## INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

## Framework Administered Account for Selected Fund Activities— Central America, Panama, and the Dominican Republic Technical Assistance Center (CAPTAC-DR) Subaccount

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1. In March 2009, the Fund established a new Framework Administered Account to administer external financial resources for selected Fund activities (the "SFA Instrument").<sup>1</sup> The financing of activities under the terms of the SFA Instrument is implemented through the establishment and operation of a subaccount within the SFA. The subaccount for the Central America, Panama, and the Dominican Republic Technical Assistance Center (CAPTAC-DR) would be the first one established under the SFA. This paper requests Executive Board approval to establish the CAPTAC-DR subaccount (the "Subaccount") under the terms of the SFA Instrument.

2. Management has engaged in discussions with member countries in the broader Central America region as well as donors on regional needs in capacity building, training and related activities. Both possible CAPTAC-DR beneficiary countries and interested donors are supportive of increasing the Fund's involvement in this regard. Fund Regional Technical Assistance Centers have a proven track record to cost-effectively provide focused, flexible, and responsive technical assistance (TA). CAPTAC-DR is expected to be the best vehicle to enhance the IMF's ability to provide more technical assistance and training in the region. Initially, the center's activities will focus on five key areas representing common policy challenges to member countries, including those related to increased regional integration: (i) financial sector supervision (ii) tax and customs policy and administration; (iii) medium-term expenditure frameworks and PFM-related issues; (iv) money and public debt markets; and (v) macroeconomic statistics.

3. On the basis of the above, the Managing Director has established essential terms and conditions of the Subaccount, with respect to the nature, design, and implementation of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For the New Framework Administered Account for Selected Fund Activities, see <u>http://www.imf.org/external/np/pp/eng/2009/030409.pdf</u>.

activities to be financed and the method by which the costs of the activities will be financed from the Subaccount. These essential terms and conditions include the following:

a. The resources of the Subaccount will consist of amounts contributed to the Subaccount by donors and beneficiary countries of CAPTAC-DR, ("Contributors"), and earnings that accrue as a result of the investment of these amounts (net of any costs associated with such investments). The resources of the Subaccount will be used to finance capacity building, training and related activities, consistent with the purposes of the Fund for identified beneficiaries of CAPTAC-DR. The beneficiaries of CAPTAC-DR are members countries in the region, which include Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama. Additional beneficiary members of CAPTAC-DR may be added with the consent of the Managing Director and the concurrence of Contributors.

b. Each Contributor will consent to the essential terms and conditions of the Subaccount before the Managing Director may accept the Contributor's resources into the Subaccount.

c. Resources will be placed in the Subaccount by each Contributor after signature of a Letter of Understanding between the Contributor and the Fund. Contributors may transfer resources from any bilateral subaccount under the SFA into the CAPTAC-DR subaccount.

d. Contributors may join the Subaccount at any time. A Contributor's consent to the essential terms and conditions of the Subaccount shall constitute the Contributor's ex ante concurrence to any additional Contributor joining the Subaccount on the latter's consent to the same essential terms and conditions.

e. A Contributor may withdraw from the Subaccount, and receive a retransfer of its net contributions, without precipitating the termination of the Subaccount.

f. To help defray the expenses incurred by the Fund in the management of the Subaccount that it will finance, reimbursement equal to 7 percent of the expenses financed from the Subaccount will be paid to the Fund from the Subaccount.

4. The essential terms and conditions of the Subaccount are consistent with the terms of the SFA Instrument, and the activities to be financed from the Subaccount are consistent with the purposes of the Fund. Accordingly, it is proposed that the Executive Board approve the establishment of the Subaccount.