



MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 10, 2019

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

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

SUBJECT: Audit of the Cost Representation Statement of World Learning, Master's Scholarship Program in West Bank and Gaza, Task Order AID-294-TO-13-00008, January 1 to December 31, 2016 (8-294-19-070-R)

This memorandum transmits the final audit of the cost representation statement of World Learning, Master's Scholarship Program in West Bank and Gaza, task order AID-294-TO-13-00008, January 1 to December 31, 2016. The auditee contracted with the independent certified public accounting firm El Wafa Company to conduct the audit.

The audit firm states it performed its audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards except that it did not participate in an external quality control review program. The audit firm says that West Bank and 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 auditee's costs representation statement; the effectiveness of its internal control; or its compliance with the award, laws, and regulations.¹

¹ 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 audit 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 audit performed.

The audit objectives were mainly to: (1) express an opinion on whether the cost representation statement for the period audited was presented fairly, in all material respects; (2) evaluate the auditee's internal controls; and (3) evaluate the auditee's internal controls over compliance. The audit objectives also included testing the auditee's compliance with Executive Order 13224 – Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions With Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism. To answer the audit objectives, the audit firm performed the subject financial audit that covered \$247,149, for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2016.

The audit firm expressed an unmodified opinion on the cost representation statement and did not identify any question costs. The audit firm did not identify any significant deficiency or material weaknesses in internal control. The audit firm did not identify any material instances of noncompliance with the task order's terms and applicable laws and regulations.

The report does not contain any recommendations for your action.

We appreciate the assistance extended to the audit staff during the engagement.

The OIG does not routinely distribute independent public accounting reports beyond the immediate addressees 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").

Enclosed: a/s