Attn: Middle East and North Africa Transition Fund Steering Committee

Subject: Endorsement of the Libya Electricity Sector Reform Programmatic Technical Assistance.

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

The World Bank is pleased to endorse the Libya Electricity Sector Reform Technical Assistance Program presented by the Government of Libya to the Middle East and North Africa Transition Fund Steering Committee and to act as the implementation Support Agency for this project.

If approved by the MNA Transition Fund, the proposed project would be a timely response to address the increasing needs related to regulatory reforms of the power sector, which for the Libyan authorities constitutes a crucial input towards economic recovery and civic peace. Electricity prices are among the most heavily subsidized world-wide, which substantially reduces the fiscal space available for public expenditures – such as health and education – encourages the inefficient use of energy, and prevents the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency alternatives.

The objective of the proposed project is to support the Government of Libya in its efforts to reform the electricity sector and its institutions with a view of enhancing the sector’s technical and financial viability. The project inscribes itself in the framework of a seminal ministerial decision adopted on September, 2013 that underpins reforms in the power sector.

The project has been fully prepared according to World Bank policies and procedures. It is proposed as a programmatic Technical Assistance financed under a World Bank executed trust fund. It would follow the World Bank’s standard operational policies and procedures, including procurement and financial management policies.

We thank the steering Committee for its consideration of this project and look forward to the opportunity to support the Government in implementing the reforms.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Gray
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