

June 4, 2013

GAFSP Coordination Unit  
MC5-510  
World Bank  
1818 H Street NW  
Washington DC 20433  
USA

**Letter of Readiness to Supervise the  
Bhutan Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) Proposal**

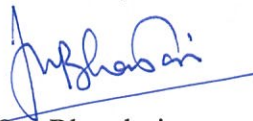
Dear Committee:

We are pleased to inform you that the World Bank has been selected as the preferred supervising entity for the implementation of the Royal Government of Bhutan's Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) proposal. We have worked closely with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests (MoAF) in the preparation of GAFSP proposal which we fully endorse. The proposed activities will significantly complement other World Bank funded agriculture and food security operations within the country which could not so far be scaled up due to limited IDA funding.

The World Bank team is ready to supervise/support the implementation of the proposed GAFSP project. It shares a similar development objective - with a different geographical coverage - as the World Bank funded Remote Rural Communities Development Project (RRCDP) which is under implementation in six south-western districts. Our preference is to proceed to an additional financing to the RRCDP to include the Eastern districts covered under the GAFSP proposal. That will expand the geographical coverage of a well-designed operation and reinforce our programmatic approach through strengthening existing implementation arrangements. We remain nevertheless open to the idea of a stand-alone operation.

We would appreciate your consideration of our request and look forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,



Om Bhandari  
Acting Representative to Bhutan  
South Asia Region

Cc: Sherub Gyaltshen, Secretary Ministry of Agriculture and Forests  
Lam Dorji, Secretary, Ministry of Finance  
Choiten Wangchuk, Director-General, Department of Public Accounts, Ministry  
of Finance  
Davinder Sandhu, Advisor to the Executive Director for Bhutan, World Bank