses, schedules and related budget and investment requirements.
4. The Borrower has provided INSTAT with an adequate budget and staff to carry out its program of data collection.
5. The Borrower has increased its budget for public health, operations, and maintenance, and staff salaries for the health sector for FY2002, consistent with MTEF.
6. The Borrower has increased its budget allocation to its program of child vaccination and female tetanus toxoid in order to maintain a satisfactory level of coverage.
7. The Borrower has increased the recurrent budget for the education sector in FY2002, consistent with the MTEF.
8. The working group of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Borrower has been established, with specific schedule and outputs specified in order to develop functions related to: (a) policy analysis, planning and monitoring; (b) financial management; (c) human resources management; and (d) textbook management.
9. The Borrower has: (a) appointed a chair and members of the authority to approve textbooks; and (b) established a textbook management unit in its Ministry of Education and Science.
10. The law on organization and functioning of the Council of Ministers of the Borrower has been submitted to the Parliament.

11. Satisfactory decree on increasing salaries of civil servants has been issued, and the new salary structure has become effective.
  12. The Borrower has submitted an evaluation report certifying that the budget in 2002 was consistent with MTEF.
  13. The Borrower has required: (a) all district treasury offices to send daily payment data to the central treasury; (b) the central treasury to reconcile on a daily basis the payment data received from the district treasury offices and the reimbursement data received from the Bank of Albania; (c) the district tax offices to reconcile the tax receipts with the amounts transmitted to the Bank of Albania on a daily basis.
  14. The Borrower has prepared the satisfactory draft law on internal audit.
  15. The Public Procurement Agency of the Borrower has published an initial set of procurement practices indicators for 2001.
  16. The Borrower has prepared a satisfactory action plan for the transfer of public properties to local governments.
  17. The Borrower has completed a study on inclusion of land tax in local taxes levied by the local authorities.
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