

February 5, 2021

Ms. Ekaterine Tikaradze
Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the
Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs
Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the
Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs
Tbilisi, Georgia

Subject: Updating the Rules to Assign Targeted Social Assistance – Data Request

Dear Ms. Tikaradze,

We refer to the ongoing World Bank technical assistance support to update the methodology for assessing the socioeconomic conditions of socially vulnerable households, and the rules for allocating targeted social assistance benefits. The World Bank technical team has updated the estimation of the Proxy Means Test (PMT) formula and is in the process of updating the Needs Index based on the GEOSTAT nationally representative Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2018.

In this context, we seek your support in obtaining in electronic format the individual level data of the central Database of Socially Vulnerable Households and historical values since 2014. Specifically, all the application data collected through the "household declaration form", any data retrieved from administrative databases to verify application data, any subsequent re-certification and a variable clearly identifying 'active' data on which benefit amounts are calculated. These data are indispensable to (i) test, validate and fine-tune the updated PMT formula on "real" data from applicants and account for any policy consideration; (ii) conduct an analysis of the winners and losers during the transition to the updated PMT formula and to understand the possible implications; (iii) calibrate the eligibility thresholds and determine transitional scenarios; and (iv) formulating concrete recommendations to finalize the rules to assign targeted social assistance benefits.

We stand ready to clarify any matters related to this request.

Sincerely,



Sebastian Molineus
Regional Director for the South Caucasus

cc: Mr. Ivane Matchavariani, Minister of Finance
Mr. Nikoloz Gagua, Deputy Minister of Finance
Ms. Tamar Gabunia, Deputy Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the
Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs
Ms. Tamar Barkalaia, Deputy Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the
Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs
Mr. Koen Davidse, Executive Director for Georgia, the World Bank
Mr. Jan De Boer, Advisor to the Executive Director, the World Bank