

15 February 2011

Group of Civil Society Organizations  
c/o Ms. Karin Christiansen  
Director, Publish What You Fund  
1 London Bridge  
Downstream Building (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)  
London, SE1 9BG  
United Kingdom

Dear colleagues:

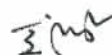
Thank you for your letter of 25 January 2011 on ADB's participation in the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI).

ADB supports this important initiative and has been working closely with the IATI team over the last several months. However, we were concerned about the pace at which the IATI standards are being confirmed especially as compared with what is achievable in the short term both by partner countries and development partners. The feedback from development partner signatories, including ourselves on the existing formats and commitments emphasizes that achieving the IATI standards will be a long-term process and that effective implementation will require more time and resources. We are grateful that this was recognized at the recent steering committee meeting and that each signatory will be able to use its own individual implementation schedule to specify how far it can implement the IATI standards, and at what pace.

ADB already publishes information related to several IATI commitments on its website ([www.adb.org](http://www.adb.org)), or otherwise makes this accessible to our partner countries and executing agencies. However, there are some data that we receive from our partner countries, such as data on annual disbursement projections for ongoing projects, for which we do not have the authority to provide open access. In such situations, we have requested IATI to discuss provision of this data directly with the country governments concerned. Development partners would also need to be informed about the IATI process at the country level.

We appreciate your organization's interest in IATI and your commitment to aid transparency and accountability. We look forward to continuing to work with you closely on these issues.

Yours sincerely,



Indu Bhushan  
Director

Strategy, Policy, and Interagency Relations Division  
Strategy and Policy Department