

April 27, 2020

Mr. Ivane Matchavariani
Minister of Finance
Ministry of Finance
Tbilisi, Georgia

***Subject: Georgia Emergency COVID-19 Response Project
Invitation to Negotiate***

Dear Mr. Machavariani,

I am pleased to invite the Georgia to send a delegation to the World Bank's Country Office in Tbilisi, to negotiate the proposed International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) loan in the amount of EUR 73.1 million for the Georgia Emergency COVID-19 Response Project ("Project"). I propose that negotiations take place on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, starting at 15:00 via Webex.

As you are aware, the Project's objective is to prevent, detect, and respond to the threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and strengthen national systems for public health preparedness in Georgia. To this end, the Project will support the Government of Georgia in responding to the threat posed by COVID-19 pandemic and strengthen national systems for public health preparedness in Georgia. The Project comprises three Components. Component 1 will provide immediate support to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak, with a focus on limiting community transmission, building capabilities to handle severe cases. It will also contribute to the strengthening of health system preparedness, improve the quality of medical care provided to COVID-19 patients, and minimize the risks for health personnel and patients. Component 2 will provide immediate support to mitigate the effect of containment measures on the population by providing new temporary cash transfers to poor and vulnerable families, through the existing Targeted Social Assistance program and temporary unemployment benefits to those who became unemployed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Component 3 - will support the overall project management and monitoring.

As part of the negotiations, the draft Loan Agreement between Georgia and IBRD, the Project Appraisal Document (PAD), the Disbursement and Financial Information Letter, the draft Procurement Plan, and the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan will be discussed. An agenda will be sent separately.

Pursuant to the Bank's Policy on Access to Information, after the Bank's Board approves the Bank financing, the Bank makes public the PAD, the related legal agreements and other related information, including the ESCP. The Bank may also publicly disclose these documents upon their distribution to the Board, if the Borrower agrees. During the negotiations, your delegation should indicate to the Bank if any information in the PAD is confidential or sensitive, and the Bank will take these comments into account in finalizing the documents.

Prior to the negotiations, your delegation should also provide satisfactory documentary evidence of the delegation's authority to negotiate on behalf of Georgia.

5A, Ramishvili Street
Tbilisi 0179, Georgia
Tel: +995 (32) 291 30 96
Fax: +995 (32) 291 34 78

1818 H Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20433, USA.
Tel: +1 (202) 473 7252
Fax: +1 (202) 522 3607

Such evidence will need to be verified before the negotiations are completed. The results of the negotiations will be recorded in agreed Minutes of Negotiations and the head of the delegation will be requested to sign the Minutes, indicating their respective approval of the negotiated documents.

The results of the negotiations will be recorded in agreed Minutes of Negotiations and the head of each delegation of the parties to the legal agreement will be requested to sign these Minutes.

I look forward to receiving confirmation of whether the proposed date for the start of negotiations is convenient and of the composition of your delegation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish at the end.

Sebastian Molineus
Regional Director for the South Caucasus

cc: Ms. Ekaterine Tikaradze, Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
Mr. Nikoloz Gagua, Deputy Minister of Finance of Georgia
Ms. Tamar Gabunia, First Deputy Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
Ms. Tamila Barkalaia, Deputy Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
Mr. Koen Davidse, Executive Director, the World Bank
Mr. Florin Vodita, Alternate Executive Director, the World Bank
Ms. Nina Fiti Nedelkovska, Advisor to Executive Director, the World Bank