TO: The President, International Development Association

Recommendation of the expert selected by Republic of Benin as a member of the Committee under Section 1 (d) of Article V of the Articles of Agreement on the proposed Credit and Guarantee (Second Fiscal Reform and Growth Development Policy Financing) to the Republic of Benin

The undersigned member of the Committee constituted under Section 1 (d) of Article V of the Articles of Agreement of International Development Association (the Association) hereby submits this recommendation pursuant to said Section in respect of the proposal that the Association grant (i) to the Republic of Benin a credit in an amount of EUR 12,900,000 and (ii) in favor of a commercial lender or lenders a partial guarantee or guarantees up to an aggregate amount equivalent to EUR 154,900,000 (USD 180,000,000 equivalent), in support of loans to be provided by said lender or lenders to the Republic of Benin. The purposes of said credit and guarantee(s) are to: (i) strengthen fiscal management; (ii) increase agricultural productivity and strengthen the financial viability of the power sector; and (iii) improve equitable access to education and health services.

1. The undersigned member of the Committee has carefully studied the merits of the proposal to grant such a credit and guarantee(s), and of the purposes to which the proceeds of the credit and the loans so guaranteed are to be applied.

2. The undersigned member of the Committee is of the opinion that the program in support of which the proceeds of such credit and such loans to be supported by the guarantee(s) are to be applied comes within the purposes of the Association as set forth in Article I of said Articles of Agreement, and that said program is designed to promote the economic development of Republic of Benin and is of high developmental priority in the light of the needs of Republic of Benin.

3. Accordingly, the undersigned member of the Committee finds that said program merits financial assistance from the Association, and hereby recommends said program for such assistance.

Hector Posset
Ambassador

Dated at Washington, D.C.