Mr. K. Çağatay İmirgi  
Acting Director General  
Foreign Economic Relations  
Ministry of Treasury and Finance  
Republic of Turkey  
Ankara

May 7, 2019

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

Turkey: Loans No. 8531-TR  
(Health System Strengthening and Support Project)  
Amendment to the Loan Agreement

Dear Sir:

We refer to the Loan Agreement ("Agreement"), dated September 30, 2015, between the Republic of Turkey ("Borrower") and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development ("Bank") for the Health System Strengthening and Support Project ("Project") and to your letter dated March 12, 2019, requesting the Bank for specific amendments to the Agreement.

We are pleased to inform you that the Bank has agreed to your request and hereby amend the Agreement as follows:

1. Schedule 1 of the Agreement is deleted in its entirety and is replaced with a new schedule provided in Annex to this Amendment Letter (Amendment Letter);

2. The Closing Date of the Project is extended until June 30, 2021, for the purpose of Section IV.B.2 of Schedule 2 to the Agreement.

The revised Project result indicators will be sent under a separate letter to the Borrower shortly.

Except as specifically amended herein, all the other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
Please confirm your agreement to the foregoing amendments to the Agreement on behalf of the Recipient, by signing and dating the confirmation on the enclosed copy of this Amendment Letter and returning it to us. Upon receipt by the Bank of a countersigned original Amendment Letter, this Amendment Letter will become effective as of the date of countersignature by the Recipient.

Sincerely,

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Auguste Tano Kouame

Country Director
Turkey Country Unit
Europe and Central Asia Region

AGREED:

REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

By:

Name: K.Çağatay MIRGI
Acting Director General

Title: 

Date: 16 MAY 2019
SCHEDULE 1

Project Description

The objectives of the Project are to improve primary and secondary prevention of selected NCDs, increase the efficiency of public hospital management, and enhance the evidence-based policy-making capacity of the MoH.

The Project consists of the following parts:

Part I: Primary and Secondary Prevention

Raising awareness (both of the population in general and among health care providers) on risk factors related to NCDs and promoting healthy life styles and behavior changes, through the following activities:

(A) (i) developing public outreach materials, methodologies and targeting to raise population awareness about NCDs and the importance of healthy living; (ii) promoting healthy living activities, including staffing and provision of equipment of Healthy Living Centers; and (iii) implementing a nationwide campaign on substance addiction and strengthening the infrastructure of the treatment and research centers for adults and children suffering from alcoholism and substance addiction;

(B) (i) improving the capacity of post-screening diagnosis centers; and (ii) introducing and maintaining national cancer registry software and provision of Training to health workers on said software; and

(C) strengthening the Family Physician Training Program, including through expanding the infrastructure and hardware of the distance learning system to nationwide coverage.

Part II: Increasing Efficiency of Public Hospital Management

(A) Strengthening public hospital management and clinical operations in: (i) hospital pharmacy; and (ii) clinical care processes (e.g. cardiovascular surgery, microsurgery, laparoscopy), by providing Training to public hospital staff.

(B) Strengthening the capacity of the General Directorate of Health Investments in managing public-private partnership (“PPP”) contracts; and in developing in-house capacity in legal, financial, operational, and structural aspects of contract management.
Part III: Improving the Effectiveness of Overall Health Sector Administration

(A) (i) Institutionalizing health sector performance assessments and harmonizing health sector data; (ii) developing and adopting national e-health standards and reviewing applicable legislation to improve quality of health data; (iii) developing and implementing a health management information system; and (iv) enhancing the technical audit capacity of MoH and widening the use of evidence-based medical practice to improve the quality of health services.

(B) Developing a model for raising awareness about the Borrower’s health sector.

(C) Strengthening capacity for the health technology assessment.

(D) Supporting: (i) PMSU in Project implementation, including in the areas of financial management, procurement, disbursement, and monitoring and evaluation; and (ii) the establishment of a data collection and processing system to strengthen MoH’s strategic and management capacity for making key policy decisions in the health sector.