

HARTWIG SCHAFFER  
Vice President  
Operations Policy and Country Services

August 5, 2016

Robert T. Coulter  
Armstrong Wiggins  
Leonardo Crippa  
Indian Law Resource Center  
601 E. Street SE  
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Mr. Coulter, Mr. Wiggins, and Mr. Crippa

*Your letter addressed to President Jim Yong Kim on the World Bank's draft Environmental and Social Framework*

Thank you for your letter to World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim dated June 29, 2016, and thank you for your continued engagement with the World Bank. As you know, the World Bank is committed to working with Indigenous Peoples to build an effective development agenda that focuses on the development concerns and interests of Indigenous Peoples.

The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) on August 4, 2016. The ESF expands protections for people and the environment in Bank-financed investment projects. This approval concludes the most extensive consultation ever conducted by the World Bank. It concludes nearly four years of analysis and engagement around the world with governments, development experts, and civil society groups, reaching nearly 8,000 stakeholders in 63 countries. Throughout the policy review, we have consulted extensively with Indigenous Peoples.

The framework is part of a far-reaching effort by the World Bank Group to improve development outcomes and streamline its work. This is also the spirit of the Environmental and Social Standard dedicated to Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities.

The ESF is available on our dedicated consultation website at <http://consultations.worldbank.org/consultation/review-and-update-world-bank-safeguard-policies>.

We look forward to continuing our engagement with you while we develop Guidance to accompany the ESF and move toward implementation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. D. V.", written in a cursive style.