Mr. Mark Alan King  
Chief Officer  
Environmental and Social Standards,  
Operation Policy and Country Services,  
World Bank  
Washington DC,  
USA  

Subject: World Bank Safeguard Policies Review Consultation Phase 2

Dear Mr. King,

First of all, I would like to thank for your invitation to the Focus Group Discussion regarding Review and Update of the World Bank Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies on December 16th, 2014 at World Bank Jakarta Office.

As I conveyed to you during the Focus Group Discussion, allow me to reiterate my comments to your presentation as follows:

1. The Government of Indonesia is really support the review and update of the World Bank Environmental and Social Safeguard policies to modernize and improve operational efficiency of the Safeguard Policies. It is inline with what Minister of National Development Planning/Chairperson of Bappenas (Mrs. Armida Alisjahbana) has been discussed with WB Vice President (Mrs. Pamela Cox) on the side line of World Bank Spring Meeting 2012.

2. The review and update of the World Bank Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies is very timely as member countries and the World Bank Group have changed significantly.

3. We agree with the proposed framework of review and update which the update policy will provide greater clarity of the roles and responsibilities of the World Bank and Borrower, increase harmonization with MDBs and recognize good international practice and it will renew and strengthen partnership with borrowers.

4. Based on the principle “no one size fit all”, The World Bank shall treat member countries differently based on the level of development and status. In case of Indonesia, as a middle income country, its regulation and policies related to environment and safeguard have significantly been revised to ensure sustainable development outcomes based on the international best practices and local wisdom. The World Bank is requested to provide flexibility in using national safeguard policies. The World Bank could focus to bolster national safeguard system and capacity building.
(5) The World Bank shall modernizes safeguard policies without adding new and stringent requirements, otherwise, it will prolong the preparation of projects and delay the implementation of projects.

(6) To improve efficiency, the safeguard policies shall be simplified and the plan is tailored to the need of the projects. Safeguard policies shall not entirely be applied to all of project, depending on potential risks of the projects.

Looking forward to receiving your positive response and thank you for your kind cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Dewo Broto Joko Purnomo  
Director of Multilateral Foreign Funding  
Ministry of National Development Planning / Bappenas  
Republic of Indonesia

cc :  
1. Deputy Minister of Development Funding Affairs, Bappenas;  
2. Mr. Stefan Koeberle, Director for Operations Risk Management, World Bank;  