Mr. Juan Carlo Ramirez Gutierrez
National Director
Visión Mundial Internacional
Calle José Joaquín Pérez No. 54 esquina calle Lea de Castro
Gazcue, Santo Domingo Distrito Nacional
Dominican Republic

Re: GPSA Trust Fund Grant No. TF0B0840
Community Participation in How Is My School Doing Project
Letter Agreement

Dear Mr. Ramirez:

In response to the request for financial assistance made on behalf of Visión Mundial Internacional ("Recipient" or "VMI"), a Civil Society Organization with legal personality duly registered in the public registry of civil associations of the Dominican Republic ("Member Country"), I am pleased to inform you that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association ("World Bank"), acting as administrator of grant funds provided by multiple donors ("Donors") under the Global Partnership for Social Accountability ("GPSA") Multi-Donor Trust Fund (the "GPSA Trust Fund"), proposes to extend to the Recipient for the benefit of the Member Country, a grant from the GPSA Trust Fund in an amount not to exceed six hundred thousand United States Dollars (US$600,000) ("Grant") on the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in this letter agreement ("Agreement"), which includes the attached Annex, to assist in the financing of the project described in the Annex ("Project").

This Grant is funded out of the GPSA Trust Fund for which the World Bank receives periodic contributions from the Donors. In accordance with Section 3.02 of the Standard Conditions (as defined in the Annex to this Agreement), the World Bank's payment obligations in connection with this Agreement are limited to the amount of funds made available to it by the Donors under the abovementioned trust fund, and the Recipient's right to withdraw the Grant proceeds is subject to the availability of such funds.

The Recipient represents, by confirming its agreement below, that it is authorized to enter into this Agreement and to carry out the Project in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in this Agreement.

Please confirm the Recipient’s agreement to the foregoing by having an authorized official of the Recipient sign and date the enclosed copy of this Agreement, and returning it to the World Bank.

Upon receipt by the World Bank of this countersigned copy, this Agreement shall become effective as of the date specified by the World Bank in accordance with Article IV of the Annex to this Agreement; provided, however, that the offer of this Agreement shall be deemed withdrawn if
the World Bank has not received the countersigned copy of this Agreement from the Recipient within ninety (90) days after the date of signature of this Agreement by the World Bank, unless the World Bank shall have established a later date for such purpose.

Very truly yours,

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
and
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By

Yelena Fadéeyeva
Acting Country Director, Caribbean Countries
Latin America and the Caribbean Region

AGREED:

VISIÓN MUNDIAL: INTERNACIONAL

By

Authorized Representative

Name: Juan Carlo Ramirez

Title: National Director, WUIDR

Date: August 15, 2019

Enclosures:

(1) “International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and International Development Association Standard Conditions for Grant Financing Made by the World Bank out of Trust Funds” dated February 25, 2019

(2) Disbursement and Financial Information Letter of the same date as this Agreement
Article I
Standard Conditions; Definitions

1.01. **Standard Conditions.** The “International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and International Development Association Standard Conditions for Grant Financing Made by the World Bank out of Trust Funds” dated February 25, 2019 (“Standard Conditions”), with the modifications set forth in the Appendix hereto constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

1.02. **Definitions.** Unless the context requires otherwise, the capitalized terms used in this Agreement have the meanings ascribed to them in the Standard Conditions or in this Agreement, and the following terms have the following meaning:

(a) “Anti-Corruption Guidelines” means, for purposes of paragraph 2 of the Appendix to the Standard Conditions, the “Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants”, dated October 15, 2006, and revised in January 2011, and as of July 1, 2016.

(b) “Civil Society Organization” or “CSO” means a legal entity that falls outside the public or for-profit sector, such as nongovernmental organizations, not-for-profit media organizations, charitable organizations, faith-based organizations, professional organizations, labor unions, associations of elected local representatives, foundations, and policy development and research institutes; and “CSOs” means, collectively and indistinctively, more than one such CSO.

(c) “CVME” means Cómo Va Mi Escuela or “How is My School Doing”, an initiative launched by MINERD with support from the World Bank in September 2017, through the Strengthening Citizen Engagement and Transparency to Improve the Delivery of Public Services in the Dominican Republic Project (P159392).

(d) “CVME Technical Team” means an informal committee comprised by designated MINERD technical staff, created for consultation within MINERD to discuss and decide on CVME matters.

(e) “Education Management System” means the information system for school management of the Ministry of Education, which supports the registration, planning and evaluation operations of the country’s public and private schools.

(f) “Enabling legislation” means: (a) Decree No. 357-90, dated September 17, 1990; and (b) VMI Bylaws (Estatutos), dated June 4, 2013, approved by Resolution No. 00097 issued by the Attorney General, dated September 13, 2013.

(g) “Environmental and Social Commitment Plan” or the acronym “ESCP” means the Recipient’s environmental and social commitment plan, acceptable to the World Bank, dated March 13, 2019 which sets out a summary of the material measures and actions to address the potential environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project, including the timing of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, and
any instruments to be prepared thereunder; as the ESCP may be revised from time to time, with prior written agreement of the World Bank.

(h) "Environmental and Social Standards" means, collectively: (i) "Environmental and Social Standard 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts"; (ii) "Environmental and Social Standard 2: Labor and Working Conditions"; (iii) "Environmental and Social Standard 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management"; (iv) "Environmental and Social Standard 4: Community Health and Safety"; (v) "Environmental and Social Standard 5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement"; (vi) "Environmental and Social Standard 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources"; (vii) "Environmental and Social Standard 7: Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities"; (viii) "Environmental and Social Standard 8: Cultural Heritage"; (ix) "Environmental and Social Standard 9: Financial Intermediaries"; (x) "Environmental and Social Standard 10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure"; effective on October 1, 2018, as published by the World Bank at its website.

(i) "Milestone" means each and any of the achievements set forth in the additional instructions that the World Bank may specify by notice to the Recipient pursuant to Section 3.01 (iii) of this Annex.

(j) "MINERD" means Ministerio de Educación de la República Dominicana, the Member Country’s Ministry of Education, or any legal successor thereto.

(k) "National Education Pact" or "NEP" means Pacto Nacional de Educación, the Member Country’s strategy document for education reform.

(l) "Operational Manual" means the manual adopted by Recipient, as referred to in Section 2.02(b) of this Annex, as the same may be amended from time to time with the approval of the World Bank.


(n) "VMI" means Visión Mundial Internacional, the Recipient, governed by the Enabling Legislation, or any legal successor thereto.

Article II
Project Execution

2.01. Project Objectives and Description. The objective of the Project is to support effective community participation and the generation of systematic feedback on the quality of education through a collaborative social accountability mechanism between the school community and MINERD under CVME. The Project consists of the following parts:

Part 1: Community participation in school management through CVME

(a) Develop and implement, in collaboration with the CVME technical team, a
participatory and inclusive process designed to engage the school community, including students, parents, school staff and school-based organizations, in the CVME process through: assessing schools conditions (i.e., cleanliness, infrastructure conditions, safety, etc.), identifying priority actions for improvement, and monitoring progress; and

(b) Carry out capacity building activities and knowledge transfer to the CVME technical team to enable the scaling up of the participatory process described in paragraph (a) above.

Part 2: Establishment of a follow-up mechanism between schools and MINERD through CVME

(a) Support the CVME technical team in the integration of CVME-generated citizen feedback collected at meetings into the Education Management System;

(b) Support the CVME technical team in establishing a mechanism for following-up on the information gathered through the CVME across the schools and at management levels; and

(c) Facilitate channels of dissemination to share, discuss and use CVME-generated data/feedback in a systematic manner with MINERD and other education stakeholders.

Part 3: Monitoring, evaluation and learning, and project management

(a) Develop and implement a monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) system designed to strengthen CSOs’ capacities for adaptive project management and learning;

(b) Conduct regular internal project MEL sessions with key stakeholders focused on the Project’s social accountability strategy and operations, and adjustments needed to improve results in the education sector in the Member Country;

(c) Design and implement a media and communications plan to share lessons learned under the Project with key stakeholders, and disseminate knowledge and learning products to target audiences working on social accountability in the education sector; and

(d) Manage project operations.

2.02. Project Execution Generally. (a) The Recipient declares its commitment to the objectives of the Project. To this end, the Recipient shall carry out the Project in accordance with the provisions of: (i) Article II of the Standard Conditions; (ii) the “Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants”, dated October 15, 2006 and revised in January 2011 and as of July 1, 2016 (“Anti-Corruption Guidelines”); and (iii) this Article II; and
(b) The Recipient shall adopt and carry out the Project in accordance with the provisions of the Operational Manual, which sets forth, inter alia: (i) a detailed description of Project activities and institutional arrangements for the Project; (ii) administrative, budgeting, accounting, auditing, reporting, financial (including cash flow aspects in relation thereto), procurement and disbursement procedures; and (iii) performance monitoring indicators for the Project.

2.03 Institutional and Other Arrangements. For purposes of Project implementation, the Recipient shall:

(a) maintain at all times during Project implementation, professional staff in adequate numbers and with terms of references, qualifications and functions acceptable to the World Bank, to perform all fiduciary responsibilities including overall financial management, Project monitoring, internal evaluations; procurement and disbursement related to the implementation of Project activities;

(b) ensure that the terms of reference for any consultancies related to the technical assistance provided under Section 2.01 of the Annex to this Agreement shall be satisfactory to the World Bank and, to that end, such terms of reference shall require that the advice conveyed through such consultancies and technical assistance be consistent with the requirement of the World Bank’s Environmental and Social Standards.

(c) coordinate the engagement between citizens and public sector institutions (i.e., relevant stakeholders and organizations, municipal and central governments, targeted municipalities and CSOs), and evidence-based monitoring in carrying out Project activities; and

(d) collaborate with: (i) MINERD in selecting 60 school beneficiaries under the Project, based on criteria acceptable to the World Bank, and (ii) CVME Technical Team responsible for CVME implementation; follow-up on the progress of achieving school-level priorities; and monitor the progress of the National Education Pact (NEP) implementation.

2.04 Environmental and Social Standards. (a) The Recipient shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards, in a manner acceptable to the World Bank.

(b) Without limitation upon paragraph (a) above, the Recipient shall ensure that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan ("ESCP"), in a manner acceptable to the World Bank. To this end, the Recipient shall ensure that: (i) the measures and actions specified in the ESCP are implemented with due diligence and efficiency, and as further specified in the ESCP; (ii) sufficient funds are available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP; (iii) policies, procedures and qualified staff are maintained to enable it to implement the ESCP, as further specified in the ESCP; and (iv) the ESCP or any provision thereof, is not amended, revised or waived, except as the World Bank shall otherwise agree in writing and the Recipient has, thereafter, disclosed the revised ESCP.

(c) In case of any inconsistencies between the ESCP and the provisions of this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.
(d) The Recipient shall:

(i) take all measures necessary on its part to collect, compile, and furnish to the World Bank through regular reports, with the frequency specified in the ESCP, and promptly in a separate report or reports, if so requested by the World Bank, information on the status of compliance with the ESCP, all such reports in form and substance acceptable to the World Bank, setting out, *inter alia*: (A) the status of implementation of the ESCP; (B) conditions, if any, which interfere or threaten to interfere with the implementation of the ESCP; and (C) corrective and preventive measures taken or required to be taken to address such conditions; and

(ii) promptly notify the World Bank of any incident or accident related to or having an impact on the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers in accordance with the ESCP and the Environmental and Social Standards.

(e) The Recipient shall maintain and publicize the availability of a grievance mechanism, in form and substance satisfactory to the World Bank, to hear and determine fairly and in good faith all complaints raised in relation to the Project, and take all measures necessary to implement the determinations made by such mechanism in a manner satisfactory to the World Bank.

2.05. *Project Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation*. The Recipient shall ensure that each Project Report is furnished to the World Bank not later than one month after each calendar semester, covering the calendar semester.

Article III

Withdrawal of Grant Proceeds

3.01. *Eligible Expenditures*. The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Grant in accordance with the provisions of: (i) Article III of the Standard Conditions; (ii) this Section; and (iii) such additional instructions as the World Bank may specify by notice to the Recipient (including the "Disbursement Guidelines for Investment Project Financing", dated February 2017, as revised from time to time by the World Bank and as made applicable to this Agreement pursuant to such instructions), to finance 100% of Eligible Expenditures directly relating to the achievement of the Milestones for each Part of the Project and consisting of goods and consulting services (including audits), Training, and Operating Costs, all inclusive of taxes, and excluding art, furniture, carpets, vehicles and generators.

For the purposes of this Section 3.01, the terms:

(a) "Training" means the expenditures incurred by the Recipient to conduct training, including tuition, travel and subsistence costs for training and workshop participants, costs associated with securing the services of trainers and workshop speakers, rental of training and workshop facilities, preparation and reproduction of training and workshop materials, and other costs directly related to training course and workshop preparation and implementation (but excluding goods and consulting services); and
(b) "Operating Costs" means the reasonable expenditures, as shall have been approved by the World Bank, incurred by the Recipient to finance their incremental expenses incurred on account of Project implementation, and which include, inter alia, vehicle operation and maintenance, communication and insurance costs, banking charges, rental expenses, office and its equipment maintenance (but excluding any minor works), utilities, document duplication/printing, consumables, travel cost and per diem for Project staff for travel linked to the implementation of the Project, and salaries of contractual staff for the Project (but excluding consulting services), and any other reasonable expenditures as may be agreed upon by the World Bank.

3.02. **Withdrawal Conditions.** Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3.01 of this Agreement, no withdrawal shall be made for payments made prior to the date of this Agreement.

3.03. **Withdrawal Period.** The Closing Date referred to in Section 3.06 (c) of the Standard Conditions is December 30, 2021.

**Article IV**

**Effectiveness; Termination**

4.01. This Agreement shall not become effective until evidence satisfactory to the World Bank has been furnished to the World Bank that the following condition has been met, namely that an Operational Manual, satisfactory to the World Bank, has been adopted by the Recipient.

4.02. Except as the Recipient and the World Bank shall otherwise agree, this Agreement shall enter into effect on the date upon which the World Bank dispatches to the Recipient notice of its acceptance of the evidence required pursuant to Section 4.01 ("Effective Date"). If, before the Effective Date, any event has occurred which would have entitled the World Bank to suspend the right of the Recipient to make withdrawals from the Grant Account if this Agreement had been effective, the World Bank may postpone the dispatch of the notice referred to in this Section until such event (or events) has (or have) ceased to exist.

4.03. **Termination for Failure to Become Effective.** This Agreement and all obligations of the parties under it shall terminate if it has not entered into effect by the date one hundred twenty (120) days after the date of this Agreement, unless the World Bank, after consideration of the reasons for the delay, establishes a later date for the purpose of this Section. The World Bank shall promptly notify the Recipient of such later date.

**Article V**

**Recipient’s Representative; Addresses**

5.01. **Recipient’s Representative.** The Recipient’s Representative referred to in Section 7.02 of the Standard Conditions is its National Director.

5.02. **Recipient’s Address.** The Recipient’s Address referred to in Section 7.01 of the Standard Conditions is:

Visión Mundial Internacional  
Calle José Joaquín Pérez No. 54 esquina Lea Castro  
Gazcue, Santo Domingo, Distrito Nacional  
República Dominicana
5.03. **World Bank’s Address.** The World Bank’s Address referred to in Section 7.01 of the Standard Conditions is:

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

Telephone No.: 1-202-473-62-42  
Facsimile: 1-202-477-6391  
Email: Jtrommer@worldbank.org

With copies to:

Banco Mundial  
Ave. Lope de Vega No. 29, Torre Novo-Centro, Piso 10  
Ensanche Naco, Santo Domingo  
República Dominicana  

Telephone No.: 809-872-7300  
Email: adelapaz@worldbank.org