Notice to Commence the Process

Date: 31 May 2024

To: Requesters

The Examiners for the Guidelines Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

We hereby inform you of our decision to commence the process pursuant to the Objection Procedures based on the Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations with respect to your request to raise objections dated 26th February 2023 (received on 13th February 2024 and accepted on 20th February 2024) as described below. For details, please refer to the enclosed Results of Preliminary Investigation.

For approximately two months, we will investigate the details of JICA's compliance or non-compliance with the Guidelines and facilitate dialogues between the parties, pursuant to the "Objection Procedures based on the Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations (April 2010)". For these purposes, we may conduct an interview with you, in which case we will contact you to make necessary arrangements including the date and time.

Your request will be disclosed on JICA's website. After completion of the relevant investigation processes, the report prepared by the Examiners for the Guidelines, written opinions prepared by JICA's Operational Departments, and written opinions prepared by parties concerned will also be disclosed on JICA's website in accordance with the Objection Procedures. Information whose confidentiality is protected by the Objection Procedures and/or statute will remain undisclosed.

For details of the Procedures, please visit our website below or send us an inquiry. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/about/organization/environment/objection/index.html

[END]

## Results of Preliminary Investigation

## 1. Formal requirements of the Request

All items are written in English.

2. Requirements to commence the Procedures

(1) Requirements regarding the Requesters

The Request has been submitted by two or more residents of the country where the project is implemented.

(2) Project with respect to which the objections are submitted

After identifying the project from the Request, it was confirmed that the project is supported by JICA.

(3) Period

The Request was submitted after JICA disclosed the result of the categorization of the project and before the project is completed.

(4) Actual damage incurred or likely to be incurred by the Requesters as a result of JICA's non-compliance with the Guidelines

Actual damage incurred or likely to be incurred is described. However, further investigation is needed.

(5) Relevant provisions of the Guidelines considered to have been violated by JICA and the facts constituting JICA's non-compliance alleged by the Requesters

Provisions not complied with and facts of non-compliance are reasonably described. However, further investigation is needed.

(6) Causal nexus between JICA's non-compliance with the Guidelines and the substantial damage

Causal nexus between JICA's non-compliance with the Guidelines and the actual damage incurred or likely to be incurred is described. However, further investigation is needed.

(7) Facts concerning the Requesters' consultations with the Project ProponentsIt is described that the Requesters have endeavored to have dialogues with the Project Implementing entities.

(8) Facts concerning the Requesters' consultations with JICAThe Requesters have communicated with JICA's Operational Departments.

(9) Prevention of abuse

There is no concern that the Request was submitted for abusive purposes.

[END]