



The World Bank

## Procurement Policy Review Feedback Summary

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**Date: June 26, 2012**

**Bilateral Meeting with Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs/DANIDA**

**Venue: Copenhagen, Denmark**

**Total Number of Participants: 4**

### Overview and General Reactions

#### Key Points

- The discussion with Danish authorities from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/DANIDA centered about the need for the Bank to examine its procurement policies from the angle of development effectiveness and the ways by which procurement can be transformational. The Initiating Discussion Paper is a good start and the Bank will need to build the story on development impact. The list of participants is provided.
- Authorities encouraged the Bank to stay the course and take the lead, especially during a time of fiscal stress among many bilateral development partners and when the attention of bilateral authorities may easily be diverted. Bilateral agencies depend on the Bank on this topic.
- The Bank should take a long-term view towards what will be needed some twenty years down the road. This includes providing technical advice and support, capacity building, and efforts to follow up on the commitments on the use of country systems under

the Paris and Busan declarations.

- Countries are different and that needs to be reflected in the Bank's policies. The Bank should accept the fact that there is corruption but acknowledge the upside potential for affected F&C via transparency. Openness in the system ought to be highlighted. The point of departure should be country ownership and engagement of civil society.
- There should be a balance between helpful standards and compliance. The same time, rules and regulations remain critical and the Bank ought to resist the temptation to grant too many exemptions.