

THE MINISTER

946/51

Beirut, April 12, 2022

Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha Regional Director, Middle East Department Middle East & North Africa Region The World Bank

Subject: Nominating the Institut des Finances Basil Fuleihan to be the Grant Recipient and Implementing Agency of the electronic/e-procurement platform development, financed under the MDTF-GPP; MAPSII, Window 2.2-Type 3.

Dear Mr. Jha,

With reference to your letter dated July 16, 2021, supporting Lebanon's application to the Global Procurement Partnership Multi-Donor Trust Fund, MAPSII-Type 3 financing, and the subsequent approval of the proposal by the Steering Committee of the GPP-MDTF for US\$570,000, I am writing to confirm that the Ministry of Finance endorses the said project.

Furthermore, I would like to confirm that the Institut des Finances Basil Fuleihan, mandated to coordinate the public procurement reform including the national efforts to prepare the sound entry into force of the Public Procurement Law no.244/2021 (Minister of Finance decision no. 620/1 dated November 2, 2021), and also nominated by the Council of Ministers to be the Secretariat of the Inter-ministerial Committee designated to follow-up on the implementation of the Reform's National Strategy (Council of Ministers decision no. 14 dated 08 February 2022), will be the grant recipient and implementing agency of the said project. As such, the Ministry of Finance will ensure all the required facilitation for the best implementation of the grant-financed Type 3.

I take this opportunity to thank the World Bank Group and the donor community for all their efforts to support the Government of Lebanon in advancing the implementation of public procurement reform amid these very challenging times.

Sincerely,

Youssef El Khalil

**Minister of Finance**