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PUBLIC DISCLOSURE NOTICE

INVITATION OF COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (ESMF) – THE GAMBIA AGRICULTURAL FOOD SECURITY PROJECT (GAFSp)

With financing from the Global Agricultural Food Security Program (GAFSP), the Government of The Gambia (GOTG), through the African Development Bank (AfDB) as supervising agency, and in partnership with the World Food Programme Gambia Country Office (WFP CO) as executing agency is designing the Gambia Agricultural Food Security Program (GAFSp) to be implemented in the West Coast Region, Lower River Region, and Central River Region – North and South.

The global Program is a demand-led and recipient-owned partnership dedicated to fighting hunger, malnutrition, and poverty. The Program also supports resilient and sustainable agriculture in developing countries, and benefits and empowers poor and vulnerable smallholder farmers, particularly women. For the Gambia the Project aims to strengthen resources and capacities of smallholder farmers, especially women and youth, and other food chain actors; these include the private sector, Farmer Based Organizations (FBOs), and NGOs. It will also contribute to resilience building and social protection programs, such as the Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF), and complementary nutrition initiatives in the Project area.

In accordance with the provisions of the National Environment Management Act, 1994, Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2014, and in fulfilment of the requirement of the AfDB's Integrated Safeguards System (ISS), WFP CO has concluded an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) study accordingly was reviewed by the EIA Technical Working Group and stakeholders.

In line with the provisions of Part IV of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2014, the general public is required to provide written comments on the draft environmental and social Management Framework (ESMF) report within (30) working days. The general public is hereby informed that hard copies (complete document) of the report are available at the NEA Documentation Centre, WFPCO's alternative WFP Kanifing Warehouse Office located at Old Jeshwang, opposite the Christian Cemetery, as well WFPCO website at www.wfp.org/countries/gambia for public review for a period of one month beginning from 21st September to 20th October 2020; comments and views on the findings of the ESMF can be made during this period, and where necessary, integrated into the final report. The NEA shall receive written comments from the general public until on or before the 20th October, 2020 through these email contacts: malbah11@gmail.com or blmncamara54@gmail.com.