His Excellency
Dulcidio de La Guardia
Minister
Ministry of Economy and Finance
Panamá, República de Panamá

Re: IBRD Loan – IBRD 8708-PA (Burunga Wastewater Management Project)
Additional Instructions: Disbursement Letter

Excellency:

I refer to the Loan Agreement between the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the “Bank”) and the Republic of Panama (the “Borrower”) for the above-referenced project, dated as of the Signature Date (as defined therein). The Agreement provides that the Bank may issue additional instructions regarding the withdrawal of the proceeds of Loan IBRD-8708-PA (“Loan”). This letter (“Disbursement Letter”), as revised from time to time, constitutes the additional instructions.

The attached World Bank Disbursement Guidelines for Projects, dated May 1, 2006, (“Disbursement Guidelines”) (Attachment 1), are an integral part of the Disbursement Letter. The manner in which the provisions in the Disbursement Guidelines apply to the Loan is specified below. Sections and subsections in parentheses below refer to the relevant sections and subsections in the Disbursement Guidelines and, unless otherwise defined in this letter, the capitalized terms used have the meanings ascribed to them in the Disbursement Guidelines.

I. Disbursement Arrangements

(i) Disbursement Methods (section 2). The following Disbursement Methods may be used under the Loan:

- Direct Payment
- Reimbursement
- Advance

(ii) Disbursement Deadline Date (subsection 3.7). The Disbursement Deadline Date is 4 months after the Closing Date specified in the Loan Agreement. Any changes to this date will be notified by the Bank.
(iii) Disbursement Conditions (subsection 3.8). Please refer to the Disbursement Condition(s) in the Loan Agreement, Section IV.B.1 of Schedule 2.

II. Withdrawal of Loan Proceeds

(i) Authorized Signatures (subsection 3.1).

An authorized signatory letter in the Form attached (Attachment 2) should be furnished to the Association at the address indicated below providing the name(s) and specimen signature(s) of the official(s) authorized to sign Applications:

The World Bank
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20433
United States of America
Attention: J. Humberto Lopez, Director, Central America, Latin America and the Caribbean Region

(ii) Applications (subsections 3.2 - 3.3). Please provide completed and signed (a) Applications for withdrawal, together with supporting documents, to the address indicated below:

Banco Mundial
SCN, Quadra 02, Lote A
Edificio Corporate Financial Center, 7º Andar
70712-900, Brasília, DF - Brazil
Attention: Loan Operations

(iii) Electronic Delivery (subsection 3.4). The Bank may permit the Borrower to electronically deliver to the Bank Applications (with supporting documents) through the Bank’s Client Connection, web-based portal. The option to deliver Applications to the Bank by electronic means may be effected if: (a) the Borrower has designated in writing, pursuant to the terms of subparagraph (i) of this Section, its officials who are authorized to sign and deliver Applications and to receive secure identification credentials (“SIDC”) from the Bank for the purpose of delivering such Applications by electronic means; and (b) all such officials designated by the Borrower have registered as users of Client Connection. If the Bank agrees, the Bank will provide the Borrower with SIDC for the designated officials. Following which, the designated officials may deliver Applications electronically by completing Form 2380, which is accessible through Client Connection (https://clientconnection.worldbank.org). The Borrower may continue to exercise the option of preparing and delivering Applications in paper form. The Bank reserves the right and may, in its sole discretion, temporarily or permanently disallow the electronic delivery of Applications by the Borrower.

(iv) Terms and Conditions of Use of SIDC to Process Applications. By designating officials to use SIDC and by choosing to deliver the Applications electronically, the Borrower confirms through the authorized signatory letter its agreement to: (a) abide by the Terms and Conditions of Use of Secure Identification Credentials in connection with Use of Electronic Means to Process
Applications and Supporting Documentation ("Terms and Conditions of Use of Secure Identification Credentials") provided in Attachment 3; and (b) to cause such official to abide by those terms and conditions.

(v) Minimum Value of Applications (subsection 3.5). The Minimum Value of Applications for Direct Payment and Reimbursement is USD 250,000 equivalent for the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) within the Ministry of Health (Ministerio de Salud, MINSA).

(vi) Advances (sections 5 and 6) to the PCU:

- Type of Designated Account (subsection 5.3): Segregated
- Currency of Designated Account (subsection 5.4): USD
- Financial Institution at which the Designated Account Will Be Opened (subsection 5.5): Banco Nacional de Panama
- Ceiling (subsection 6.1): USD 6,000,000

III. Reporting on Use of Loan Proceeds

(i) Supporting Documentation (section 4). Supporting documentation should be provided with each Application for withdrawal as set out below:

- For requests for reimbursement and for reporting eligible expenditures paid from the Designated Account:
  - Statement of Expenditure in the form attached (Attachment 4) (SOE) for all expenditures;
  - Designated Account Reconciliation in the form attached (Attachment 5) with a copy of the Designated Account Bank Statement applicable only when reporting eligible expenditures paid from the Designated Account.

- For requests for Direct Payment: Records evidencing eligible expenditures (e.g., copies of receipts, supplier invoices)

(ii) Frequency of Reporting Eligible Expenditures Paid from the Designated Account (subsection 6.3): Quarterly

IV. Other Disbursement Instructions

Financing of Taxes

The percentage of Eligible Expenditures under Categories (1) and (2) to be financed with the proceeds of the Loan, as referred in Section IV. A.2 of Schedule 2 to the Loan Agreement, includes
the financing of Taxes, other than the ITBMS (Impuesto a las Transferencias de Bienes Corporales Muebles y la Prestación de Servicios, the Borrower’s tax on transfer of movable property and services), incurred at the moment of invoicing to the PCU.

V. Other Important Information


From the Client Connection website, you will be able to prepare and deliver Applications, monitor the near real-time status of the Loan, and retrieve related policy, financial, and procurement information.

If you have not already done so, the Bank recommends that you register as a user of the Client Connection website (https://clientconnection.worldbank.org). From this website you will be able to prepare and deliver Applications, monitor the near real-time status of the Loan, and retrieve related policy, financial, and procurement information. All Borrower officials authorized to sign and deliver Applications by electronic means are required to register with Client Connection before electronic delivery can be effected. For more information about the website and registration arrangements, please contact the Bank by email at <clientconnection@worldbank.org>.

If you have any queries in relation to the above, please contact Tatiana de Abreu at tdeabreu@worldbank.org using the above reference.

Sincerely,

Ana dela Abreu
Country Manager - LCCPA
Latin America and the Caribbean Region
Attachments
2. Form for Authorized Signatures
4. Statement of Expenditures
5. Designated Account Reconciliation form

Cc with copies:

Tatiana De Janon
Ministerio de Salud
Torre Tower Bank, Piso 12, Avenida Centenario
Costa de Este, Corregimiento de Juan Diaz
Ciudad de Panamá
República de Panamá

Email: tdejanon@minsa.gob.pa
THE WORLD BANK

DISBURSEMENT GUIDELINES FOR PROJECTS

MAY 2006
WORLD BANK

DISBURSEMENT GUIDELINES FOR PROJECTS

LOAN DEPARTMENT
May 1, 2006
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Purpose</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Disbursement Methods</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Withdrawal of Loan Proceeds</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Supporting Documentation Requirements</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Designated Accounts</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Terms and Conditions Applicable to Advances</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Ineligible Expenditures</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Refunds</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
World Bank Disbursement Guidelines for Projects
May 1, 2006

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of these Guidelines is to set out the Bank’s procedures for disbursement of loan proceeds for projects. Specifically, the Guidelines explain (a) the different methods used by the Bank to disburse loan proceeds, (b) the requirements for withdrawal from the Loan Account, (c) the types of supporting documentation that the borrower may be required to provide to demonstrate the use of loan proceeds for eligible expenditures, (d) the criteria for establishing designated accounts, (e) the terms and conditions applicable to advances, (f) the types of actions that the Bank may take if it determines that loan proceeds are not needed or have been used for ineligible purposes, and (g) the consequence of refunds.

2. Disbursement Methods

2.1 The Bank establishes disbursement arrangements for an operation in consultation with the borrower and taking into consideration, inter alia, an assessment of the borrower's financial management and procurement arrangements, the procurement plan and cash flow needs of the operation, and its disbursement experience with the borrower.

2.2 The Bank disburses proceeds from the Loan Account established for each loan, to or on the order of the borrower, using one or more of the disbursement methods set forth below, as determined by the Bank.

(a) Reimbursement: The Bank may reimburse the borrower for expenditures eligible for financing pursuant to the Loan Agreement (“eligible expenditures”) that the borrower has prefinanced from its own resources.

(b) Advance: The Bank may advance loan proceeds into a designated account of the borrower to finance eligible expenditures as they are incurred and for which supporting documents will be provided at a later date (see section 5, “Designated Accounts”).

(c) Direct Payment: The Bank may make payments, at the borrower’s request, directly to a third party (e.g., supplier, contractor, consultant) for eligible expenditures.

1 “Bank” includes IBRD and IDA; “loan” includes credit and grant; “borrower” includes the borrower of an IBRD loan, IDA credit, or Project Preparation Facility advance and the recipient of a grant; and “Loan Agreement” includes the agreement with the Bank providing for a credit, grant, or advance. These Disbursement Guidelines apply to all loans, credits, advances under the Project Preparation Facility, and grants financed under the Institutional Development Fund and Global Environment Facility unless otherwise provided in Operational Policy 10.20, Global Environment Facility Operations (forthcoming). These Guidelines also apply to other recipient-executed grants financed from trust funds unless, exceptionally, the terms of the agreement with the donor make provision for different requirements. They do not apply to Development Policy loan.
(d) **Special Commitment:** The Bank may pay amounts to a third party for eligible expenditures under special commitments entered into, in writing, at the borrower’s request and on terms and conditions agreed between the Bank and the borrower.

### 3. Withdrawal of Loan Proceeds

**3.1 Authorized Signatures.** Before loan proceeds may be withdrawn or committed from the Loan Account, the authorized representative of the borrower (as designated in the Loan Agreement) must furnish to the Bank (a) the name(s) of the official(s) authorized to sign applications for withdrawal and applications for a special commitment (collectively, “Applications”), and (b) the authenticated specimen signature(s) of the official(s). The borrower must indicate clearly if more than one signature is required on Applications and must notify the Bank promptly of any changes in signature authority.

**3.2 Applications.** Applications must be provided to the Bank in such form and include such information as the Bank may reasonably request. Application forms are available online from the Client Connection Web site at [http://clientconnection.worldbank.org](http://clientconnection.worldbank.org) or from the Bank upon request.

**3.3** For withdrawal from the Loan Account for advances, the borrower should provide an original signed application for withdrawal. For withdrawal from the Loan Account for reimbursements and direct payments and for reporting on the use of advances, the borrower should provide an original signed application for withdrawal together with one copy of supporting documents (see section 4, “Supporting Documentation Requirements”). For a special commitment from the Loan Account, the borrower should provide an original signed application for a special commitment together with one copy of the letter of credit. The Bank reserves the right not to accept or review duplicate copies of Applications and supporting documents and may at its discretion return or destroy the duplicates.

**3.4 Electronic Delivery.** The Bank may authorize the borrower to use electronic means, in a manner and on terms and conditions specified by the Bank, to deliver Applications and supporting documentation to the Bank. Applications and supporting documentation delivered in accordance with this subsection will be deemed to have been provided to the Bank for the purposes of satisfying the requirements of subsections 3.2 and 3.3 of these Guidelines.

**3.5 Minimum Value of Applications.** The Bank establishes a minimum value for Applications for reimbursement, direct payment, and special commitment. The Bank reserves the right not to accept Applications that are below such minimum value.

**3.6 Loan Disbursing Period.** The Bank processes Applications only after the Loan Agreement has been declared effective in accordance with the terms of the Loan Agreement. The expenditures for which the Applications are made must be:

(a) paid for (i) on or after the date of the Loan Agreement, or (ii) in the case of operations that permit retroactive financing, on or after the earlier date specified in the Loan Agreement for that purpose; and
(b) incurred on or before the closing date specified or referred to in the Loan Agreement ("Closing Date"), except as otherwise specifically agreed with the Bank.

3.7 The loan disbursing period ends on the final date established by the Bank for receipt by the Bank of applications for withdrawal and supporting documentation (the "Disbursement Deadline Date"). The Disbursement Deadline Date may be the same as the Closing Date, or up to four months after the Closing Date. Normally, to support orderly project completion and closure of the Loan Account, the Bank does not accept applications for withdrawal or supporting documentation received after the Disbursement Deadline Date. The borrower should promptly inform the Bank of any expected implementation delays or exceptional administrative issues before these dates. The Bank notifies the borrower of any exception that the Bank may make to the Disbursement Deadline Date.

3.8 Disbursement Conditions. If the Loan Agreement contains a disbursement condition for a specific expenditure category, the Bank will disburse loan proceeds for that category only after the disbursement condition has been fulfilled and the Bank has notified the borrower to this effect.

4. Supporting Documentation Requirements

4.1 The borrower provides supporting documentation to the Bank to show that loan proceeds have been or are being used to finance eligible expenditures.

4.2 For special commitments, the commercial bank provides its confirmation directly to the Bank that conditions for release of payments committed for withdrawal have been met.

4.3 Types of Supporting Documentation. The Bank requires either copies of the original documents evidencing eligible expenditures ("Records") or summary reports of expenditure ("Summary Reports") in such form and substance as the Bank may specify. Records include such documents as invoices and receipts. A Summary Report may be either (a) the interim un-audited financial report required under the Loan Agreement ("Interim Financial Report") or (b) a statement of expenditure summarizing eligible expenditures paid during a stated period ("Statement of Expenditure"). In all cases, the borrower is responsible for retaining the original documents evidencing eligible expenditures and making them available for audit or inspection.

4.4 The Bank determines the types of supporting documentation that the borrower should provide taking into consideration the disbursement method used. The supporting documentation may be the following:

(a) For applications for reimbursement: (i) Interim Financial Reports, (ii) Statements of Expenditure, (iii) Records, or (iv) Records required by the Bank for specific expenditures and Statements of Expenditure for all other expenditures;

(b) For reporting on the use of advances: (i) Interim Financial Reports, (ii) Statements of Expenditure, (iii) Records, or (iv) Records required by the Bank for specific expenditures and Statements of Expenditure for all other expenditures;

(c) For applications for direct payments: Records; and
(d) Any other supporting documentation that the Bank may request by notice to the borrower.

4.5 Failure to Provide Audited Financial Statements. If the borrower fails to provide any of the audited Financial Statements required in accordance with, and within the period of time specified in, the Loan Agreement, the Bank may at its discretion decide not to accept applications for withdrawal supported by Summary Reports, even if such reports are accompanied by Records.

5. Designated Accounts

5.1 The borrower may open one or more designated accounts into which the Bank may, at the borrower's request, deposit amounts withdrawn from the Loan Account for the purpose of paying for eligible expenditures as they are incurred (“Designated Account”). Before the Bank authorizes establishment of a Designated Account, the borrower must have adequate administrative capability, internal controls, and accounting and auditing procedures to ensure effective use of the Designated Account.

5.2 The Bank may decide not to permit the use of Designated Accounts in new projects if the borrower has failed to re-fund undocumented advances in the Designated Account of any other loan to, or guaranteed by, the borrower within two months after the Disbursement Deadline Date for such loan.

5.3 Type of Designated Account. A Designated Account may be established in one of the two ways set out below, as appropriate for the operation concerned, as determined and notified by the Bank.

(a) Segregated Account: this is an account of the borrower into which only proceeds of the loan may be deposited; or

(b) Pooled Account: this is an account of the borrower into which the loan proceeds and proceeds of other financing for the operation (e.g., borrower resources and/or financing by other development partners) may be deposited.

5.4 Currency of the Designated Account. Designated Accounts must be in a currency acceptable to the Bank. In countries that have a freely convertible currency, Designated Accounts may be held in the currency of the borrower or any freely convertible currency. The Bank may also agree to local currency Designated Accounts when, inter alia, the country’s currency (even if not freely convertible) is stable and the expenditures to be financed are primarily in local currency. The borrower bears all risks associated with foreign exchange fluctuations between (a) the currency of denomination of the loan and that of the borrower’s Designated Account, and (b) the currency of denomination of the borrower’s Designated Account and the currency or currencies of project expenditures.

5.5 Financial Institution. Designated Accounts must be opened and maintained in a financial institution acceptable to the Bank on terms and conditions acceptable to the Bank. To be acceptable to the Bank, the financial institution proposed by the borrower should generally meet all the following requirements:
(a) be financially sound;
(b) be authorized to maintain the Designated Account in the currency agreed between the Bank and the borrower;
(c) be audited regularly, and receive satisfactory audit reports;
(d) be able to execute a large number of transactions promptly;
(e) be able to perform a wide range of banking services satisfactorily;
(f) be able to provide a detailed statement of the Designated Account;
(g) be part of a satisfactory correspondent banking network;
and
(h) charge reasonable fees for its services.

5.6 The Bank reserves the right not to accept a financial institution for the opening and/or maintenance of a Designated Account if such institution has asserted or asserts a claim to set off, seize, or attach the proceeds of any Bank loan on deposit in a Designated Account maintained by it.

6. Terms and Conditions Applicable to Advances

6.1 Ceiling. The Bank notifies the borrower of the maximum amount of loan proceeds that may be on deposit in a Designated Account (the “Ceiling”). The Bank, at its discretion, may establish the Ceiling as either (a) a fixed amount, or (b) an amount that is adjusted from time to time during project implementation based on periodic forecasts of project cash flow needs.

6.2 Applications for Advances. The borrower may apply for an advance in an amount up to the Ceiling less the aggregate amount of those advances previously received by the borrower for which the borrower has not yet provided supporting documentation. Normally, to support orderly closure of the Loan Account, the Bank does not advance loan proceeds into the Designated Account after the Closing Date.

6.3 Frequency of Reporting Eligible Expenditures Paid from the Designated Account. The borrower reports on the use of loan proceeds advanced to the Designated Account at intervals specified by the Bank by notice to the borrower (“Reporting Period”). The borrower should ensure that all amounts deposited in the Designated Account are accounted for and their use reported prior to the Disbursement Deadline Date. After this date, the borrower must refund to the Bank any advances still unaccounted for or remaining in the Designated Account.

6.4 Withholding Advances. The Bank is not required to make any deposit into the Designated Account if:

(a) The Bank determines that payment of the deposit would result in exceeding the Ceiling (see subsection 6.2, “Applications for Advances”);
(b) The Bank is not satisfied that the borrower’s planned project expenditures justify the deposit. The Bank may, by notice to the borrower, adjust the amount it deposits or withhold further deposits into the Designated Account until it is satisfied that the financial needs of the project warrant further deposits;
(c) The borrower fails to take the action required pursuant to the determinations made by the Bank under subsections 7.1 and 7.2 of these Guidelines;

(d) The borrower fails to provide any of the audited Financial Statements required in accordance with, and within the period of time specified in, the Loan Agreement;

(e) The Bank determines that all further withdrawals of loan proceeds should be made by the borrower directly from the Loan Account; or

(f) The Bank has notified the borrower of its intention to suspend in whole or in part the borrower’s right to make withdrawals from the Loan Account.

6.5 Excess Advances. If at any time the Bank determines that any amount deposited in the Designated Account will not be required to cover further payments for eligible expenditures (“Excess Amount”), it may, at its discretion, require the borrower to take one of the two actions listed below. Upon notification by the Bank, the borrower must promptly take the action requested:

(a) Provide evidence satisfactory to the Bank within a period specified by the Bank that the Excess Amount will be used to pay for eligible expenditures. If the evidence is not furnished within the time period specified, the borrower must promptly refund the Excess Amount to the Bank; or

(b) Refund the Excess Amount promptly.

7. Ineligible Expenditures

7.1 Ineligible Expenditures Generally. If the Bank determines that any amount of the loan was used to pay for an expenditure that is not eligible pursuant to the Loan Agreement (“ineligible expenditure”), the Bank may, at its discretion, require the borrower to take one of the two actions listed below. Upon notification by the Bank, the borrower must promptly take the action requested:

(a) Refund an equivalent amount to the Bank; or

(b) Exceptionally, provide substitute documentation evidencing other eligible expenditures.

7.2 Ineligible Expenditures Paid from the Designated Account. If the Bank determines that any payment out of the Designated Account was not justified by the evidence furnished to the Bank or was made for an ineligible expenditure, the Bank may, at its discretion, require the borrower to take one of the actions listed below. Upon notification by the Bank, the borrower must promptly take the action requested:

(a) Provide the additional evidence requested by the Bank;

(b) Deposit an equivalent amount into the Designated Account;

(c) Refund an equivalent amount to the Bank; or

(d) Exceptionally, provide substitute documentation evidencing other eligible expenditures.
8. Refunds

8.1 Borrower Decision to Refund. The borrower may, upon notice to the Bank, refund all or any amount of the loan on deposit in the Designated Account to the Bank for credit to the Loan Account.

8.2 Consequence of Refunds. The Bank shall determine whether refunds made to the Bank in accordance with sections 6 and 7 and subsection 8.1 of these Disbursement Guidelines will be credited to the Loan Account for subsequent withdrawal or for cancellation. Borrowers should be aware that refunds of loan proceeds may result in swap termination fees and/or unwinding costs for amounts for which the interest rate basis or currency has been converted or hedged.

8.3 Other Obligations Unaffected by Refunds. Refunds of amounts of the loan do not affect any remedies of the Bank under the Loan Agreement.