LOGISTICS NOTE

APRIL 10-13, 2019

HYATT REGENCY HOTEL
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1. Objectives

The theme of the Forum is “Procurement and Implementation in Public Investment Projects”. The objectives are to provide an opportunity for public procurement agencies and other key stakeholders of participating countries to learn and share their experiences and practices in public procurement reforms with special focus on managing procurement and implementation in public investment projects, and to promote, foster regional and global cooperation and networking in public procurement, and contract management to improve the quality of the outcomes of public investment projects for better service delivery to the citizens.

2. Format, Conclusion and Results of the Forum

The Forum will be organized in the following seven panel discussions scheduled over the three days of the event:

- Panel Discussion-1 Topic: Legislative and Integrity Framework to Procure and Manage Large and Complex Investment Projects
- Panel Discussion-2 Topic: How to Build Confidence of Private Sector to Increase Private Capital in Public Investment Projects?
- Panel Discussion-3 Topic: Leveraging the Link: Public Investment Management and Public-Private Partnerships
- Panel Discussion-4 Topic: Implementation of Public Investment Projects: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities
- Panel Discussion-5 Topic: Reinventing Contract Management to Foster Efficiency in Public Investments: Use of Technology, Dispute Resolution, Preventing Renegotiation
- Panel Discussion-6 Topic: Use of Procurement Data Analytics for Strategic Decision Making in Public Investment Projects
- Panel Discussion-7 Topic: Good Procurement is critical in achieving Value-for-Money in Public Investment Projects

At the end of the third day of the Forum, the key points and recommendations came out of the panel discussions will be shared with the Forum participant. Key issues of common interest can constitute an action plan for regional cooperation for the next one or two years. The regional action plan would allow for keeping ECA Forum active during the period between the forums. The continuity could be in the form of virtual knowledge conferences where the progress on the study/implementation of one action of the agreed regional action plan can be presented by a country that volunteered to take the lead on that action.
3. Host and Participants

The 15th PRIMO Forum is being hosted by the Government of Uzbekistan. The Forum will be co-sponsored by the World Bank (WB), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), in cooperation with European Investment Bank (EIB), Asian Development Bank (ADB) and UNICTRAL.

The Forum is expected to be attended by around 100 people. These include about 50 high level government officials responsible for public procurement in 24 countries (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, North Macedonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan) and representatives from EBRD, IsDB, ADB, EIB, UNCITRAL, WB and others.

4. Venue and Duration

The Forum will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Tashkent, Uzbekistan during April 10 through 12, 2019, and a one-day technical filed trip to the city of Samarkand on April 13, 2019 to visit selected flagship public investment projects in Uzbekistan. We expect participants to arrive into Tashkent on April 9 and depart April 14 unless not joining the field trip.

5. Forum Coordination Team

The Forum is coordinated by a team led from the government side by GOU/MoF (Mr. Dilshod Sultanov, Deputy Minister of Finance and Head of Treasury, Mr. Sarvar Nazarov, Head of Public Procurement Department, from the Treasury, Ministry of Finance, and Mr. Shukhrat Vafaev, Deputy Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade, and Mr. Marat Djakupov, Head of Department, from the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade)and from the cosponsors by a team of 3 Country Team Leaders of the World Bank (Knut Leipold, Ahmed Merzouk, S.M. Quamrul Hasan). The team will closely cooperate with Procurement staff in the local World Bank offices in the ECA Region who act as coordinators with the Government counterparts in their respective countries.

6. Main contacts for all PRIMO related matters

- Mr. Sarvar Nazarov(snazarov@mf.uz), Public Procurement Department of the Treasury under the MoF, Mobile phone: + 998 90 3509777)
- Ms. Sevara Abdusamatova (sabdusamatova@worldbank.org), World Bank, Mobile phone: +998 90 186 93 02
- Mr. Fasliddin Rakhimov (frakhimov@worldbank.org), World Bank, Mobile phone: + 998 90 9365604)
7. **Short Bio, Photo, Copy of Passport and Air Tickets for Country Delegates**

We would need your short bio, photo and copy of your passport to complete logistics arrangements. The air tickets for Country Delegates will be arranged with the assistance of the World Bank country office staff in each participating country. Country delegates are requested to make sure that their travel requests have been prepared and approved by the World Bank contact person. The permissible class for travel is “economy”. An approved trip request will also help in processing the reimbursement requests, if any.

8. **Transportation and Visa Fees**

Participants are responsible for obtaining Visas and make their own arrangements for transportation from/to airports in their home country and in Tashkent, if required. Please keep receipts to claim reimbursement through the relevant World Bank Country Office.

The World Bank staff in your country will help with obtaining visas if required. For those countries where an entry visa to Uzbekistan is required, please check:

https://mfa.uz/en/consular/visa/ and
https://e-visa.gov.uz/main

Airport transfers for the **country delegates** will be arranged by the Forum Host at the exit of the Islam Karimov Tashkent International Airport. The duration of the trip between the airport and the Hyatt Regency Hotel is approximately 15-30 minutes, depending on the traffic.

Banners with **PRIMO Welcome signs** will be installed by the Host at the airport exit to facilitate your transfer to Hyatt Hotel in Tashkent.

**Taxi**

- **MyTaxi** (show up rate - UZS 3000, then 1500/1km),
  https://mytaxi.ru?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIjQo8ChM1aL4eAIaACh4qVzrEAAYASAAEgL62vD_BwE

- **Yandex Taxi** (show up rate - UZS 5000, then UZS 2000/1km).
  https://taxi.yandex.com/tashkent/app/

(Services are supported by the app for iOS/Android)

9. **Accommodation**

The Hyatt Regency Hotel is the place for accommodation and venue for the 15th PRIMO Forum. Block hotel bookings for all confirmed country delegates are arranged. The special negotiated single room rate (UZS 1,255,000 plus UZS 50,683 UZS visitor fee per night) includes breakfast, Complimentary Wi-Fi and Hi-Speed internet access, In-room tea and coffee amenities, bottled
water, access to Arya Health Club, 24/7 Stayfit gym and indoor swimming pool & saunas, Yoga and Pilates facilities, Smart TV, Iron and ironing board. A spouse or additional person in the room will cause an extra charge of approx. UZS 160,000.00 plus UZS 50,683.00 per night for a standard room to be paid from own funds of the participant. Standard check-in time is 14:00 and check-out time is noon. All extras (phone, mini-bar etc.) will be paid by the participants out of own funds during the check-out. Early check-in option will be arranged with the Hotel for some participants as per their travel itinerary.

**Hotel address**

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Tashkent
Navoi Street, 1A, Tashkent 100000
Republic of Uzbekistan
Tel: +998 71 207 12 34
Email: tashkent.regency@hyatt.com
Website: https://www.tashkent.regency.hyatt.com

**10. Lunch, Coffee Break and Dinner**

All lunches, coffee breaks, two formal dinners and a social event will be arranged. The lunches and coffee break as well as one formal dinner will be paid by the sponsors for all participants. The Host is also inviting all participants to a dinner during the Forum. For updated information on date, time and location please check Forum Agenda.

**11. Payment of Per Diem, Taxi and Visa related Costs to Delegates**

There will be no per diem payable to any country delegates. However, based on actual receipts, the World Bank will process reimbursement of meals on the days not covered by the Host and Sponsors as well as taxi and visa related costs.

**12. Translation Services**

Simultaneous English and Russian translation will be provided for the whole period of the Event.

**13. Currency**

The local currency is Uzbekistan’s Soum (UZS). Money can be exchanged at the Tashkent airport, hotels, and banks. The exchange rate can vary every day due to a free floating of the local currency. The current exchange rate in the exchange offices is as follows:

1 EUR = 9435 UZS
1 USD = 8370 UZS
14. Weather

Spring is a very pleasant season in Uzbekistan. The temperature is expected to be around +20° Celsius during the day and +12° Celsius at night. However, participants are advised to check the latest weather forecast before the trip. A light rain coat or a jacket may be recommended for evenings.

15. Cell phone service providers in Tashkent

To buy a local SIM card you may refer to the following mobile services providers that operate in Tashkent:

- Beeline (https://new.beeline.uz/ru; tel: +998 90 185 00 55),
- Ucell (https://ucell.uz/en/myucell; tel: +998 93 180 00 00),
- UMS (https://www.ums.uz/ru; tel: +998 97 130 09 09),

Average cost for a subscription fee – 1day/UZS 600, internet package - 100Mb/UZS 8000, outgoing calls 1min/UZS 126, incoming calls-free, international calls - depends on the direction.
Brief Information about Tashkent

Tashkent - is the capital and largest city of Uzbekistan, with a population in 2018 of 2,485,900. It is located in the north-east of the country close to the Kazakhstan border.

Tashkent was influenced by the Sogdian and Turkic cultures in its early history, before Islam in the 8th century AD. After its destruction by Genghis Khan in 1219, the city was rebuilt and profited from the Silk Road. From 18th to 19th century, the city became an independent city-state, before being re-conquered by the Khanate of Kokand. In 1865, it fell to the Russian Empire, and became the capital of Russian Turkestan. In Soviet times, Tashkent witnessed major growth and demographic changes due to forced deportations from throughout the Soviet Union.

Today, as the capital of an independent Uzbekistan, Tashkent retains a multi-ethnic population, with ethnic Uzbeks as the majority. In 2009, the city celebrated its 2,200 years of written history.

Tashkent is the capital of and the most cosmopolitan city in Uzbekistan. It was noted for its tree-lined streets, numerous fountains, and pleasant parks.

In 2007, Tashkent was named a "cultural capital of the Islamic world" by Moscow News, as the city has numerous historic mosques and significant Islamic sites, including the Islamic University. Tashkent holds the Samarkand Kufic Quran, one of the earliest written copies of the Quran, which has been located in the city since 1924.

Due to the destruction of most of the ancient city during the 1917 revolution and, later, the 1966 earthquake, little remains of Tashkent's traditional architectural heritage. Tashkent is, however, rich in museums and Soviet-era monuments. They include:

- Kukeldash Madrasah. Dating back to the reign of Abdullah Khan II (1557–1598) it is currently being restored by the provincial Religious Board of Mawarannahr Moslems. There is talk of making it into a museum, but it is currently being used as a madrassah.
- Chorsu Bazaar, located near the Kukeldash Madrassa. This huge open air bazaar is the center of the old town of Tashkent. Everything imaginable is for sale.
- Telyashayakh Mosque (Khast Imam Mosque). It Contains the Uthman Qur'an, considered to be the oldest extant Qur'an in the world. Dating from 655 and stained with the blood of murdered caliph, Uthman, it was brought by Timur
to Samarkand, seized by the Russians as a war trophy and taken to Saint Petersburg. It was returned to Uzbekistan in 1924.[29]

- Yunus Khan Mausoleum. It is a group of three 15th-century mausoleums, restored in the 19th century. The biggest is the grave of Yunus Khan, grandfather of Mughal Empire founder Babur.

- Palace of Prince Romanov. During the 19th century Grand Duke Nikolai Konstantinovich, a first cousin of Alexander III of Russia was banished to Tashkent for some shady deals involving the Russian Crown Jewels. His palace still survives in the center of the city. Once a museum, it has been appropriated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

- Alisher Navoi Opera and Ballet Theatre, built by the same architect who designed Lenin’s Tomb in Moscow, Aleksey Shchusev.

- Fine Arts Museum of Uzbekistan. It contains a major collection of art from the pre-Russian period, including Sogdian murals, Buddhist statues and Zoroastrian art, along with a more modern collection of 19th and 20th century applied art, such as suzanai embroidered hangings. Of more interest is the large collection of paintings "borrowed" from the Hermitage by Grand Duke Romanov to decorate his palace in exile in Tashkent, and never returned. Behind the museum is a small park, containing the neglected graves of the Bolsheviks who died in the Russian Revolution of 1917 and to Osipov’s treachery in 1919, along with first Uzbekistani President Yuldosh Akhunbabayev.

- Museum of Applied Arts. Housed in a traditional house originally commissioned for a wealthy tsarist diplomat, the house itself is the main attraction, rather than its collection of 19th and 20th century applied arts.

- State Museum of History of Uzbekistan the largest museum in the city.

- Amir Timur Museum, housed in a building with brilliant blue dome and ornate interior. It houses exhibits of Timur and of President Islam Karimov. The gardens outside contain a statue of Timur on horseback, surrounded by some of the nicest gardens and fountains in the city.

- Navoi Literary Museum, commemorating Uzbekistan's adopted literary hero, Alisher Navoi, with replica manuscripts, Islamic calligraphy and 15th century miniature paintings.