Mr. V. Sokolin, Chairman  
Interstate Statistical Committee of the  
Commonwealth of Independent States  
Building 1, 39 Myasnitskaya Str.  
107450, Moscow  
Russian Federation

Grant for Developing Statistical Capacity in National Accounts, Price Statistics and  
Purchasing Power Parities in the CIS Region  
Trust Fund No. TF0A0145

Dear Mr. Sokolin:

In response to the request for financial assistance made on behalf of the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States ("Recipient"), I am pleased to inform you that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development ("World Bank"), acting as administrator of grant funds provided under the Multi-donor Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB) ("Donors"), proposes to extend to the Recipient for the benefit of the CIS Countries a grant in an amount not to exceed three hundred ninety thousand United States Dollars (US$390,000) ("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 abovementioned 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 of the countersignature.
Very truly yours,
INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR
RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

[Signature]
Haishan Pu
Director
Development Data Group
Development Economics

AGREED:
INTERSTATE STATISTICAL COMMITTEE OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES

By [Signature]
Authorized Representative
Name: Vladimir Sokolin
Title: Chairman
Date: August 10, 2015

Enclosures:

(2) "Procurement of Goods, Works, and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January 2011, revised July 2014 ("Procurement Guidelines");
(3) "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 ("Anti-Corruption Guidelines");
(4) Consultants’ Guidelines revised 2014;
(5) Disbursement Letter of the same date as this Agreement, together with World Bank
(6) Disbursement Guidelines for Projects, dated May 1, 2006
Article I
Standard Conditions; Definitions

1.01. **Standard Conditions.** The Standard Conditions for Grants Made by the World Bank out of Various Funds dated February 15, 2012 ("Standard Conditions"), 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.

(a) "CIS Countries" means Countries of Commonwealth of Independent States (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan);

(b) "CIS NSO" means CIS Countries’ National Statistical Offices;

(c) "Operating Costs" means reasonable expenditures incurred by the Recipient on the account of Project implementation, management and monitoring, including office supplies and equipment, communication costs, mail expenses, bank charges and other expenditures associated with the Project implementation acceptable to the Bank, but excluding salaries of officials of the Recipient’s civil services;

(d) "Seminars and Training" means reasonable expenditures incurred by the Recipient to finance participation of selected CIS experts (such as CIS NSOs’ and the Recipient’s staff and consultants, and other experts that may be selected by the Recipient in consultation with the World Bank) in the training activities, meetings and conferences related to the content of the project in the CIS countries and selected international events, including: travel costs and daily subsistence allowances for participants and preparation of supporting materials;

(e) "Sub-grant" means a grant, from the proceeds of the Grant approved by the Recipient under the Subsidiary Grant Agreement, referred to under Article II, Section 2.03(a) of the Annex, in an amount not to exceed $5,000 for each CIS Country, made or proposed to be made by the Recipient to a CIS Country for payment of per diems of training and workshops participants from such CIS Country;

(f) "Subsidiary Grant Agreement" means the agreement referred to in Section 2.03(a) of this Letter Agreement, acceptable to the Bank, pursuant to which the Recipient shall make a Sub-grant available to the CIS Country’s counterpart agency, namely, the National Statistical Office, or the Ministry of Finance, or the Central Bank for the Sub-grant.

**Article II**
Project Execution

2.01. **Project Objectives and Description.** The objective of the Project is to maintain and deepen the capacity of CIS NSOs in compiling and producing internationally comparable national accounts expenditure data, price statistics, and other related statistics and metadata.
Part 1: Provision of consultants’ services to develop and improve methodologies and preparation of respective calculation practices;

Part 2: Provision of consultants’ services for the preparation of methodological and other materials in the Russian language;

Part 3: Conducting regional capacity building workshops to be attended by the CIS NSO staff; and

Part 4: Provision of consultants’ services for the calculation and dissemination of the national account expenditures in nominal and PPP terms, together with the related price indices.

2.02. Project Execution Generally. 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: (a) Article II of the Standard Conditions; (b) 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 (“Anti-Corruption Guidelines”); and (c) this Article II.

2.03. Institutional and Other Arrangements. (a) To facilitate the carrying out of the Project, the Recipient shall enter into a Subsidiary Grant Agreement with each of the CIS Countries under terms and conditions approved by the World Bank, which shall include the following, namely: (i) the Recipient’s obligation to furnish part of the Grant proceeds as a Sub-grant to each of the CIS Countries; and (ii) the CIS Country’s obligation to: (A) use the proceeds of the Sub-grant exclusively for carrying out the Project; (B) take all actions necessary to facilitate compliance in carrying out the project, including procurement, financial management, disbursement, accounting, audit requirements, monitoring and evaluation; (C) comply with the Anti-Corruption Guidelines; (D) refund any portion of the Sub-grant proceeds used in violation of the CIS Country’s obligation under the relevant Subsidiary Grant Agreement, and (E) furnish to the World Bank any information reasonably requested with respect to the Sub-grant.

(b) The Recipient shall suspend or terminate the right of any of the CIS Country to receive or use the proceeds of the Sub-grant upon the CIS Country’s failure to perform any of its obligations under the Subsidiary Grant Agreement.

(c) The Recipient shall exercise its rights under the Subsidiary Grant Agreement in such manner as to protect the interest of the World Bank to accomplish the purposes of the Grant. Except as the World Bank shall otherwise agree, the Recipient shall not assign, amend, abrogate or waive the Subsidiary Grant Agreement or any of its provisions.

(d) In case of any conflict between the terms of the Subsidiary Grant Agreement and this Letter Agreement, the terms of this Letter Agreement shall prevail.

2.04. Project Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation. (a) The Recipient shall monitor and evaluate the progress of the Project and prepare Project Reports in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.06 of the Standard Conditions. Each Project Report shall cover the period of one calendar year, and shall be furnished to the World Bank not later than one month after the end of the period covered by such report.
(b) The Recipient shall prepare the Completion Report in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.06 of the Standard Conditions. The Completion Report shall be furnished to the World Bank not later than six months after the Closing Date.

2.05. Financial Management. (a) The Recipient shall ensure that a financial management system is maintained in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.07 of the Standard Conditions.

(b) The Recipient shall ensure that interim unaudited financial reports for the Project are prepared and furnished to the World Bank not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of each semester, covering the semester, in form and substance satisfactory to the World Bank.

(c) The Recipient shall have its Financial Statements audited in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.07 (b) of the Standard Conditions. Each such audit of the Financial Statements shall cover the period of one fiscal year of the Recipient. The audited Financial Statements for each such period shall be furnished to the World Bank not later than six months after the end of such period.

2.06 Procurement

(a) General.

1. Goods and Non-consulting services. All goods and non-consulting services required for the Project and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Grant shall be procured in accordance with the requirements set forth or referred to in Section I of the Guidelines: “Procurement of Goods, Works, and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers” dated January 2011, revised July 2014 (“Procurement Guidelines”) and with the provisions of this Section.

2. Consultants’ Services. All consultants’ services required for the Project and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Grant shall be procured in accordance with the requirements set forth or referred to in Sections I and IV of the Guidelines: “Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers” dated January 2011, revised July 2014 (“Consultant Guidelines”) and with the provisions of this Section.

3. Procurement under the Project shall be carried out by the Recipient in accordance with the provisions of this Section, as the same shall be elaborated in the Procurement Plan prepared and updated from time to time by the Recipient according to the Procurement Guidelines and Consultant Guidelines.

4. Definitions. The capitalized terms used below in this Section to describe procurement methods or methods of review by the World Bank of particular contracts, refer to the corresponding method described in Sections II and III of the Procurement Guidelines, or Sections II, III, IV and V of the Consultant Guidelines, as the case may be.
5. Any contract for Eligible Expenditures to be financed in full or in part out of the proceeds of the Grant shall be included in the procurement plan prepared by the Recipient and approved by the World Bank in accordance with the Procurement Guidelines and the Consultant Guidelines, prior to initiating the procurement process for any such contract.

(b) Particular Methods of Procurement of Goods and Non-consulting Services

1. International Competitive Bidding. Except as otherwise provided in item (ii) below, goods and non-consulting services shall be procured under contracts awarded on the basis of International Competitive Bidding.

2. Other Methods of Procurement of Goods. The following methods of procurement, other than International Competitive Bidding, may be used for the procurement of goods and non-consulting services for those contracts specified in the Procurement Plan: (A) National Competitive Bidding, subject to the additional provisions set forth in the Annex 2, (B) Shopping; and (C) Direct Contracting.

(c) Particular Methods of Procurement of Consultants’ Services

1. Quality- and Cost-based Selection. Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph 2 below, Consultants’ Services shall be procured under contracts awarded on the basis of Quality- and Cost-based Selection.

2. Other Methods of Procurement of Consultants’ Services. The following methods of procurement, other than Quality- and Cost-Based Selection may be used for consultants’ services for those contracts which are specified in the Procurement Plan: (A) Quality-based Selection, (B) Selection under a Fixed Budget; (C) Least Cost Selection; (D) Selection based on Consultants’ Qualifications; (E) Single-Source Selection; (F) Individual Consultant; and (G) Single Source Selection of Individual Consultant.

(d) Review by the World Bank of Procurement Decisions. The Procurement Plan shall set forth those contracts which shall be subject to the Bank’s Prior Review. All other contracts shall be subject to Post Review by the World Bank.

(e) Procurement of Training. Training shall be procured in accordance with agreed procedures set out in the Procurement Plan.

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: (a) Article III of the Standard Conditions; (b) this Section; and (c) such additional instructions as the World Bank may specify by notice to the Recipient (including the “World Bank Disbursement Guidelines for Projects” dated May 2006, as revised from time to
time by the World Bank and as made applicable to this Agreement pursuant to such instructions),
to finance Eligible Expenditures set forth in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount of the Grant Allocated (expressed in USD)</th>
<th>Percentage of Expenditures to be Financed (inclusive of Taxes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Consultants’ Services, Seminars and Training, Audit, and Operating Costs</td>
<td>370,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Sub-grants</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL AMOUNT</td>
<td>390,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.02. **Withdrawal Conditions.** Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3.01 of this Agreement,

(i) no withdrawal shall be made for payments made prior to the date of countersignature of this Agreement by the Recipient;

(ii) no withdrawal shall be made under this Agreement until the financial management and procurement consultants have been contracted, and

(iii) no withdrawal for Category (2) under paragraph 3.01 shall be made unless a Subsidiary Grant Agreement, acceptable to the World Bank, has been signed between the Recipient and the CIS Country’s counterpart agency, namely, the National Statistical Office, or the Ministry of Finance, or the Central Bank.

3.03. **Withdrawal Period.** The Closing Date referred to in Section 3.06 (c) of the Standard Conditions is April 14, 2017.

**Article IV**

**Recipient’s Representative; Addresses**

4.01. **Recipient’s Representative.** The Recipient’s Representative referred to in Section 7.02 of the Standard Conditions is the Chairman of the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

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

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States
Building 1, 39 Myasnitskaya Str.
4.03. **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  
1818 H Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20433  
United States of America

Cable: INTBAFRAD  
Telex: INDEVAS 248423 (MCI) or 64145 (MCI)  
Facsimile: 1-202-477-6391
Mandatory Provisions for Procurement under
Bank-Financed Contracts Subject to National Competitive Bidding

Contracts for goods and non-consulting services for which Clause 2.06 of Article II in this Grant Agreement allows procurement under paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4 of the Procurement Guidelines may be procured in accordance with the provisions of national laws and regulations of the Recipient. In order to assure economy, efficiency, transparency and broad consistency with the provisions in Section I of the Procurement Guidelines, the national procurement provisions shall be modified as set forth in the following paragraphs.

Eligibility

1. No restrictions in respect of eligibility to participate in bidding for contracts shall be placed on the basis of nationality of bidder and/or origin of goods other than those imposed by primary boycotts.

2. Eligibility for foreign firms to participate in bidding shall not be based on requirements to joint-venture with national firms.

3. Bidders shall only be required to register for bidding provided that registration requirements and process are simple and non-discriminatory and otherwise qualified foreign bidders are not excluded from participating.

4. No preference shall be accorded to bidders on the basis of, inter alia, place of registration, ownership, and small size. No restrictions shall be imposed in terms of source of labor, material or equipment.

5. Government-owned entities shall be eligible to participate in bidding for contracts if they can establish that they are legally and financially autonomous, operate under commercial law and are not a dependent agency of the purchaser or the contractor.

Standard Bidding Documents

6. Until a modified version of the Borrower’s standard bidding document has been approved for use by the Bank, the Bank’s own standard bidding document shall be used.

Advertising bidding opportunities; time for bid preparation

7. Bidding opportunities shall be advertised in national press of wide circulation. Prospective bidders shall be allowed at least 30 days for bid preparation and submission of bids (excepting contracts for readily available off-the-shelves goods or standard specification commodities or small value works)

8. The opportunity to pre-qualify for procurements involving large or complex contracts shall be advertised.
9. Minimum experience, technical and financial requirements (for pre- or post qualification) shall be explicitly stated in the bidding documents and only criteria so specified shall be used to determine whether a bidder is qualified to bid. Bids by bidders which are deemed not qualified to bid shall not be further considered and shall be rejected.

Bid opening

10. Bids shall be opened immediately after the deadline for bid submission and in the presence of bidders who wish to attend. Bids received after the deadline shall not be considered and shall be returned unopened.

Rebidding

11. Rebidding shall not necessarily be required if only one bid has been received provided that the bid received is responsive, bid price is acceptable and bidder is deemed capable of performing the contract in accordance with the criteria in the bidding documents.

Bid evaluation

12. Evaluation criteria shall be clearly specified in the bidding documents and evaluation criteria other than price shall be expressed in monetary terms. Only criteria so specified shall be used in bid evaluation. Merit points shall not be used in evaluations of bids for goods and works contracts.

13. Bid evaluations shall be confidential and bidders shall not be allowed to be present during evaluation. No information relating to the evaluation shall be disclosed to any bidder until the successful bidder has been notified of contract award.

14. Bids containing material deviations from technical specifications and/or material reservations to the terms or conditions of the bidding documents shall be rejected as “substantially not responsive”. Bidders shall not be requested or permitted to withdraw material deviations or reservations once bids have been opened.

15. Evaluations shall be made in strict adherence to the criteria specified in the bid documents and no other criteria than those specified in the bidding documents shall be applied. Contract shall be awarded the lowest evaluated qualified and responsive bidder.

16. There shall be no negotiations of price or substance with “winning” bidders prior to contract award.