H. E. El Moctar Ould Djay  
Minister of Economy and Finance  
Ministry of Economy and Finance  
Nouakchott  
Islamic Republic of Mauritania

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA  
GPEF Grant No. TF016390  
(Basic Education Sector Support Project)  
Amendment to the Grant Agreement

1. We refer to the Grant Agreement (the Agreement), dated February 18, 2014 for the above-mentioned Project, between the Islamic Republic of Mauritania (the Recipient) and the International Development Association (the Association). We also refer to your letters, dated April 21, 2017 and May 10, 2017, requesting specific amendments to the Agreement. Capitalized terms used in this amendment letter and not otherwise defined herein have the meaning ascribed to them in the Agreement.

2. We are pleased to inform you that the Association agrees to your request to amend the Agreement as follows:

(a) Paragraph 2.2 of Part 2 in Schedule 1 to the Agreement (Project Description), 2.2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"2.2 Improving Equity through Measures to promote Girls’ Schooling, through (i) the organization of awareness-raising sensitization campaigns and the provision of incentive (including graduation ceremonies and non-monetary awards for girls remittance ceremonies) to promote girls’ schooling; (ii) carrying out sensitization trainings for teachers, inspectors and school directors in rural lower secondary schools regarding girls’ right to education; (iii) the distribution of pedagogical kits (including textbooks, pen, pencils) to girls enrolled in lower secondary schools; (iv) regular assessments of the communities’ satisfaction and the impact of the Project; (v) the provision of hygiene kits to girls in lower secondary school; and (vi) the provision of support to the six newly constructed sports facilities, including through the provision of equipment, uniforms, and training."
Paragraph 3.1 of Part 3 in Schedule 1 to the Agreement (Project Description) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"3.1 Strengthening Capacity for Monitoring and Evaluation through: (i) Supporting the development of the EMIS to fully integrate all MoE central and regional directorates with the DSPC's monitoring and evaluation system and improve reliability, timeliness and harmonization of data; (ii) carrying out evaluations and reviews of performance, including an assessment of teachers in mathematics and provision of necessary training; and (iii) building capacity of CNE, including improving and upgrading the ENI entrance examinations."

Paragraph 3.2 of Part 3 in Schedule 1 to the Agreement (Project Description), is amended to read as follows:

"3.2 Supporting the operations of DPEF, through the provision of technical assistance in Project management, accounting, procurement, audits, education sector reviews including the establishment of a school grants program and the support to a teacher management and professional development strategy, supervision, and environmental and social safeguards."

Paragraph 1 of Section 1.A in Schedule 2 to the Agreement (Project Execution), is amended to read as follows:

"1. Throughout the execution of the Project, the Recipient shall implement the Project through MoE, with support from non-governmental organizations for sensitization campaigns. In particular, DPEF shall be responsible for all fiduciary aspects of the Project's activities and the implementation monitoring and evaluation of the project, and DSPC shall be responsible for coordination with other stakeholders. The implementation arrangement is further described in the Project Manual."

Paragraph 2 of Section IV.B in Schedule 2 to the Agreement (Project Execution) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"2. The Closing date referred to in Section 3.06(c) of the Standard Conditions is November 30, 2018."

All references to "DGSPC" in the Agreement are hereby deleted and replaced by "DSPC."

Paragraph 7 of the Appendix is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by the following:

"7. "DSPC" means the Recipient's Directorate of Statistics, Planning and Cooperation within MoE."

Paragraph 10 of the Appendix is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by the following:
“10. “DPEF” means the Recipient’s Directorate for Education and Training within the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Development.”

(i) The following definition shall be added as paragraph 13 of the Appendix, and the subsequent definitions in the Appendix shall be renumbered.

“13. “ENI” means Recipient’s primary school teacher training institutes.”

3. All other provisions of the Agreement except as amended herein, shall remain in full force and effect.

4. Please confirm your agreement to the amendment by countersigning, dating and returning to us the enclosed copy of this letter, while keeping one original for your records. Upon receipt of said countersigned copy of this letter, this amendment shall become effective as of the date of its countersignature by the Recipient’s authorized representative.

Sincerely,

Louise Cord
Chief, Sector for Mauritania, Sahelian Region

AGREED:

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA

By: El Moetar Ould Djay
Minister of Economy and Finance

Date: 13/03/14