

November 25, 2014

Dr. P. B. Jayasundera
Secretary
Ministry of Finance and Planning
The Secretariat
Colombo 01

Dear Dr. Jayasundera:

***Sri Lanka: E-Sri Lanka Project: (Credit No. 39860-LK)
Implementation Completion and Results Report***

I acknowledge receipt of the letter dated October 10, 2014 from the Ministry of Finance and Planning providing considered comments from the Government and the Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) on the draft Implementation Completion and Results Report (ICRR). We appreciate the detailed comments provided and thank you for acknowledging the team's efforts in preparing this report as well as the Bank's role during the implementation of this project.

As you are aware the ICRR process is an independent one and in line with our approach/methodology for such assessments, we have now finalized the report. In doing so, we carefully considered the comments that were received from Government and ICTA and have reflected changes where factual information received warranted modifications. With the additional information on the outcomes achieved by the project, despite the deficiencies in the Project Development Objective (PDO) statement which posed challenges in attributing some of the project's effects, we are happy to convey that the Development Outcome rating has been upgraded to Satisfactory. In addition, in line with our practices in such completion reports, your key comments have been summarized in the main text of the ICRR.

On the matter of the assessment of ICTA, we again carefully reviewed the comments that have been made. We agree, and the ICRR notes, that ICTA has developed into a capable and professional institution, and has played a substantive role in the significant outcomes that the project has attained. However, on the rating, in line with the guidance received from the detailed internal review process that we underwent and considering the overall project period, the variations in implementation progress, performance at different points in time, and other factors including the non-compliance with the signing of Subsidiary Grant Agreement, the assessment will remain as Moderate Satisfactory. This rating recognizes the essential role of ICTA as the implementing agency, but there were moderate shortcomings in implementation and hence the Moderate Satisfactory rating remains. In line with our terminology the correct interpretation of the rating connotes successful performance by the implementing entity.

We have also reviewed carefully your other points and have sought to factor them into the report, where appropriate.

Please find attached the ICRR in its final form for its imminent publication.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Françoise Clottes
Country Director for Sri Lanka and the Maldives

cc: Mr. Lalith C. Weeratunga, Secretary to H.E. the President, Presidential Secretariat
Mr. R.M.P. Rathnayake, Director General, Department of External Resources,
Ministry of Finance and Planning
Mr. Reshan Dewapura, Chief Executive Officer, Information and Communication
Technology Agency