January 25, 2013

II.E. Mr. Jafar Hassan
Minister of Planning and International Cooperation
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
Amman, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
(Transmission by fax: 962-6-464-2751)

National Unified Registry and Outreach Program for Targeting Social Assistance Project
Project Endorsement Letter

Excellency,

The World Bank is pleased to express its endorsement of the National Unified Registry and Outreach Program for Targeting Social Assistance Project, presented by the Government of Jordan to the Middle East and North Africa Transition Fund Steering Committee, and to act as the implementation support agency for the implementation of this project.

The project aims to contribute to the Government’s poverty reduction and subsidy reform efforts through establishing a National Unified Registry (NUR) to deliver a more targeted and efficient cash transfer program, and developing an efficient outreach mechanism through the Integrated Outreach Worker Program (IOWP). With a combination of cash support and a package of services tailored to households’ needs, the project will lift poor and vulnerable project beneficiary households permanently out of poverty.

The project is well aligned with the Poverty Reduction Strategy of the Government of Jordan and supports the objectives of the World Bank Country Partnership Strategy for Jordan which recognizes the vital role of an effective social protection system to the success of the Government’s poverty reduction and social inclusion agenda.

The project was prepared according to the World Bank policies and procedures. Appraisal of the project was completed (copy of the PAD attached). The World Bank appraised and agreed on the following: (i) project objectives, components, component activities, costs, and results framework; (ii) implementation arrangements; (iii) project financial management and procurement arrangements; and (iv) technical viability of the proposed activities. The World Bank management has cleared the Project Appraisal Document and has approved of its submission to the Steering Committee.
We thank the Steering Committee for its consideration of this project, and look forward to the opportunity of supporting the Government of Jordan in implementing the project and achieving its intended objectives.

Sincerely yours,

Pilar Maisterra
Acting Director, Middle East Department
Middle East and North Africa Region
The World Bank

Attachment:
- Project Appraisal Document

cc:
Mr. Merza H. Hasan, Executive Director, The World Bank Group
Mr. Sultan Lutfi, Senior Advisor to the Executive Director, The World Bank Group
Copy:

H.E. Mr. Suleiman Hafez
Minister of Finance
Ministry of Finance
Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
(Transmission by email: minister@mof.gov.jo)

H.E. Wajih Azaizeh
Minister of Social Development
Ministry of Social Development
Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
(Transmission by fax no.: 962-6-593 1518)

H.E. Dr. Omar El Zoubi
Secretary General
Ministry of Finance
Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
(Transmission by fax no. 962-6-464-3121)

H.E. Dr. Saleh Kharabsheh
Secretary General
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
(Transmission by email: saleh.kh@mop.gov.jo)

Ms. Zeina Toukan
Director of International Cooperation Development
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
(Transmission by email: Zeina.Toukan@mop.gov.jo)

Ms. Wafa Saket,
Head of Asian Relations Division at the International Cooperation Department
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
(Transmission by email: Wafa.Al-Saket@mop.gov.jo)

Ms. Raghad Al-Shakhanbeh
International Cooperation Department
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
(Transmission by email: Raghad.Al-Shakanbeh@mop.gov.jo)
Cleared with & cc: Janette Uhlmann, Sr. Country Officer (MNCA2); Gustavo Demarco. Acting SP Sector Manager, (MNSHD)

cc: Mmes./Messrs. Belhaj, Ibrahim (MNC02); Maisterra, Njuguna (MNCA2); Mazahreh (MNAFM); Fares (MNAPR); Jorgensen, El Gammal, Sayed, Moreno, Kaur, Ballout (MNSHD); Temourov (MNC02); Jordan HD Team, Jordan Core; Couzi (MNCLB); Shaqour (Consultant); WBDocs (P133024)