



December 22, 2014

The World Bank
1818 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20433
USA

Subject: DITTA contribution to the draft procurement framework and the draft procurement procedures for Borrowers

Dear Sir or Madam,

On behalf of the global medical technology industry, DITTA thanks the World Bank for the opportunity to comment on its proposed new procurement policies. We believe that through constructive dialogue between the World Bank and industry, improvements to procurement of medical technology will drive increased savings and efficiency in borrowing countries, and improved health outcomes for patients around the world.

DITTA is the global voice for diagnostic imaging, radiation therapy, healthcare IT, electromedical and radiopharmaceutical manufacturers to better communicate, coordinate and collaborate on matters of common interest between participating associations and member companies. DITTA represents associations and companies in the EU, Japan, Canada, USA, Thailand, Russia, China, Brazil, and South Korea. DITTA enables participating associations and their member companies to work more effectively with international policymakers, organizations, professional associations and stakeholders.

DITTA has been deeply involved in World Bank procurement reform, since formally participating in the first phase of consultations with the procurement unit in 2012, and through several productive meetings with the Health, Nutrition, and Population Unit. As countries around the world increase their focus on health systems strengthening and the overwhelming incidence of Non-Communicable Diseases, we are committed to assisting the World Bank and borrowing countries in ensuring that their health systems are optimally equipped to handle these new demands.

Our experience as bidders in WB-financed projects suggests there are significant opportunities to bolster both Borrower country and WB capacity in this sector and to modify tendering practices to enhance efficiency and transparency. Such steps could result in tighter project cycles, fewer tender cancellations and re-tenders, and fewer disputes. Ultimately, improving procurement processes would give healthcare providers and their patients more reliable and timely access to tools they need to prevent, screen, diagnose and treat disease and enhance the well-being of the population, which is critically linked to poverty reduction and economic growth.





Our industry's high-level objectives are:

- Improve the WB's impact on health outcomes by enabling sustainable acquisition of critical medical technology
- Increase engagement with industry, by establishing a venue for technical exchanges with established expert institutions
- Delineate responsibilities and clarify the procurement structures in the WB and borrower countries
- Strengthen oversight and grievance mechanisms

For more detail, please see attached our DITTA contribution to the draft procurement framework and the draft procurement procedures for Borrowers.

We greatly appreciate this opportunity to impact the World Bank's procurement policies. We hope to be a resource in any way possible; for more information or to contact us directly, please contact our DITTA Contact in the USA by phone: +1.703.841.3242 or by email: Andrew.northup@medicalimaging.org.

Sincerely,

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