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The GAFSP Steering Committee Chair, c/o GAFSP Coordination Unit, MSN MCS-510 The World Bank Group, 1818 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20433 USA

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## Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) Statement of Readiness from preferred Supervising Entity

This letter is to serve the purpose of the "Letter of readiness from the preferred Supervising Entity" to be induced in the GAFSP submission package that the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) intends to present to the GAFSP Secretariat in response to the 2019 Call for proposal-GAFSP Public Sector Window.

The World Bank has discussed the proposal with the government and supports the submission of the proposal prepared by the Government of DRC. The World Bank's endorsement is provided in view of: a) the need of the country given that DRC is one of the poorest countries in the world, with poverty and malnutrition rates particularly high in rural and conflict-affected provinces, b) its alignment with the growth and poverty reduction targets in the country strategy and the internationally-agreed Sustainable Development Goals to end poverty and hunger by 2030, c) the readiness of the country that is in the midst of a major political transition but nevertheless continues to show a government commitment to tackle hunger and undernutrition, d) the readiness of the proposal for further detailed development et implementation while taking into account inputs and feedback provided by key stakeholders, and e) the proposal builds on the successful implementation of an ongoing IDA financed project in South Kivu and Tanganyika provinces ("Regional Great Lakes Integrated Agriculture Development Project", "Projet Integré de Croissance Agricole dans les Grands Lacs", PICAGL), and will be prepared, when selected, as an additional financing of PICAGL following the procedures of the World Bank. The World Bank's current agriculture portfolio includes: PICAGL (P143307, US\$ 150 m), PARRSA-AF (P159037, US\$75 m), PDPC (P124720, US\$110 m), and the National Agricultural Development Program (P169855, US\$ 500m, pipeline).

In this regard, I am pleased to confirm the world Bank's readiness to serve as Supervising Entity for the above-mentioned proposal in the event of its acceptance for funding by the GAFSP.

Please allow me to take advantage of this opportunity to thank you for your trust and

continued collaboration.

Chadi Bou Habib Acting Country Manager for the Democratic Republic of Congo