

Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources Management

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To: Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan
Mr. Akilov A.G.

Dear Akil Ghaybulloevich,

As you know in February of current year the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan approved the Poverty Reduction Strategy which includes important aspects of a number of long term policy documents, particularly Food Security Program and Agrarian Policy Concept.

The main objective of this Strategy is the economic and social development and improvement of life conditions of population and there are number of important measures that are planned within its framework, including implementation of structural reforms. Resolution of these problems in development of agriculture sector reform and improvement of life conditions in rural areas are also the priority targets of the abovementioned document.

One of the key factors in resolution of the abovementioned problem is the necessity of reconstruction and rehabilitation of irrigation system, which is regrettably in poor condition due to the lack of financing. Particularly many hydro technical constructions, irrigation networks, collector and drainage networks require rehabilitation and maintenance, cleaning and renovation, which require huge amount of investments. Recently established Water User Associations (WUA) also do not meet requirements and need time and financial and technical support for ensuring their sustainability.

In this regards in June, 2010 the Ministry prepared project proposal for “Public employment for sustainable agriculture and water management project” for financing under the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program and submitted it to the Steering Committee but unfortunately it has not been successful. Ministry has amended the project proposal taking into account all comments and suggestions received from the abovementioned Committee and prepared it for resubmission in the second round of financing which will take part in October.

Total amount of the project is 30 million USD and its main objective is to improve food security of farms through creation of short-term employment and rehabilitation of the irrigation and drainage infrastructure in 10 selected districts of Khatlon oblast. In general implementation of the particular project will be beneficial for productivity increase and sustainable agriculture

sector, public employment and improvement of life conditions, improvement of food security in rural areas.

Dear Akil Gaybulloevich, in regards with resubmission of the abovementioned project proposal to the Steering Committee of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program, the Ministry has prepared the draft letter and is pleased to provide it to you for your review and further instructions.

Sincerely

Minister

R. Bobokalonov