



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP

To: Jacqueline B... Date: 13 November 2012
Through: Usman Akram Ref: SC/BR
From: Bashar Al-A... Support Office

APPROVAL OF PROJECT BUDGET REVISION (D)

Table with 2 columns: Field Name and Value. Fields include Project Number (A5-24), Project Title (Modernization and Development of the Dairy Cattle Sector in Iraq), Participating Agency (FAO), Project Start Date (15 October 2008), Project End Date (15 October 2010), First Revision (Time extension until 17 July 2011), Second Revision (Time extension until 15 May 2012), and Second Revision (Time extension until 15 November 2012).

Type of budget revision requested:

- Increase in project budget
[X] Extension of project duration to 31 December 2012
Movement of funds between project budget components
Change of project scope

SCSO Comments:

The budget for this project is US\$ 4,424,670 of which US\$ 3,835,391 has been committed (87%) and US\$ 3,796,822 has been disbursed (86%). Project is around 90% complete.

Background

The programme aims at introducing innovative techniques for efficient cattle breeding and management and works closely with government institutions and producers to build their capacities in organizing the production base at grassroots level with the aim of increasing milk production quantitatively and qualitatively, reducing post-harvest losses, and creating market and employment opportunities along the dairy value chain in both rural and urban areas.



**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP
IRAQ TRUST FUND**

A. Request for Time Extension

Justification

The project encountered several constraints that resulted in delaying its implementation as explained below:

1. Complications that faced frozen embryo implantation process and Project Steering Committee (PSC) decision to conduct an examination on the imported embryos to check their vitality -by implanting embryos into cows- have delayed other project related activities especially the local training of beneficiaries on embryo transfer technique and the organization of field demonstrations for small and medium-size farmers.
2. Delays in securing letters of exemptions from relevant Ministries prevented the timely transfer of procured equipment and supplies to the project area and resulted in delaying other related activities.
3. The local training of beneficiaries (on embryo transfer technique) and the organization of field demonstration sessions took longer time than originally envisaged due to beneficiaries requests for additional training sessions. Therefore, additional time is needed to complete this activity.

Activities to be completed during the extension period

- 1- Conduct local training workshops for breeders on embryo transfer techniques (by November 2012).
- 2- Organize field demonstrations for small and medium size farmers (by December 2012).

Therefore, FAO is requesting a time extension of six weeks (until 31 December 2012) in order to complete all project activities.

NOTE: As UNDG ITF is closing, extension requests for projects are reviewed and considered to be the final. FAO has to take all measures to assure that the project will be operationally closed within the approved extension period.

SCSO Recommendations:

SCSO recommends approval of a time extension until **31 December 2012**.

Approval of the DSRSG /
Chairperson of the UNDG
ITF Steering Committee:

