
LOAN NUMBER 3531-TON(COL)

LOAN AGREEMENT
(Ordinary Operations [Concessional])
(Building Macroeconomic Resilience Program – Subprogram 2)

between

KINGDOM OF TONGA

and

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

DATED 31 MAY 2017

TON 48361

LOAN AGREEMENT
(Ordinary Operations [Concessional])

LOAN AGREEMENT dated 31 May 2017 between KINGDOM OF TONGA ("Borrower") and ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK ("ADB").

WHEREAS

(A) ADB has received from the Borrower a development policy letter dated 2 March 2017 ("Policy Letter"), setting forth certain objectives, policies and actions, described in Schedule 1 to this Loan Agreement, designed to build the Borrower's macroeconomic resilience through the Building Macroeconomic Resilience Program ("Program");

(B) the Program comprises the second subprogram of a programmatic approach, as described in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to this Loan Agreement ("Programmatic Approach"), and the Borrower has applied to ADB for a loan for the purposes of the Program;

(C) by a grant agreement of even date herewith between the Borrower and ADB ("Special Operations Grant Agreement"), ADB has agreed to provide grant to the Borrower from ADB's Special Funds resources, in the amount of two million two hundred fifty thousand Dollars (\$2,250,000), for the purposes of financing the Program; and

(D) ADB has agreed to make a concessional loan to the Borrower from ADB's ordinary capital resources upon the terms and conditions set forth herein;

NOW THEREFORE the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

Loan Regulations; Definitions

Section 1.01. All the provisions of ADB's Ordinary Operations (Concessional) Loan Regulations, dated 1 January 2017 ("Loan Regulations"), are hereby made applicable to this Loan Agreement with the same force and effect as if they were fully set forth herein, subject, however, to the following modifications:

(a) Section 2.01(v) is deleted and the following is substituted therefor:

"Program" means the program for which ADB has agreed to make the Loan, as described in the Loan Agreement and as the description thereof may be amended from time to time by agreement between ADB and the Borrower.

(b) The term "Project" wherever it appears in the Loan Regulations shall be substituted by the term "Program".

- (c) Section 2.01(x) is deleted and the following is substituted therefor:
 "Program Executing Agency" means the entity or entities responsible for the carrying out of the Program as specified in the Loan Agreement.
- (d) The term "Project Executing Agency" wherever it appears in the Loan Regulations shall be substituted by the term "Program Executing Agency".
- (e) Section 5.01(b) is deleted.

Section 1.02. Wherever used in this Loan Agreement, the several terms defined in the Loan Regulations have the respective meanings therein set forth unless modified herein or the context otherwise requires. Additional terms used in this Loan Agreement have the following meanings:

- (a) "Counterpart Funds" means the local currency generated from the Loan proceeds under the Program and referred to in paragraphs 4 of Schedule 4 to this Loan Agreement;
- (b) "Deposit Account" means the account referred to in paragraph 3 of Schedule 3 to this Loan Agreement;
- (c) "Loan Disbursement Handbook" means ADB's Loan Disbursement Handbook (2015, as amended from time to time);
- (d) "Policy Matrix" means the policy matrix as agreed between the Borrower and ADB, which sets forth actions accomplished or to be accomplished by the Borrower under the Program and is attached to the Policy Letter; and
- (e) "Program Executing Agency" for the purposes of, and within the meaning of, the Loan Regulations means Ministry of Finance and National Planning or any successor thereto acceptable to ADB, which is responsible for the carrying out of the Program.

ARTICLE II

The Loan

Section 2.01. (a) ADB agrees to lend to the Borrower from ADB's ordinary capital resources an amount in various currencies equivalent to two million twenty-six thousand Special Drawing Rights (SDR2,026,000).

(b) The Loan has a principal repayment period of 16 years, and a grace period as defined in subsection (c) hereinafter.

(c) The term "grace period" as used in subsection (b) hereinabove means the period prior to the first Principal Payment Date in accordance with the amortization schedule set forth in Schedule 2 to this Loan Agreement.

Section 2.02. The Borrower shall pay to ADB an interest charge at the rate of 1% per annum during the grace period, and 1.5% per annum thereafter, on the amount of the Loan withdrawn from the Loan Account and outstanding from time to time.

Section 2.03. The interest charge and any other charge on the Loan shall be payable semiannually on 15 May and 15 November in each year.

Section 2.04. The Borrower shall repay the principal amount of the Loan withdrawn from the Loan Account in accordance with the amortization schedule set forth in Schedule 2 to this Loan Agreement.

Section 2.05. The currency of repayment of the principal of the Loan and the currency of payment of the interest charge for the purposes of Sections 4.03(a) and 4.04 of the Loan Regulations shall be the Dollar.

ARTICLE III

Use of Proceeds of the Loan

Section 3.01. The Borrower shall cause the proceeds of the Loan to be applied to the financing of expenditures on the Program in accordance with the provisions of this Loan Agreement.

Section 3.02. The proceeds of the Loan shall be withdrawn in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 3 to this Loan Agreement, as such Schedule may be amended from time to time by agreement between the Borrower and ADB.

Section 3.03. The Loan Closing Date for the purposes of Section 8.02 of the Loan Regulations shall be 30 September 2017 or such other date as may from time to time be agreed between the Borrower and ADB.

ARTICLE IV

Particular Covenants

Section 4.01. In the carrying out of the Program, the Borrower shall perform, or cause to be performed, all obligations set forth in Schedule 4 to this Loan Agreement.

Section 4.02. As part of the reports and information referred to in Section 6.05 of the Loan Regulations, the Borrower shall furnish, or cause to be furnished, to

ADB all such reports and information as ADB shall reasonably request concerning (i) the Counterpart Funds and the use thereof; and (ii) the implementation of the Program, including the accomplishment of the targets and carrying out of the actions set out in the Policy Letter.

ARTICLE V

Suspension; Acceleration of Maturity

Section 5.01. The following is specified as an additional event for suspension of the right of the Borrower to make withdrawals from the Loan Account for the purposes of Section 8.01(m) of the Loan Regulations: the Borrower shall have failed to perform one or more of its obligations under the Special Operations Grant Agreement.

Section 5.02. The following is specified as an additional event for acceleration of maturity for the purposes of Section 8.07(d) of the Loan Regulations: an event specified in Section 5.01 of this Loan Agreement shall have occurred.

ARTICLE VI

Effectiveness

Section 6.01. The following is specified as an additional condition to the effectiveness of this Loan Agreement for the purposes of Section 9.01(f) of the Loan Regulations: the Special Operations Grant Agreement shall have been duly executed and delivered on behalf of the Borrower, and all conditions precedent to its effectiveness (other than a condition requiring the effectiveness of this Loan Agreement) shall have been fulfilled.

Section 6.02. The following is specified as an additional matter for the purposes of Section 9.02(d) of the Loan Regulations, to be included in the opinion or opinions to be furnished to ADB: that the Special Operations Grant Agreement has been duly authorized or ratified by, and executed and delivered on behalf of the Borrower and is legally binding upon the Borrower in accordance with its terms, subject only to the effectiveness of this Loan Agreement.

Section 6.03. A date 90 days after the date of this Loan Agreement is specified for the effectiveness of the Loan Agreement for the purposes of Section 9.04 of the Loan Regulations.

ARTICLE VII**Miscellaneous**

Section 7.01. The Minister for Finance and National Planning of the Borrower is designated as representative of the Borrower for the purposes of Section 11.02 of the Loan Regulations.

Section 7.02. The following addresses are specified for the purposes of Section 11.01 of the Loan Regulations:

For the Borrower

Ministry of Finance and National Planning
Vuna Road
Nuku'alofa
Kingdom of Tonga

Facsimile Number:

(676) 24040

For ADB

Asian Development Bank
6 ADB Avenue
Mandaluyong City
1550 Metro Manila
Philippines

Facsimile Numbers:

(632) 636-2444

(632) 636-9246.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto, acting through their representatives thereunto duly authorized, have caused this Loan Agreement to be signed in their respective names as of the day and year first above written and to be delivered at the principal office of the ADB.

KINGDOM OF TONGA

By  _____
BHIMANTARA WIDYAJALA
Authorized Representative

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

By  _____
JAMES PATRICK LYNCH
Deputy Director General
Pacific Department

SCHEDULE 1**Description of the Program**

1. The principal objective of the Programmatic Approach is to improve fiscal position and business environment in Tonga. The Programmatic Approach comprises three subprograms and the Program is the second subprogram.
2. The Program is described in more detail in the Policy Letter.
3. The Program is expected to be completed by 30 June 2017.

SCHEDULE 2**Amortization Schedule**

<u>Payment Due</u>	<u>Payment of Principal</u> (expressed in Special Drawing Rights)*
15 November 2025	63,313
15 May 2026	63,313
15 November 2026	63,313
15 May 2027	63,313
15 November 2027	63,313
15 May 2028	63,313
15 November 2028	63,313
15 May 2029	63,313
15 November 2029	63,313
15 May 2030	63,313
15 November 2030	63,313
15 May 2031	63,313
15 November 2031	63,313
15 May 2032	63,313
15 November 2032	63,313
15 May 2033	63,313
15 November 2033	63,313
15 May 2034	63,313
15 November 2034	63,313
15 May 2035	63,313
15 November 2035	63,313
15 May 2036	63,313
15 November 2036	63,313
15 May 2037	63,313
15 November 2037	63,313
15 May 2038	63,313
15 November 2038	63,313
15 May 2039	63,313
15 November 2039	63,313
15 May 2040	63,313
15 November 2040	63,313
15 May 2041	<u>63,297</u>
TOTAL	2,026,000

* The arrangements for payment are subject to the provisions of Sections 3.04 and 4.03 of the Loan Regulations.

SCHEDULE 3**Withdrawal of Loan Proceeds**

1. Except as set out in this Schedule or as ADB may otherwise agree, the Loan proceeds shall be disbursed in accordance with the Loan Disbursement Handbook.
2. An application for withdrawal from the Loan Account shall be submitted to ADB by the Borrower and shall be in a form satisfactory to ADB.
3. (a) Prior to submitting the first application to ADB for withdrawal from the Loan Account, the Borrower shall nominate an account (the Deposit Account) at the National Reserve Bank of Tonga into which all withdrawals from the Loan Account shall be deposited. The Deposit Account shall be established, managed and liquidated in accordance with the applicable regulations and procedures of the Borrower.

(b) Separate accounts and records in respect of the Deposit Account shall be maintained in accordance with accounting principles acceptable to ADB. Upon ADB's request, the Borrower shall have the financial statements for the Deposit Account audited by independent auditors, whose qualifications, experience and terms of reference are acceptable to ADB, in accordance with international standards for auditing or the national equivalent acceptable to ADB. Promptly after their preparation but in any event not later than 6 months after the date of ADB's request, copies of such audited financial statements and the opinion of the auditors on the financial statements, in the English language, shall be furnished to ADB.
4. No Loan proceeds shall be withdrawn to finance any item specified in the Attachment to this Schedule.
5. The Borrower may withdraw the Loan upon effectiveness of this Loan Agreement.

Negative List

No withdrawals of Loan proceeds will be made for the following:

- (i) expenditures for goods included in the following groups or sub-groups of the United Nations Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 3 (SITC, Rev. 3) or any successor groups or sub-groups under future revisions to the SITC, as designated by ADB by notice to the Borrower:

Table: Ineligible Items

Chapter	Heading	Description of Items
112		Alcoholic beverages
121		Tobacco, unmanufactured; tobacco refuse
122		Tobacco, manufactured (whether or not containing tobacco substitute)
525		Radioactive and associated materials
667		Pearls, precious and semiprecious stones, unworked or worked
718	718.7	Nuclear reactors, and parts thereof, fuel elements (cartridges), nonirradiated for nuclear reactors
728	728.43	Tobacco processing machinery
897	897.3	Jewelry of gold, silver or platinum-group metals (except watches and watch cases) and goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares (including set gems)
971		Gold, nonmonetary (excluding gold ore and concentrates)

Source: United Nations.

- (ii) expenditures in the currency of the Borrower or for goods supplied from the territory of the Borrower;
- (iii) expenditures for goods supplied under a contract that any national or international financing institution or agency will have financed or has agreed to finance, including any contract financed under any loan or grant from the ADB;
- (iv) expenditures for goods intended for a military or paramilitary purpose or for luxury consumption;
- (v) expenditures for narcotics;
- (vi) expenditures for environmentally hazardous goods, the manufacture, use or import of which is prohibited under the laws of the Borrower or international agreements to which the Borrower is a party; and
- (vii) expenditures on account of any payment prohibited by the Borrower in compliance with a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

SCHEDULE 4

Program Implementation and Other Matters

Implementation Arrangements

1. The Ministry of Finance and National Planning will be the executing agency. The Ministries of Public Enterprises; Commerce and Labor; Revenue and Customs Services; Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Climate Change and Communications; and the Office of the Prime Minister will be the implementing agencies.

Policy Actions and Dialogue

2. The Borrower shall ensure that all policy actions adopted under the Program, as set forth in the Policy Letter and the Policy Matrix, continue to be in effect for the duration of the Programmatic Approach.

3. The Borrower shall keep ADB informed of policy discussions with other multilateral and bilateral aid agencies that may have implications for the implementation of the Program and shall provide ADB with an opportunity to comment on any resulting policy proposals. The Borrower shall take into account ADB's views before finalizing and implementing any such proposal.

Use of Counterpart Funds

4. The Borrower shall ensure that the Counterpart Funds are used to finance the implementation of certain programs and activities consistent with the objectives of the Program, and shall provide the necessary budget appropriations in a timely manner to finance the costs relating to the implementation of reforms under the Program.

Governance and Anticorruption

5. The Beneficiary, the Program Executing Agency, and the implementing agencies shall: (a) comply with ADB's Anticorruption Policy (1998, as amended to date) and acknowledge that ADB reserves the right to investigate directly, or through its agents, any alleged corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practice relating to the Program; and (b) cooperate with any such investigation and extend all necessary assistance for satisfactory completion of such investigation.

Monitoring and Review

6. The Borrower shall ensure that reporting on impact of the Program following the Program completion is made by the Program Executing Agency to ADB. The Program Executing Agency shall, as needed, hold consultative meetings with stakeholders and the development partner community to solicit their feedback on emerging regulations and the impact of the Programmatic Approach.

7. The Borrower and ADB shall jointly assess the impact and evaluate the benefits of the Program within 12 months of the Effective Date, in accordance with ADB's performance

management system. The Borrower and ADB may use the findings of such assessment and evaluation in refining the Programmatic Approach.

Reporting

8. Within six months of the Effective Date and semiannually thereafter, the Borrower shall prepare consolidated progress report on policy and institutional reforms implementation and shall forward the same to ADB. The reports shall describe progress made under the Program, as well as within the scope of the Programmatic Approach, and any changes to the implementation schedule, and shall also identify any problems encountered and remedial actions taken.