

CONSULTATION PLAN

ENVIRONMENT AND SAFEGUARDS COMPLIANCE POLICY

April 23, 2004

I. Objective of the consultation process

The objective of the consultation process for the Environment and Safeguards Policy of the Bank is to present, in an open and transparent fashion, the proposed policy in order to: (i) publicly demonstrate the position, mandates and directions the Bank wishes to pursue regarding the environment within the framework of the Bank's activities and operations; (ii) receive comments, suggestions, critiques, and recommendations from government entities and different parts of civil society (such as associations, academia, NGOs, and private organizations); and (iii) based on those inputs, validate, revise and modify the Environment Policy when appropriate, before it is presented to the Bank's Executive Board of Directors.

The formulation of the Environment and Safeguards Policy and its consultation process should be viewed as part of the implementation of the Bank's Environment Strategy, which was approved by the Board in July 2003, after a process of wide and open consultations at all levels.

II. Consultation mechanisms to be used

The following are the consultation mechanisms that will be used:

- Electronic consultation on the Advanced Policy Profile. This consultation will be directed at a large number and wide spectrum of public and private entities, including civil society organizations, and it will have a regional and global reach.
- Consultation meetings on the Draft Policy in the region and outside the region, with the participation of public and private entities, again including representatives from civil society.

III. Methodological aspects

The methodology for the electronic consultation consists of the creation of a page on the Bank's website, generating open access to the consultation documents by anyone who is interested, and allowing the proper recording of comments, questions and recommendations.

The methodology for the consultation meetings consists of several one-day workshops. These workshops will be structured to facilitate the participation of the attendants in an orderly fashion. A consultant or consultant company with ample experience in this kind of dialogue process will be hired to conduct the workshops. During the meetings, the Draft Environment Policy will be presented, followed by questions and answers, round table discussions as needed, and collection of recommendations and observations. All the participants will receive the document three weeks prior to the event.

The consultation meetings will be held in selected countries, with the participation of public and private entities, including representatives from civil society. The invitation will be extended to representatives from other countries in the sub-region where the consultation will take place. The Bank will provide support, on a limited basis, to those participants who cannot finance their own participation.

SDS/ENV will develop a record of all the observations received during the electronic consultation and the consultation meetings, along with the responses and comments from the participants. During the revisions of the documents after the consultations, the team responsible for drafting the

Environment Policy will not be obliged to satisfy each and every recommendation received through the consultations, but will seek to incorporate those aspects considered best practices and beneficial to the region. The records of the consultations and the final Draft Policy document produced at the end of the consultation process will be posted on the Bank's web site for public information.

The Board of Executive Directors and the Management of the Bank will be fully informed about the consultation process and about the results of each of the consultations.

IV. Organizational aspects and outreach

The Environment Division of the Sustainable Development Department (SDS/ENV) will be in charge of the general organization of the consultation process, with support from the Regional Departments, the Office of Learning, the Bank Representatives in the Region, and the State, Governance and Civil Society Division of SDS. The offices of the Executive Directors will also support the process by providing relevant contact information for participants.

SDS will provide the necessary resources for the consultations, including the contracting of consultants for the workshops. Financial and logistical support for this process will be solicited from the Office of Learning.

The agenda for the consultation meetings will be discussed by the Bank's administration, Board members, and country offices where consultation meetings will be held, as well as with government representatives and civil society groups.

V. Implementation schedule of the consultation process

The tentative calendar for the consultation is as follows:

Electronic consultation (Advanced Profile of the Policy):

1. Launch of the electronic consultation (Advanced Profile). 20th April 2004
2. Deadline for electronic consultation. 30th June 2004.

Distribution of document and Consultation Meetings (Draft Policy):

3. Electronic distribution of document for consultation. August, 2004
4. Consultation meeting: Mexico and the Central American Region. September, 2004.
5. Consultation meeting: Andean Region/ Southern Cone. September, 2004.
6. Consultation meeting: The Caribbean. September, 2004.
7. Consultation meeting: Washington, D.C. (Multilateral organizations and civil society). September, 2004.
8. Consultation meeting: Paris (Bilateral donors and civil society). September, 2004.

Revision of the Document and approval by the Bank's Administration and the Board of Executive Directors:

9. Incorporation of the results from the consultation into the final draft of the policy. November, 2004.
10. Posting of final draft policy for information on the Bank's Web site. December 2004.
11. Review by internal Bank Committees. December, 2004 – February, 2005.
12. Approval of the Environmental Policy by the Bank's Executive Board. March, 2005.