

Via Electronic Mail

September, 2025

Board of Directors
Inter-American Development Bank Group (IDB)
1300 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20577, USA

Re: Call to include external stakeholders in the selection or reelection process for MICI Director

Dear Board of Directors and Counselors,

As organizations that have engaged with the MICI and as members of the IDB Working Group, a coalition of regional and international civil society organizations engaged in advocacy toward the IDB, we write to request greater clarity regarding the criteria and process for the selection and potential reappointment of the MICI Director. We urge the IDB to make transparency and engagement with civil society and external stakeholders standard practice in these decisions.

In particular, we urge the IDB to involve civil society organizations with experience working with the MICI both in the process of deciding whether to reappoint an existing Director and when selecting a new one. External participation would strengthen the transparency, independence, and legitimacy of the MICI.

Involving external stakeholders in the hiring process for independent accountability mechanism (IAM) leadership is widely recognized as good practice across international financial institutions¹. There is also precedent within the IDB itself: during a previous MICI Director hiring process, the Board convened a selection panel that included two civil society representatives, who had voice (though not a vote) in the process. Building on this precedent, we

¹For example, the independent Examiners for the Guidelines of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) are chosen through a process that includes a selection committee that has members from academia and NGOs, among others. Additionally, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) creates a nomination committee composed of members internal and external to the EBRD to select the head of the Independent Project Accountability Mechanism (IPAM). This committee is composed of external stakeholders who have expertise in the accountability and social or environmental fields, demonstrated integrity and independence, the ability to interact effectively with parties and civil society, and experience with the operations of the EBRD or similar institutions. Similarly for the selection process for the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) Compliance Advisor Ombudsman Director General, the external stakeholders on the selection committee are tasked with reviewing applications, determining a shortlist, and conducting interviews with shortlisted candidates. Finally the African Development Bank's Independent Recourse Mechanism (AFDB's IRM) Director is selected by a panel composed of the Board, two representatives of Senior Management and two external advisors (at least one of whom should be a civil society representative).

believe that the decision to reappoint a Director should likewise require transparency and engagement with civil society, including those who use the MICI to reinforce the mechanism's credibility and effectiveness.

The MICI plays a critical role as the IDB's independent accountability mechanism, providing communities facing harm as a result of IDB-financed activities with a path to seek accountability and remedy. The IDB itself has acknowledged that input from civil society and other external actors has been invaluable in shaping the evolution of MICI and the IDB more broadly.

We appreciate your consideration and look forward to learning more about the process and to engaging in it constructively.

Sincerely,

Accountability Counsel (International)

AIDA (Regional)

Asociación Ambiente y Sociedad (Colombia)

Bank Information Center (United States)

CAUCE (Argentina)

Cohesión Comunitaria e Innovación Social (Mexico)

Colectivo de Comunidades Impactadas por IFIs (Regional)

Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN)

Fundeps (Argentina)

Latindadd (Regional)

Plataforma Internacional contra la Impunidad (Regional)

ONG Sustentarse (Chile)

Voces Diversas (El Salvador)