

AFB/B.35.a-35.b/9 1 June 2020

Adaptation Fund Board

REQUEST FOR A GRACE PERIOD FOR ACHIEVING RE-ACCREDITATION: MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (MOPIC) OF JORDAN

Background

1. At its thirty-fourth meeting the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) considered the matter of '*implications of an implementing entity's accreditation expiration on its project implementation and on the Standard Legal Agreement and a revision of re-accreditation process*' and approved the revised re-accreditation process as contained in Annex II to document AFB/B.34/5¹ (Decision B.34/3).

2. The revisions in the revised re-accreditation process were mainly related to paragraph 7 on the deadlines for submission of re-accreditation application and acquisition of re-accreditation. It introduced the 'grace period' for re-accreditation purposes to allow the implementing entity, which is implementing a project financed by the Adaptation Fund (the Fund), to request an extension of the timeline for achieving re-accreditation by the date for the project completion or within three years from its accreditation expiry date. Following the Board's discussions at the thirty-third meeting, the grace period was introduced in the revised re-accreditation process, to reduce the gap between the implementing entity's accreditation expiration date and its re-accreditation and to minimize adverse impact of the accreditation expiration on the ongoing project implementation.

3. The section related to the 'grace period for re-accreditation' is excerpted from the revised re-accreditation process approved by the Board at the thirty-third meeting, as follows:

Deadlines

7. The implementing entities are strongly recommended to meet the suggested deadlines to facilitate the re-accreditation process and avoid a major gap between accreditation expiration and achievement of re-accreditation.

. . .

(2) Submission of re-accreditation application: The implementing entity (the IE) is strongly recommended to submit its re-accreditation application and supporting documentation through the online accreditation system maintained by the secretariat, 12 months prior to its accreditation expiry date. If the entity does not submit the application by its accreditation expiry date, the Panel will make a recommendation to the Board to change the status of the entity from "Accredited" to "Not-Accredited" at the accreditation expiry date, considering the following:

. . .

(ii) If the IE is implementing the project financed by the Fund and has not submitted the re-accreditation application by the date of accreditation expiration, in order to **obtain a grace period for achieving re-accreditation** before the completion of the project or within three years from its accreditation expiry date, it shall submit to the Board, through its secretariat, an official request for a grace period with an

¹ Re-accreditation process, Available at <u>https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/re-accreditation-process/</u>.

official letter from IE to confirm its commitment to achieve re-accreditation during the grace period. Official letter(s) from the DA(s) related to re-accreditation of the IE and the Fund's ongoing project implemented by the IE would be considered by the Board: if the IE is an NIE, such letter from the DA of the NIE's country to be considered; and if the IE is an RIE, such official letters from the DAs of the RIE member countries that originally endorsed the application of accreditation of the RIE to the Fund and, if the RIE has accessed the Fund's financial resources, additional official letters from the DAs of the countries where the Fund's project is implemented would also be considered.

(3) Acquisition of re-accreditation: The implementing entity is strongly recommended to achieve re-accreditation within three years from its accreditation expiry date. If the entity does not achieve re-accreditation within three years from its accreditation expiry date, the Panel will make a recommendation to the Board to change the status of the entity to "Not Accredited." Paragraph 7 (2) (i) and (ii) apply mutatis mutandis to this section [emphasis added].²

. . .

Secretariat's review of the request

4. The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) of Jordan (the entity) was accredited as a national implementing entity of Jordan with the Fund on 14 December 2011, and its accreditation expired on 14 December 2016. The entity submitted its re-accreditation application on 23 August 2016. As of the date of this document, the entity has not yet achieved re-accreditation and is implementing the project financed by the Adaptation Fund, *"Increasing the resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to climate change"* (the Project).³

5. As per the 'grandfather policy' indicated in paragraph 11 of the reaccreditation process, the entity was allowed to achieve re-accreditation by 23 March 2020.⁴ The grandfather policy applies to implementing entities which had submitted a complete re-accreditation before 23 March 2018 when the Board approved the updated re-accreditation process, allowing those implementing entities to achieve re-accreditation within two years from such date of the Board decision. However, the entity was not able to achieve re-accreditation by 23 March 2020.

6. As per the 'grace-period' policy indicated in paragraphs 7 (2) (ii) and 7(3) of the reaccreditation process and explained above, the implementing entity, which has yet to achieve re-

² Re-accreditation process, paragraph 7.

³ For more information on the Project, "Increasing the resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to climate change, see <u>https://www.adaptation-fund.org/project/increasing-the-resilience-of-poor-and-vulnerable-communities-to-climate-change-impacts-in-jordan-through-implementing-innovative-projects-in-water-and-agriculture-in-support-of-adaptation-to-climate-4/.</u>

⁴ Re-accreditation process, paragraph 11.

accreditation before its accreditation expiration and which has been implementing the project financed by the Fund, is eligible to submit an official request for a grace period for achieving its re-accreditation before the completion of the project or within three years from its accreditation expiry date.

7. On 18 March 2020 and 7 April 2020 respectively, the entity submitted an official letter from the Designated Authority of the country for Board's consideration, which contains the entity's request for a grace period for achieving its re-accreditation till the completion of the Project of which completion has been extended to 13 January 2022 by the Board's approval (<u>Decision</u> <u>B.35.a-35.b/1</u>).⁵ The official letters are attached in the Annex to this document.

8. The secretariat's review of these official letters from the DA, as per paragraphs 7 (2) (ii) and 7(3) of the re-accreditation process, found that the request for a grace period for achieving the entity's re-accreditation till the date for completion of the Project, 13 January 2022, can be justified and would contribute to reducing the gap between the expiration of entity's accreditation and re-accreditation and to minimizing adverse impact of the entity's accreditation expiry on the ongoing project implementation. It is also noteworthy that as of the date of this document, the entity is actively pursuing re-accreditation.

Recommendation

9. Considering the official request of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) of Jordan for a grace period for achieving its re-accreditation and the secretariat's review as contained in document AFB/B.35.a-35.b/9 and its Annex as well as the re-accreditation process, the Adaptation Fund Board may consider and approve MoPIC's official request for a grace period for achieving re-accreditation until the date for completion of its project *"Increasing the resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to climate change*", 13 January 2022.

⁵ For the entity's request for extension of project completion date for the project "Increasing the resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to climate change," see document AFB/B.35.a-35.b/1 available at <u>https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/AFB.B.34-35.7_Project-Extension-Request_SANBI.pdf</u>.

ANNEX

- Official letter from the Designated Authority of Jordan on MoPIC's request for a grace-period for re-accreditation dated 18 March 2020; and
- Official letter from the Designated Authority of Jordan on MoPIC's request for a grace-period for re-accreditation dated 7 April 2020.



Ministry of Environment

13 4-2638 Date 18-3-2020

> Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat c/o Global Environment Facility Mail stop: N 7-700 1818 H Street NW Washington DC 20433 USA Land line +12024730701 Fax +1202 5223240

Dear Sirs,

In reference to the Accreditation granted to the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) as the National Implementing Entity of Jordan, which shall expire on 23 March 2020, kindly be advised that MoPIC has been in contact with the designated re-accreditation panel concerning its inquiries on the submitted application and responded in full on 20 January 2020. However, MoPIC has been recently informed that the time is short and the process will not conclude before the deadline.

In this context, I would like to inform you that MoPIC remains committed to this process in order to regain the Accredited status, as per the attached assurance letter, and therefore, in my capacity as the Designated Authority and in line with the Adaptation Fund Revised Re-accreditation Policy paragraph 7, sub-paragraph 2(ii), we would highly appreciate your kind approval to grant MoPIC a grace period of up to three years, in order to be able to finalize any pending issue that might arise during the ongoing panel review.

Please accept my high esteem and consideration.

Sincerely.

Saleh Al-Kharabsheh.

Minister of Environment

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN TEL: +962 6 5560113 FAX: +962 6 5516377 P.O.BOX: 1408 AMMAN 11941 JORDAN WWW. moenv.gov.jo



Ministry of Environment

Ref.No 13/4/2730 Date 7/4/2020

Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat c/o Global Environment Facility Mail stop: N 7-700 1818 H Street NW Washington DC 20433 USA

Tel. +1-202 473 0701 Fax. +1 202 522 3240

Dear Sirs,

Further to my letter no. 13-4-2638 dated 18 March 2020 concerning the Reaccreditation of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC) as the National Implementing Entity of Jordan, kindly be advised that the granted Accreditation for MOPIC expired on 14 December 2016, and the Re-accreditation deadline set on 23 March 2020, as per Paragraph 11 "Grandfather" of the Adaptation Fund Revised Reaccreditation Policy, was not achieved unfortunately.

Accordingly, and in pursuance of Paragraph no. 7.2 (ii) of the above-mentioned Policy, we would highly appreciate your kind approval to grant MOPIC a grace period till the completion of the Adaptation Fund project that is currently under MOPIC's implementation, i.e., until 13 January 2022, for achieving the Re-accreditation.

Please accept my high esteem and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Saleh Al-Kha Minister of Environment

cc/Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

TEL: +962 6 5560113 FAX: +962 6 5516377 P.O.Box: 1408 Amman 11941 Jordan www.moenv.gov.jo