

CONFORMED COPY

LOAN NUMBER 4126 LV

Loan Agreement

(Structural Adjustment Loan)

between

REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

and

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dated December 20, 1996

LOAN NUMBER 4126 LV

LOAN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, dated December 20, 1996, between REPUBLIC OF LATVIA (the Borrower) and INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (The Bank):

WHEREAS (A) the Bank has received a letter dated November 15, 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 requesting assistance from the Bank in support of the Program during the execution thereof; and

(B) on the basis, inter alia, of the foregoing, the Bank has decided in support of the Program to provide such assistance to the Borrower by making the Loan in two tranches 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 Loan and Guarantee Agreements for Single Currency Loans" of the Bank, dated May 30, 1995, with the modification set forth below (the General Conditions) constitute an integral part of this Agreement:

(a) "Section 5.01 is modified to read as follows:

"The Borrower shall be entitled to withdraw the proceeds of

the Loan from the Loan Account in accordance with the provisions of the Loan Agreement and of these General Conditions."

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

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

(b) "Deutsche Mark" and "DEM" means the lawful currency of the Federal Republic of Germany;

(c) "ERB" means the Energy Regulatory Board referred to in the Program;

(d) "General Government Investment Expenditures" means the investment expenditures of the state, local governments and the Social Insurance Fund;

(e) "LATS" means the currency of the Borrower; and

(f) "Public Investment Program" means the three-year Public Investment Program prepared by the Borrower for every three-year period.

ARTICLE II

The Loan

Section 2.01. The Bank agrees to lend to the Borrower, on the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in the Loan Agreement, an amount equal to ninety million six hundred thousand Deutsche Mark (DEM 90,600,000).

Section 2.02. (a) The Borrower shall open, prior to furnishing to the Bank the first request for withdrawal from the Loan Account, and thereafter maintain in its central bank, a deposit account in DEM on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Bank. All withdrawals from the Loan Account shall be deposited by the Bank into the Deposit Account.

(b) Subject to the provisions of paragraphs (c) and (d) of this Section, the Borrower shall be entitled to use the proceeds of the

Loan withdrawn from the Loan Account and deposited in the Deposit Account in support of the Program.

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

(d) No withdrawals shall be made from the Loan Account after the aggregate of the proceeds of the Loan withdrawn from the Loan Account shall have reached the equivalent of DEM 30,200,000 unless the Bank shall be satisfied, after an exchange of views as described in Section 3.01 of this Agreement based on evidence satisfactory to the Bank: (i) with the progress achieved by the Borrower in the carrying out of the Program; and (ii) that the actions described in Schedule 3 to this Agreement have been taken. If, after said exchange of views, the Bank shall have given notice to the Borrower that the progress achieved and actions taken are not satisfactory and, within 90 days after such notice, the Borrower shall not have achieved progress and taken actions satisfactory to the Bank, then the Bank may, by notice to the Borrower, cancel the unwithdrawn amount of the Loan or any part thereof.

Section 2.03. The Closing Date shall be December 31, 1997, or such later date as the Bank shall establish. The Bank shall promptly notify the Borrower of such later date.

Section 2.04. The Borrower shall pay to the Bank a commitment charge at the rate of three-fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%) per annum on the principal amount of the Loan not withdrawn from time to time.

Section 2.05. The Borrower shall pay interest on the principal amount of the Loan withdrawn and outstanding from time to time, in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

Section 2.06. Interest and other charges shall be payable semi-annually on April 15 and October 15, in each year.

Section 2.07. The Borrower shall repay the principal amount of the Loan in accordance with the amortization schedule set forth in Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

ARTICLE III

Particular Covenants

Section 3.01. (a) The Borrower and the Bank shall from time to time, at the request of either party, exchange views on the progress achieved in carrying out the Program and the actions specified in Schedule 3 to this Agreement.

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

(c) Without limitation upon the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Section, the Borrower shall exchange views with the Bank on any proposed action to be taken after the disbursement of the Loan which would have the effect of materially reversing the objectives of the Program, or any action taken under the Program, including any action specified in Schedule 3 to this Agreement.

Section 3.02. Upon the Bank'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 Bank;

(b) furnish to the Bank as soon as available, but in any case not later than six months after the date of the Bank'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 Bank shall have reasonably requested; and

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

ARTICLE IV

Additional Event of Suspension

Section 4.01. Pursuant to Section 6.02 (1) 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 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
1 Smilsu Street
Riga, LV - 1919
Republic of Latvia

Telex:

161 232 NAUDA LV

Facsimile:

371-7-820-010

For the Bank:

International Bank for
Reconstruction and Development
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
United States of America

Cable address:

Telex:

INTBAFRAD 248423 (MCI) or
Washington, D.C. 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.

REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

By /s/ Ojars E. Kalnins
Authorized Representative

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR
RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

By /s/ James Q. Harrison
Acting Regional Vice President
Europe and Central Asia

SCHEDULE 1

Excluded Expenditures

For purposes of Section 2.02 (c) of this Agreement, the proceeds of the Loan 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 loan or a credit;
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 Bank by notice to the Borrower:

Group	Subgroup	Description of Items
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 semi-precious 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)

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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, and any other goods designated as environmentally hazardous by agreement between the Borrower and the Bank); and

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.

SCHEDULE 2

Interest and Principal Repayment Provisions

A. General Definitions

For purposes of this Schedule, the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) "Disbursed Amount" means, in respect of each Interest Period, the aggregate principal amount of the Loan withdrawn from the Loan Account in such Interest Period.

(b) "Interest Period" means the initial period from and including the date of this Agreement to, but excluding, the first Interest Payment Date occurring thereafter, and after the initial period, each period from and including an Interest Payment date to, but excluding, the next following Interest Payment Date.

(c) "Interest Payment Date" means any date specified in Section 2.06 of this Agreement.

(d) "Rate Fixing Date" means, for each Disbursed Amount, the first day of the Interest Period next following the Interest Period in which such Disbursed Amount is withdrawn.

B. Interest

1. The principal amount of the Loan shall be divided into Disbursed Amounts. Interest shall accrue on each Disbursed Amount outstanding from time to time at a rate based on a floating rate index prior to its Rate Fixing Date and at a fixed rate from its Rate Fixing Date, as described in paragraph 2 of this Part B.

2. (a) From the date of withdrawal of each amount of each Disbursed Amount withdrawn and outstanding, to but not including the Rate Fixing Date for such Disbursed Amount, interest on each such amount shall accrue, at a rate equal to the applicable:

(i) LIBOR Base Rate; plus

(ii) LIBOR Total Spread.

(b) From the Rate Fixing Date for each Disbursed Amount until final repayment thereof, interest on such Disbursed Amount shall accrue, at a rate equal to the applicable:

(i) Fixed Base Rate; plus

(ii) Fixed Total Spread.

3. For purposes of paragraph 2 of this Part B, the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) "LIBOR Base Rate" means, for the Interest Period in which a Disbursed Amount is withdrawn, the London interbank offered rate for six-month deposits in Deutsche Mark for value the first day of such Interest Period (or, in the case of the initial Interest Period, for value the day occurring on the Interest Payment Date preceding the first day of such Interest Period), as reasonably determined by the Bank and expressed as a percentage per annum.

(b) "LIBOR Total Spread" means, for the Interest Period in which each Disbursed Amount is withdrawn:

- (i) one half of one percent (1/2 of 1%);
- (ii) minus (or plus) the weighted average margin, for such Interest Period, below (or above) the London interbank offered rates, or other reference rates, for six-month deposits, in respect of the Bank's outstanding borrowings or portions thereof allocated by the Bank to fund single currency loans or portions thereof made by it that include such Disbursed Amount for such Interest Period;

as reasonably determined by the Bank and expressed as a percentage per annum.

(c) "Fixed Base Rate" means, for each Disbursed Amount, the equivalent of the London interbank offered rate for six-month deposits in Deutsche Mark for value on the Rate Fixing Date for such Disbursed Amount, expressed as a single fixed interest rate based on the fixed interest rates corresponding to the repayment installments of such Disbursed Amount, as reasonably determined by the Bank and expressed as a percentage per annum.

(d) "Fixed Total Spread" means, for each Disbursed Amount:

- (i) one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%);
- (ii) minus (or plus) the cost margin, applicable on the Rate Fixing Date for such Disbursed Amount, below (or above) the London interbank offered rates, or other reference rates, for six-month deposits, in respect of the Bank's outstanding borrowings or portions thereof allocated to fund single currency loans or portions thereof made by it that include such Disbursed Amount; plus
- (iii) the Bank's risk spread applicable on the Rate Fixing Date for such Disbursed Amount;

as reasonably determined by the Bank and expressed as a percentage per annum.

4. The Bank shall notify the Borrower of LIBOR Base Rate, LIBOR Total Spread, Fixed Base Rate and Fixed Total Spread applicable to each Disbursed Amount, promptly upon the determination thereof.

5. Whenever, in light of changes in market practice affecting the determination of the interest rates referred to in this Schedule, the Bank determines that it is in the interest of its borrowers as a whole and of the Bank to apply a basis for determining the interest rates applicable to the Loan other than as provided in this Schedule, the Bank may modify the basis for determining the interest rates applicable to amounts of the Loan not yet withdrawn upon not less than six (6) months' notice to the Borrower of the new basis. The new basis shall become effective on the expiry of the notice period unless the Borrower notifies the Bank during said period of its objection thereto, in which case said modification shall not apply

to the Loan.

C. Repayment

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Part C, the Borrower shall repay each Disbursed Amount of the Loan in semiannual installments payable on each April 15 and October 15, the first such installment to be payable on the seventh (7th) Interest Payment Date following the Rate Fixing Date for such Disbursed Amount and the last such installment to be payable on the twenty-fourth (24th) Interest Payment Date following the Rate Fixing Date for such Disbursed Amount. Each installment shall be one-eighteenth (1/18) of such Disbursed Amount.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Part C, if any installment of principal of each Disbursed Amount would, pursuant to the provisions of said paragraph 1, be payable after April, 15, 2012, the Borrower shall also pay on said date the aggregate amount of all such installments.
3. After each Disbursed Amount shall have been withdrawn, the Bank shall promptly notify the Borrower of the amortization schedule for such Disbursed Amount.

SCHEDULE 3

Actions Referred to in Section 2.02 (d) of this Agreement

1. Continued maintenance of a macroeconomic policy framework consistent with the objectives of the program as determined on the basis of indicators agreed with the Bank.
2. Privatization of not less than 150 enterprises, 40% of which at least are medium and large enterprises.
3. Not less than 5% of publicly owned apartments have been transferred to private ownership and a plan has been prepared to further transfer 20% of such apartments to private ownership.
4. Initiation of liquidation of 10 publicly owned enterprises with large losses and tax arrears, as demonstrated by published announcement to creditors of such enterprises to present their claims.
5. Allocation of taxpayer identification numbers to all business establishments registered with the State Revenue Service of the Borrower.
6. (a) Accounts receivable of energy utilities have been reduced, and maintained at least for three months at not more than 30 days with respect to electricity bills, and to not more than 40 days in respect of gas bills of users other than heat supply companies.

(b) Reduction of accounts receivable for gas supply to heat supply companies in accordance with a plan, including an implementation schedule, agreed upon with the Bank.
7. The ERB has been adequately staffed and is operating, and is setting energy tariffs in accordance with methodologies agreed upon with the Bank.
8. Development of a framework satisfactory to the Bank, including a sequenced action plan and a financing plan, for the design and implementation of public administration reforms in the medium term.
9. Preparation and review with the Bank of the Borrower's Public Investment Program for the years 1997-1999.
10. Development of a health insurance system satisfactory to the Bank which shall provide, without increasing the social tax, for coverage of necessary health services and for adequate cost control mechanisms.

11. Implementation of a system for licensing and supervision of privately managed pension funds, and submission to Parliament of draft legislation to allocate a portion of the social tax to such funds.

12. Development of a unified system for monitoring and managing domestic and foreign borrowing of state and local governments and for monitoring liabilities of major enterprises owned by them.

