

22 September 2022 URM-2022-489

Mr. Jamshid Khodjaev Minister Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan 1, Islam Karimov Street Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan

Dear Mr. Khodjaev,

Subject: Knowledge and Support Technical Assistance (KSTA) for

**Strengthening the Project Preparation System (KSTA 6956-UZB)** 

-- Request for No Objection

We are pleased to inform you that on 21 September 2022, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved the provision of the knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) grant financing to the Government of Uzbekistan (the Government) for strengthening the project preparation system in an amount not exceeding the equivalent of \$650,000.

The TA will be financed on a grant basis by ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-7) and carried out pursuant to (i) the Technical Assistance Framework Agreement between the Government and ADB dated 25 October 1996 (the Framework Agreement), and (ii) the arrangements described in paragraphs 16-17 of the TA Report attached hereto as the Attachment.

ADB will administer the TA. The International Cooperation and Development Agency under the Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade will be the key counterpart government agency involved in TA implementation and will be responsible for coordination with government executing agencies. The cost estimates and financing plan are in Appendix 2 of the Attachment, and the terms of reference of consultants to be engaged under the TA are accessible from the list of linked documents in Appendix 3 of the Attachment.

The TA will be provided entirely as a grant. The Government shall provide counterpart support in the form of office space for TA consultants, counterpart staff, data and information access, facilitation of liaisons with stakeholders, and other in-kind contributions.

This TA letter agreement will be posted on ADB's website subject to the Government's noobjection and request to remove sensitive information or data which should be withheld from disclosure. We would appreciate your concurrence by countersigning this letter (**Attachment 1**).

Approval of the Government to these arrangements shall be deemed given unless ADB has received a written objection from the Government (addressed to the undersigned) within 21 calendar days from the date of this letter.

I will henceforth be responsible for all matters pertaining to implementation of the TA. All communication on this matter may, therefore, be addressed to me with copy to Mr. Hiroki Katayama (<a href="https://nkatayama@adb.org">https://nkatayama@adb.org</a>) and Ms. Umida Rasul-Zade (<a href="https://urasulzade@adb.org">urasulzade@adb.org</a>).

Sincerely,

Enrico Pinali

Officer-in-Charge

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK UZBEKISTAN RESIDENT MISSION Attachment 1: Written confirmation from the Government

Attachment 2: Technical Assistance Report

cc: Mr. Shukhrat Vafaev, Alternate Governor, Director, Strategic Reforms Agency under the Presidential Administration

Mr. Shahrukh Rakhimov, Director, International Cooperation and Development Agency under Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade (MIFT)

Ms. Gulzoda Tohiriy, Senior Specialist, Department for Coordination of Relations with IFIs and FGFOs, MIFT (focal person in MIFT)

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