

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Bureau of Labor Statistics Technical Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting and Agenda

The Bureau of Labor Statistics Technical Advisory Committee will meet on Friday, November 20, 2015. The meeting will be held in the Postal Square Building, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE., Washington, DC.

The Committee provides advice and makes recommendations to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) on technical aspects of the collection and formulation of economic measures. The BLS presents issues and then draws on the expertise of Committee members representing specialized fields within the academic disciplines of economics, statistics and survey design.

The meeting will be held in rooms 1–3 of the Postal Square Building Conference Center. The schedule and agenda for the meeting are as follows:

- 8:45 a.m. Commissioner’s welcome and review of agency developments
- 9:15 a.m. Census-BLS Micro-productivity project
- 11:15 a.m. Discussion of future priorities
- 12:45 p.m. Consumer Expenditure Survey (CE) Redesign
- 2:30 p.m. American Time Use Survey (ATUS) Web Collection
- 4:00 p.m. Approximate conclusion

The meeting is open to the public. Any questions concerning the meeting should be directed to Sarah Dale, Bureau of Labor Statistics Technical Advisory Committee, on 202–691–5643. Individuals who require special accommodations should contact Ms. Dale at least two days prior to the meeting date.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 8th day of October 2015.

Eric P. Molina,
Acting Chief, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

[MCC FR 15–04]

Notice of Entering Into a Compact With the Republic of Liberia

AGENCY: Millennium Challenge Corporation.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 610(b)(2) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7701–7718) as amended (the Act), and the heading “Millennium Challenge Corporation” of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015, the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) is publishing a summary of the Millennium Challenge Compact between the United States of America, acting through the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and the Republic of Liberia. Representatives of the United States Government and Liberia executed the Compact documents on October 2, 2015. The complete text of the Compact has been posted at <https://assets.mcc.gov/documents/compact-liberia.pdf>.

Dated: October 7, 2015.

Maame Ewusi-Mensah Frimpong,
Vice President and General Counsel, Millennium Challenge Corporation.

Summary of Millennium Challenge Compact With the Republic of Liberia

Overview

MCC has signed a five-year, nearly \$257 million Compact with the Republic of Liberia aimed at reducing poverty and accelerating economic growth. The Compact seeks to address two binding constraints to economic growth in Liberia: Lack of access to reliable and affordable electricity, and inadequate road infrastructure.

Program Overview and Budget

Liberia first became compact eligible in fiscal year (“FY”) 2013, but failed the scorecard in FY 2014, largely due to a change (by the indicator provider, not the government of Liberia) in the methodology for collecting and reporting on data associated with the Natural Resource Protection Indicator. As a result, MCC’s Board of Directors authorized MCC to continue development of a compact, but with the expectation that Liberia again pass the scorecard prior to the compact coming forward for approval. In FY 2015, Liberia passed its scorecard: It met ten of the twenty indicators, including the Control of Corruption and Democratic Rights “hard hurdles.” An analysis completed in September 2013 found lack of access to reliable and affordable electricity and inadequate road infrastructure to be binding constraints to growth in Liberia.

The high cost and unreliability of publicly provided electricity (at \$0.52 per kilowatt-hour, one of the world’s highest electricity tariffs), coupled with limited electricity grid infrastructure

(currently the electric utility, Liberia Electric Corporation (“LEC”), has an installed generating capacity of only 22 megawatts (“MW”) mean that less than two percent of Liberia’s approximately four million citizens have access to the network, imposing a significant barrier to Liberia’s long-term economic development. Similarly, inadequate capacity to plan for, finance and execute maintenance on the predominately unpaved road network, coupled with sustained rainfall for nearly half the year (which renders many of these roads impassable), undermines national and regional trade opportunities, threatens sustained political stability and severely constrains economic growth and social diversification. The Compact will address these issues through the following investments in wide-ranging policy reforms, institutional strengthening, and infrastructure:

- Increasing Liberia’s domestic generation capacity by up to 88 MW through investment in rehabilitation of the Mount Coffee Hydropower Project (with the European Investment Bank, and the governments of Norway and Germany);
- Supporting sustainability in the power sector by, among other things, providing training for LEC employees and support to establish an independent regulator; and
- Supporting sustainability in the roads sector, including re-establishing regional maintenance centers and standing up a dedicated fund.

The budget for the Compact is approximately \$257 million, allocated as follows (figures are approximate due to rounding):

COMPACT BUDGET SUMMARY

Project/activity	Budget (in US \$)
Energy Project:	
Mt. Coffee Rehabilitation Activity	\$146,800,000
Mt. Coffee Support Activity	\$18,100,000
LEC Training Center Activity	\$5,500,000
Energy Sector Reform Activity	\$31,190,000
Energy Project Sub-total	\$201,590,000
Roads Project:	
National Road Maintenance Activity	\$15,000,000
Roads Sector Reform Activity	\$6,070,000
Roads Project Sub-total	\$21,070,000
Monitoring and Evaluation Project:	