

ANNEX 2

Chronology of Selected Political and Economic Events, 1989–2004

| Date | Event |
|-----------------------|---|
| April 1989 | Riots in Ma'an protesting sharp increases in fuel prices (reflecting cuts in subsidies). Cabinet reshuffle. |
| July 1989 | IMF Executive Board approves first arrangement with Jordan—a Stand-By Arrangement. External debt-rescheduling agreement with the Paris Club (first). |
| November 1989 | National elections. |
| December 1989 | Change in Prime Minister and the cabinet of ministers. |
| August 1990 | Iraq invades Kuwait. |
| January–February 1991 | War in the Middle East. |
| June 1991 | Change in Prime Minister and the cabinet of ministers. |
| November 1991 | Change in Prime Minister and the cabinet of ministers. |
| February 1992 | External debt-rescheduling agreement with the Paris Club (second). |
| January 1993 | Jordan Consultative Group meeting. |
| May 1993 | Change in Prime Minister and the cabinet of ministers. New Minister of Finance. |
| November 1993 | National elections. |
| April 1994 | Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel sign protocol on economic relations. |
| May 1994 | Jordan Consultative Group meeting. |
| June 1994 | External debt-rescheduling agreement with the Paris Club (third). |
| October 1994 | Signing of Peace Treaty between Jordan and Israel. |
| January 1995 | Change in Prime Minister and the cabinet of ministers. |
| October 1995 | Amman Economic Summit. |
| November 1995 | Assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Rabin. |
| February 1996 | Change in Prime Minister and the cabinet of ministers. New Minister of Finance. |
| July 1996 | Jordan Consultative Group meeting. |
| August 1996 | Riots in Kerak protesting increase in bread price. |
| November 1996 | Launch of Qualifying Industrial Zones arrangements; exports can enter U.S. market duty and quota free provided they have minimum of 35 percent value-added. |
| March 1997 | Change in Prime Minister and the cabinet of ministers. New Minister of Finance. |
| May 1997 | External debt-rescheduling agreement with the Paris Club (fourth). |
| November 1997 | National elections. |
| July 1998 | Announcement that King Hussein is suffering from cancer. |
| August 1998 | Change in Prime Minister and the cabinet of ministers. New Minister of Finance. |
| February 1999 | King Hussein dies, King Abdullah enthroned. |
| March 1999 | Change in Prime Minister and the cabinet of ministers. |
| May 1999 | External debt-rescheduling agreement with the Paris Club (fifth). |
| April 2000 | Jordan becomes a member of the World Trade Organization. |
| June 2000 | Change in Prime Minister and the cabinet of ministers. |
| September 2000 | Beginning of "Intifada" in the West Bank and Gaza. |
| January 2001 | Government designates Aqaba (Red Sea port) a Special Economic Zone, with low tax rates and duty-free arrangements. |
| November 2001 | Government introduces Plan for Social and Economic Transformation (PSET). National elections postponed, and parliament suspended. |

(concluded)

| Date | Event |
|---------------|---|
| December 2001 | Free trade area between Jordan and the United States comes into effect; provides for the progressive elimination of tariffs on most goods traded between the two countries. |
| May 2002 | The Jordan-EU Association Agreement comes into effect. |
| July 2002 | External debt-rescheduling agreement with the Paris Club (sixth). |
| March 2003 | War in Iraq. |
| June 2003 | National elections. |
| October 2003 | Change in Prime Minister and the cabinet of ministers. New Minister of Finance. |
| July 2004 | Expiration of Stand-By Arrangement with the IMF; marks Jordan's "graduation" from reliance on IMF-supported programs. |

Sources: IMF program documents; and Economist Intelligence Unit, various reports on Jordan.