

# CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL SHEET

On March 31, 2022, the Millennium Challenge Corporation ("MCC") suspended assistance under the Millennium Challenge Compact with the Government of Burkina Faso (the "Compact"). We are providing you with a report that explains the determination under section 611(a) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, as amended, that was the basis for the suspension.

The attached notification is being sent to Congress on April 4, 2022.

Sincerely,

/s/

Alice Albright Chief Executive Officer Millennium Challenge Corporation

Enclosure: As state

### MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION

April 4, 2022

In accordance with section 611(c) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, as amended (the "Act"), this notification is to advise that on March 31, 2022, the Millennium Challenge Corporation ("MCC") suspended assistance provided under section 605 of the Act to the Government of Burkina Faso under the Millennium Challenge Compact between MCC and the Government of Burkina Faso signed on August 13, 2020 (the "Compact").

MCC has determined that the coup d'état on January 23 and 24, 2022, in Burkina Faso constitutes a pattern of actions inconsistent with the criteria used to determine Burkina Faso's eligibility for assistance.

A report explaining MCC's determination under subsection 611(a)(2) regarding the suspension of assistance follows.

## REPORT ON THE DETERMINATION BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SUSPEND ASSISTANCE TO BURKINA FASO

#### **Summary**

MCC's Board of Directors selected Burkina Faso as eligible for a concurrent compact for regional integration on December 11, 2018, and MCC has been in the process of developing a potential concurrent compact.

On January 23 and 24, 2022, elements of Burkina Faso's military overthrew the democratically elected government of Burkina Faso in a coup d'état. In response, on January 31, MCC paused activity related to Burkina Faso's \$450 million compact and halted engagement with Burkina Faso on development of a potential concurrent compact for regional integration.

On March 31, 2022, MCC's Board of Directors concurred with the recommendation of the MCC CEO to suspend assistance to Burkina Faso, and to suspend Burkina Faso's eligibility for a concurrent compact, based on the finding that the military forces' overthrow of the democratically elected government constituted a pattern of actions inconsistent with the criteria used to determine the eligibility of Burkina Faso for assistance, under Section 611(a)(2) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, as amended, and pursuant to MCC's Policy on Suspension and Termination.

#### **Pattern of Actions**

The military forces that overthrew the democratically elected government of Burkina Faso in a coup d'état detained President Roch Marc Christian Kaboré, assumed executive power, dismissed the national assembly, suspended the constitution, closed borders, and instituted a national curfew, among other actions. These forces then installed the leader of the coup, Lieutenant Colonel Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba, as the transition president. The transitional government has adopted a charter laying out a three-year transition period until elections will be held.

#### MCC's Actions Pursuant to the Act

Central to the mission of MCC is its strong commitment to democratic governance, which is rooted in its statutory eligibility criteria. Immediately following the coup d'état, MCC initiated a review and analysis of the situation in Burkina Faso and the future of MCC assistance to the country in light of various applicable U.S. statutory, regulatory, and policy provisions, as well as the term of the Compact and related agreements.

MCC determined that the nature of the actions taken represented a pattern of actions inconsistent with the criteria used to determine Burkina Faso's eligibility for assistance. The unconstitutional overthrow of the elected government is contrary to the principles of democratic governance that underpin MCC's eligibility criteria, particularly political rights, civil liberties, and the rule of law.

Under Section 611(a)(2) of the Act, and MCC's associated Policy on Suspension and Termination, MCC assistance to Burkina Faso could either be suspended or terminated. MCC

decided that, at this time, suspension is the appropriate institutional response to the coup d'état in Burkina Faso.