**Objective**

1. The Board of Directors is requested to approve the Secretariat recommendation of a three-month extension of the validity of seven outstanding Multiplier 1.0 maximum country allocations (MCAs).

**Recommended decision**

**BOD/2021/11-XX—Extension of Validity of Multiplier 1.0 MCAs:** The Board of Directors:

1. Noting the delays of El Salvador, Guatemala, Moldova, Mongolia, Nigeria, the Philippines and Vietnam in developing their application to access their respective Multiplier 1.0 MCAs, approves an extension of the validity of the MCAs for these seven countries from December 31, 2021 to March 31, 2022, as requested in BOD/2021/11 DOC 01.

**Background and overview**

2. Between late 2020 and early 2021, the Grants and Performance Committee in its delegated authority from the Board approved Multiplier MCAs for El Salvador, Guatemala, Moldova, Mongolia, Nigeria, the Philippines and Vietnam, valid until December 31, 2021.
3. These countries have faced delays in preparing their Multiplier 1.0 applications due to several context-specific reasons including recurring COVID waves, elections, grant agent selection and accreditation, and complexity of preparing a co-financed program.

4. While most of these countries are advanced in the application process, with the exception of Moldova, the Secretariat sees a significant risk that the applications will not be fully ready by December 31, 2021, date at which the Board-approved MCAs are due to expire.

5. The Secretariat therefore recommends a three-month extension of the validity of the MCAs to allow these seven countries sufficient time to complete country processes and submit their Multiplier 1.0 application, and this by no later than March 31, 2022.

\[\text{Draft program documents are expected to be submitted for quality assurance before the end of November}\]