

Date 30 MAI 2022

H. E. MEY Alamine Ousmane
Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development
Yaoundé
Republic of Cameroon

Republic of Cameroon– COVID-19 Preparedness and Response
Credit No. 6783-CM
First Amendment to the Financing Agreement

Excellency:

We refer to the Financing Agreement between the Republic of Cameroon (“Recipient”) and the International Development Association (“Association”), dated August 20, 2020 (“Agreement”), for the abovementioned Project. Please note that the capitalized terms used in this letter (“Amendment Letter”) and not defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement.

Pursuant to your letter of July 26, 2021, requesting the Association for specific amendments to the Project, we are pleased to inform you that the Association proposes to amend the Agreement in respect of the provisions below:

1. Schedule 1 to the Agreement is hereby amended to read as set forth in Attachment 1 to this Amendment Letter.
2. Section I.B.1 of Schedule 2 to the Agreement is hereby amended to read as follows:

Project Operation Manual.

1. The Recipient, through the Ministry of Public Health, shall:
 - (a) update and adopt the project implementation manual for the Original Project (as so updated, “Project Operational Manual” or “POM”) in a manner and on terms acceptable to the Association, containing, specificities of the Project such as, *inter alia*, detailed arrangements and procedures for: (i) administration and coordination, including monitoring and evaluation, environmental and social risk management, and procurement procedures; (ii) personal data collection and processing in accordance with good international practice; (iii) corruption and fraud mitigation measures, (iv) a grievance redress mechanism; (v) arrangements for the engagement of military or security forces to assist with the transportation of goods procured under the Project or to provide security services for the transportation of said goods in accordance with the provisions of Section I.E below; (vi) roles and responsibilities for Project implementation; and (vii) such other arrangements and procedures as shall be required for the effective implementation of the Project, in form and substance acceptable to the Association; and

- (b) The Recipient shall update the Original Project FM Manual (as so updated, "FM Manual") and thereafter adopt such updated manual, which shall include detailed guidelines and procedures for administrative, financial management, and disbursement, and other fiduciary matters under the Project, in form and substance acceptable to the Association.
- (c) (i) furnish the updated POM and FM Manual referred to in Section I.B.1(a) and Section I.B.1 (b) above to the Association for review; (ii) afford the Association a reasonable opportunity to exchange views with the Recipient on said POM and FM Manual; and (iii) adopt said updated POM and FM Manual as shall have been approved by the Association.

Vaccine Delivery and Distribution Manual

- 2. Without limitation on Section I.B.1 above, in order to ensure adequate implementation of Part I.2 of the Project, the Recipient shall prepare and adopt, a manual for the Project COVID-19 Vaccine delivery and distribution ("Vaccine Delivery and Distribution Manual"), in form and substance satisfactory to the Association, which shall include:
 - (a) rules and procedures for prioritizing intra-country vaccine allocation following principles established in the WHO Fair Allocation Framework, including an action plan setting out the timeline and steps for implementing such rules;
 - (b) rules and procedures establishing minimum standards for vaccine management and monitoring, including medical and technical criteria, communications and outreach plan, cold chain infrastructure, and other related logistics infrastructure;
 - (c) rules and procedures for processing and collecting Personal Data in accordance with national law on Personal Data protection and good international practice;
 - (d) vaccine distribution plan, including action plan setting out timeline and steps for immunization;
 - 3. The Recipient shall carry out the Project in accordance with this Agreement, the Project Operation Manual, FM Manual, and the Vaccine Delivery and Distribution Manual.
 - 4. Except as the Association shall otherwise agree, the Recipient shall not assign, amend, abrogate, or waive the provisions of the Project Operation Manual, the FM Manual, or the Vaccine Delivery and Distribution Manual without prior written approval of the Association.
 - 5. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of the Project Operation Manual, the FM Manual, or the Vaccine Delivery and Distribution Manual and this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.
- 3. Section I.C of Schedule 2 to the Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety.
 - 4. Sections I.D, I.E, and I.F of Schedule 2 to the Agreement are hereby renumbered respectively as Section I.C., I.D, and I.E
 - 5. A new Section I.F is hereby added to Schedule 2 to the Agreement to read as follows:

R. Standards for Project COVID-19 Vaccine Approval

All Project COVID-19 Vaccine acquired under Part 1.2 of the Project shall satisfy the Vaccine Approval Criteria.

6. The table under Section III.A of Schedule 2 to the Agreement is hereby amended to read as set forth in Attachment 2 to this Amendment Letter.

7. Section III.B of Schedule 2 to the Agreement is hereby amended to read as follows:

"B. Withdrawal Conditions; Withdrawal Period

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Part A above, no withdrawal shall be made:

(a) for payments made prior to the Signature Date; and

(b) under Category (1) and Category (3), for delivery or distribution of Project COVID-19 Vaccines under Part 1.2 and 1.3 of the Project, unless and until the Vaccine Delivery and Distribution Manual, in form and substance acceptable to the Association, has been duly adopted in accordance with Section I.B.2 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

(c) under Category (2), until and unless the Association has received evidence satisfactory that: (i) the Recipient has prepared and adopted the POM in form and substance satisfactory to the Association and (ii) the Recipient has hired a safeguard specialist, a finance officer, an internal auditor with qualifications, integrity and under terms of reference satisfactory to the Association

2. The Closing Date is June 30, 2024

8. Paragraphs 8 of the Definitions Section of the Appendix to the Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety and the rest of the definitions are renumbered accordingly to maintain alphabetical order.

9. The following new definitions are added and placed in alphabetical order under the Definitions Section of the Appendix to the Agreement to read as follows and the rest of the definitions are renumbered accordingly to maintain alphabetical order:

"Project COVID-19 Vaccine" means a vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19, authorized by the Recipient's national regulatory authority for distribution, marketing and administration within the territory of the Recipient, and purchased or deployed under the Project; "Project COVID-19 Vaccines" means the plural thereof."

"Stringent Regulatory Authority" means a National Regulatory Authority ("NRA") that is classified by WHO as a Stringent Regulatory Authority."

"Vaccine Approval Criteria" means that the Project COVID-19 Vaccine: (a) has received regular or emergency licensure or authorization from at least one of the Stringent Regulatory Authorities identified by WHO for vaccines procured and/or supplied under the COVAX Facility, as may be amended from time to time by WHO; (b) has received the WHO Prequalification or WHO Emergency Use Listing; or (c) has met such other criteria as may be agreed in writing between the Recipient and the Association.

“Vaccine Delivery and Distribution Manual” means the Borrower’s manual referred to in Section E of Schedule 2 to this Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time with the Bank’s prior written approval.

“WHO Fair Allocation Framework” means the rules which govern the allocation of vaccines to participants in the COVAX Facility, as developed by WHO, subject to periodic review by the COVAX Facility.

“WHO Emergency Use Listing” means a risk-based procedure for assessing and listing by WHO of unlicensed vaccines, therapeutics, and in vitro diagnostics with the aim of expediting the availability of these products to people affected by a declared public health emergency.

“WHO Prequalification” means a service provided by WHO to assess the quality, safety, and efficacy of medical products for priority diseases, and which are intended for United Nations and international procurement to developing countries.

All the terms and conditions of the Agreement that have not been amended hereby shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

Please confirm your agreement with the foregoing amendment, on behalf of the Borrower, by signing, dating and returning to the Bank the enclosed copy of this Amendment Letter. This Amendment Letter shall become effective as of the date of its countersignature upon receipt by the Bank of a countersigned copy of this letter.

Sincerely,

Country Director for Cameroon
Africa West and Central Region



**CONFIRMED AND AGREED:
REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON**

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____



"SCHEDULE 1

Project Description

The objectives of the Project is to prevent, detect and respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 and strengthen national systems for public health preparedness in Selected Regions in Cameroon.

The Project constitutes a phase of the MPA Program and consists of the following parts:

Part I: Emergency COVID-19 Response

1.1. Case Management

- (a) Provision of: (i) COVID-19-specific medical supplies and equipment; (ii) infection prevention and control materials and personal protective equipment kits; (iii) handwashing facilities in healthcare facilities; (iv) training to healthcare workers and support personnel on case management; (v) sanitation and hygiene materials; and (vi) medical waste management and disposal systems.
- (b) Carrying out of minor rehabilitation of health facilities; and rehabilitate selected water supply points.

1.2 COVID-19 vaccine purchase

Supporting the procurement and importation of Project COVID-19 Vaccines.

1.3 COVID-19 vaccines deployment

Providing the support to implement the Cameroon National COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment Plan (NVDP) and reinforce the immunization system to ensure necessary conditions are in place for the implementation of the vaccination plan, including:

- (a) **Planning and management**, through strengthening Recipient's institutional framework to enable safe and effective Project COVID-19 vaccine deployment including development of: (i) national policies surrounding prioritization of vaccine allocation; (ii) regulatory standards for vaccination and aspects related to data protection and consent; (iii) training health personnel for vaccine deployment; and (iv) supporting contingency measures included in the NDVP to respond to disruptions to Project COVID-19 vaccine supply due to climate change and natural disasters.
- (b) **Procurement, supply and distribution of vaccines**, through procurement and distribution of vaccination supplies (syringes, waste management boxes, cold boxes, vaccine carriers, alcohol prep pads), furniture for vaccination rooms, and personal protective equipment (PPE) and hygiene products for vaccinators.
- (c) **Immunization system strengthening**, through: (i) the installation or upgrade of low-carbon emission cold chain facilities, including the acquisition of refrigerators, certified friendly solar powered refrigerators/freezers and specialized cold chain vehicles for vaccine storage and transportation; (ii) strengthening of remote temperature monitoring systems and providing equipment for remote temperature; (iii) operational costs for disposal, transportation and off-site treatment of vaccine-related medical waste management, and (iv) and carrying out climate-smart minor civil works including *inter alia* small rehabilitation of health facilities, EPI dry storage space.
- (d) **Service Delivery**, through: (i) supporting the development of mobile vaccine delivery units; and (ii) rehabilitation of selected health facilities designated as vaccination centers.

- (e) **Regulatory Systems Strengthening**, through: (i) strengthen and adapt the Pharmacovigilance System to be sensitive to detect AEFI for the COVID-19 vaccines; and (ii) undertake relevant traceability activities to ensure capabilities for the system to track and trace from “production to people.”

1.4 Continuity of Essential Health Services

Providing the support to carry out reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health and nutrition services at health facility and community level through:

- (a) providing support to health facilities to develop and follow integrated planning and implementation of RMNCAH-N interventions;
- (b) carrying out outreach strategies and campaigns to most affected areas by the COVID-19 pandemic to provide routine RMNCAH-N services closer to communities;
- (c) providing technical assistance and training to health providers;
- (d) strengthening surveillance and response of maternal and perinatal deaths; and
- (e) Addressing supply-chain constraints

Part 2: Supporting National and Sub-national, Prevention and Preparedness

2.1 Surveillance

Strengthening the disease detection including surveillance systems and confirmation capabilities through:

- (a) strengthening the capacity of frontline healthcare workers on Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR); (b) providing technical assistance to selected stakeholders on Incident Management Systems (IMS); (c) strengthening of disease surveillance systems, including cross-border and community surveillance systems, and (d) strengthening of epidemiological investigations.

2.2 Laboratory Diagnostic

Strengthening of laboratory and testing capacity for COVID-19, including through: (a) the provision of laboratory equipment, reagents and diagnostic test kits; (b) capacity building for laboratory technicians and staff on diagnostic for COVID-19 and priority diseases; (c) strengthening of decentralized laboratory capacity; (d) technical assistance to selected laboratories for quality improvement and accreditation through the WHO Stepwise Laboratory Improvement Progress Towards Accreditation (SLIPTA); and (e) providing support to enhance the referral system for genomic surveillance.

Part 3: Community Engagement and Risk-Communication

3.1 Demand Generation

Communication and advocacy activities in support of the Project COVID-19 Vaccine deployment to ensure that information on Project COVID-19 Vaccines and immunization is consistent and disseminated, including: (a) developing key messages in local languages and disseminating them through the mass media, community channels and social media; (b) the implementation of a nationwide media campaign on the national vaccination campaign; and (c) carry out media campaigns to address misinformation and rumor.

3.2 Promoting health-seeking behaviors through community engagement

Strengthening RMNCAH-N services through: (a) carrying out health promotion message for RMNCAHN services; (b) providing technical assistance and Training to selected stakeholders in the promotion of key messages and strategies; and (c) carrying out community-based awareness and sensitization activities promoting continued access to healthcare and sharing positive stories of successful RMNCAH-N practices,

Part 4: Implementation Management and Monitoring and Evaluation

4.1 Project Coordination and Monitoring and Evaluation

- (a) Provision of support for Project implementation and management including procurement, financial management, environmental and social risk management, and reporting.
- (b) Provision of support for the monitoring and evaluation of prevention, preparedness, response and capacity building for clinical and public health research within the Recipient.

4.2 Data for Decision-Making

Supporting the strengthening of existing national data systems and decentralized processes through: (a) enhancing the electronic data management systems in targeted regions; (b) carrying out technical assistance and capacity building of health facilities for data collection, management and regular analysis of data; and (c) supporting quarterly data review and validation sessions at the decentralized level.

Attachment 2

Category	Amount of the Credit (expressed in EUR)	Percentage of Expenditures to be Financed (inclusive of Taxes)
(1) Goods (including Project COVID-19 Vaccines), and Operating Costs under Part 1.2 of the Project.	0	100%
(2) Goods, works, non-consulting services, consulting services, Operating Costs and Training under Parts 1.1, 1.4, 2, 3, and 4 of the Project	11,000,000	100%
(3) Goods (including Project COVID-19 Vaccines), works, non-consulting services, consulting services, Operating Costs and Training under Parts 1.3 of the Project	18,000,000	100%
TOTAL AMOUNT	29,000,000	