



*Office of Inspector General*

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** March 17, 2019

**TO:** USAID/West Bank and Gaza Mission Director, Monica Stein-Olson

**FROM:** USAID OIG Middle East and Eastern Europe (ME/EE) Regional Office, USDH NFA Coordinator, Abdoulaye Gueye /s/

**SUBJECT:** Closeout Compliance Examination of Al Asmar for Construction Company, Sub-Fixed Price Contract Under Prime, ARD, Inc., Civic Engagement Program in West Bank and Gaza, Contract DFD-I-00-05-00218-00, August 11, 2009, to January 11, 2010 (8-294-19-012-O)

This memorandum transmits the final report of the closeout compliance examination of Al Asmar for Construction Company under prime, ARD, Inc., Civic Engagement Program in West Bank and Gaza, Contract DFD-I-00-05-00218-00, August 11, 2009, to January 11, 2010. USAID contracted with the independent certified public accounting firm Deloitte & Touche M.E. to conduct the engagement.

The audit firm states that it performed its engagement in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards, except for not participating in an external quality control review program. The audit firm explained that West Bank & Gaza does not offer such a review program. The audit firm is responsible for the enclosed auditor's report and the conclusions expressed in it. We do not express an opinion on the subcontractor's internal controls effectiveness or its compliance with the award, laws, and regulations.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> We reviewed the audit firm's report for conformity with professional reporting standards. Our desk reviews are typically performed to identify any items needing clarification or issues requiring management attention. Desk reviews are limited to review of the report itself and excludes review of the auditor's supporting working papers; they are not designed to enable us to directly evaluate the quality of the engagement performed.

The examination objectives were mainly to: (1) express an opinion on the subcontractor's compliance with the subcontract' terms and conditions; (2) provide reasonable assurance of detecting fraud, illegal acts, or violations of provisions of the subcontract, and (3) evaluate the subcontractor's internal controls over compliance. The examination objectives also included testing the subcontractor's compliance with Executive Order 13224 – Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions With Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism. To answer the examination objectives, the auditors performed the subject examination engagement that covered the period from August 11, 2009, to January 11, 2010.

The auditors did not identify any material internal control weaknesses, or any material instances of noncompliance with the subcontract terms, conditions, and applicable laws and regulations. The auditors also did not identify any material instances of noncompliance with Executive Order 13224.

The report does not contain any recommendations.

We appreciate the assistance extended during the engagement.

OIG does not routinely distribute independent public accounting reports beyond the immediate addresses because a high percentage of these reports contain information restricted from release under the Trade Secrets Act, 18 U.S.C. 1905 and Freedom of Information Act Exemption Four, 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4) (“commercial or financial information obtained from a person that is privileged or confidential”).