

## ACCOUNTABILITY COUNSEL

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January 25, 2012

***Via Electronic Mail***

The World Bank  
Mr. John Roome  
Sector Director for Sustainable Development  
East Asia and Pacific  
1818 H Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20433  
jroome@worldbank.org

Ms. Pamela Cox  
Vice President for East Asia and Pacific  
pcox@worldbank.org

**Re: Follow Up Issues Pertaining to the December 2011 Board Decision on the  
Papua New Guinea Smallholder Agriculture Development Project**

Dear Mr. Roome and Ms. Cox,

On behalf of the Papua New Guinea-based smallholder requesters to the Inspection Panel, we are writing to confirm our understanding of the outcome of a recent meeting of the Board of Executive Directors, held on December 13, 2011, regarding the Smallholder Agriculture Development Project (SADP) in Papua New Guinea. In addition, we write to request additional information regarding the expected timeframe for implementing the actions approved during that Board meeting. Finally, we write to request information on when a World Bank team will be travelling to Popondetta to discuss next steps with the requesters and when a Tok Pisin translation of the Panel Report and Management Response and Annexes will be released.

While the World Bank News Release dated December 16, 2012 (“News Release”) provides an indication of the results of the Board meeting on the SADP project, we feel that additional clarification would be useful. The News Release states that the Board “approved the Management Action Plan . . . and welcomed actions set forth in Annex 1 to the Management Report and Recommendation.” From this statement, we understand that the Board voted to require Bank management to pursue the actions set forth in Annex 1 to the Management Report and Recommendation (“Annex 1”), as well as those included in the Action Plan. We would greatly appreciate your confirmation that this is a correct understanding of the Board meeting outcome.

Further, the News Release does not discuss the expected timeframe for implementation of the Action Plan and Annex 1. Please provide us with all information regarding scheduled dates

for management to report its progress to the Board or any other expected progress information. We appreciate receiving this information no later than March 1, 2012.

Please also let us know by March 1, 2012 when a World Bank team will be travelling to Popondetta to discuss next steps for implementation of actions with the requesters.

Finally, we are looking forward to release of the Tok Pisin translation of the Panel Report and Management Response and Annexes. Please let us know when the requesters can expect to receive the translation.

Thank you for your time and attention to these issues. Please feel free to contact us if you would like to discuss these matters in further detail.

Sincerely,



Natalie Bridgeman Fields, Esq.  
Executive Director  
Accountability Counsel  
[natalie@accountabilitycounsel.org](mailto:natalie@accountabilitycounsel.org)

Mr. Damine Ase  
Executive Director  
Centre for Environmental Law & Community Rights  
Inc. (CELCOR)  
[dase@celcor.org.pg](mailto:dase@celcor.org.pg)

cc: Mr. John Whitehead, Executive Director for New Zealand, [jwhitehead1@worldbank.org](mailto:jwhitehead1@worldbank.org)  
Ms. Sarah Singh, Esq., Attorney, Accountability Counsel, [sarah@accountabilitycounsel.org](mailto:sarah@accountabilitycounsel.org)