



ASIA INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PACT FOUNDATION

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Dr. Jim Yong Kim
President
World Bank

February 16, 2015

Dear Dr. Kim,

We would like to draw your attention to our recommendations to the current draft of the WB Safeguard Policy endorsed by 44 indigenous peoples organizations and institutions and 42 support groups. While we welcome and fully acknowledge the inclusion of some of our earlier recommendations such as the requirement for the free prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples, we also strongly feel that the draft safeguard policy needs further strengthening to align this with international human rights standards, as well as to existing international environment and social safeguards. We hope our recommendations will be fully considered and taken into account in the new safeguard policy of the WB. We also raise our concern on the lack of a more inclusive and thorough participation of indigenous peoples in the review process (ie the case of South Asia, accounting for more than 100 million indigenous peoples), which we hope should be addressed immediately to make the review process more meaningful and effective.

We have been engaging in the review process in good faith and with high expectations that the WB under your leadership will finally rectify the legacy of the WB to indigenous peoples with corrective measures to respect, uphold and protect the rights and welfare of indigenous peoples. We believe this should be the framework of engagement and partnership with indigenous peoples to achieve sustainable development for all.

Sincerely,


Ms. Joan Carling
Secretary General