Middle East and North Africa Transition Fund Steering Committee

Subject: Endorsement of Tunisia’s proposal – Regional Affordable Housing Project - presented to the Transition Fund.

Dear Sirs,

The World Bank is pleased to endorse the Tunisia activities of the Regional Affordable Housing Project presented by the Government of Tunisia to the Middle East and North Africa Transition Fund Steering Committee and to act as an Implementation Support Agency for the project.

The regional dimension and shared issues related to the affordable housing sector has prompted the World Bank and Arab Monetary Fund to initiate the Regional Affordable Housing Project, in which the two institutions intend to support the participating countries in the field of affordable housing and housing finance, starting with Morocco and Tunisia, and eventually expanding the program to other countries that opt to join the initiative.

The project in Tunisia aims at providing assistance to mutually reinforcing structural reforms that promote access to affordable housing for low to middle income households. We welcome the transformational nature of this project proposal, which will ultimately contribute to improving the living conditions of the populations through integrating housing development with access to better social and economic prospects, and generating opportunities for growth and employment in the context of post Arab Spring upheavals.

The project has been fully prepared in accordance with World Bank policies and procedures. Project preparation has been finalized and cleared by management, as evidenced by the attached Project Document and annexes.

We thank the Steering Committee for its consideration of this project, and look forward to the opportunity to support Tunisia in implementing the project for the benefit of the people of Tunisia.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Simon Gray
Director, Maghreb Department,
Middle East and North Africa

Mr. Omar Bougara, Executive Director, World Bank
Attachments:
- Transition Fund application (in English)
- Project Document and annexes (in English)

Copy to:

H.E. Lamine Doghri
Minister of Development and International Cooperation
Ministry of Development and International Cooperation
Tunis, Tunisia

H.E Monsieur Mohamed Salmame
Minister of Equipment, Housing and Regional Development
Ministry of Equipment, Housing and Regional Development
Tunis, Tunisia
(Transmission by fax: 216-71 840 495)

H.E Monsieur Elyes Fakhfakh
Minister of Finance
Ministry of Finance
Tunis, Tunisia
(Transmission by fax: 216-71 563 959)

H.E Chedly Ayari
Governor
Central Bank of Tunisia
Tunis, Tunisia
(Transmission by fax: 216-71 340 563)

H.E. Chahida Fray Bouraoui
State Secretary for Housing
Ministry of Equipment, Housing and Regional Development
Tunis, Tunisia
(Transmission by fax: 216-71 801 945)

H.E. Nourredine Kaabi
State Secretary for Regional Development
Ministry of Development and International Cooperation
Tunis, Tunisia
(Transmission by fax: 216-71 351 666)

Mrs. Sonia Ben Nasr
Interim Director for Multilateral Cooperation
Ministry of Development and International Cooperation
Tunis, Tunisia
(Transmission by fax: 216-71 799 845)
Madame Lamia Zribi
General Director for Prevision
Minister of Development and International Cooperation
Tunis, Tunisia

(Transmission by fax: 216-71 351 666)