Results of the Survey

Thematic Session on Promoting the Application of the Principles of the Convention in International Forums
Geneva, 27 June 2019
PART I
International financial institutions
International Financial Institutions (IFIs)

Which IFIs is your Government a member of?

- African Development Bank (AfDB) (6)
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) (10)
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) (8)
- Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) (1)
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) (19)
- European Investment Bank (EIB) (16)
- Inter-American Development Bank Group (IDB, IADB) (4)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) (11)
- Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) (4)
- Nordic Investment Bank (NIB) (3)
- World Bank (23)
- Other (7)

n=22
International Financial Institutions

Which IFIs is your Government a member of?

7 Parties mentioned other IFIs they are a member of:
- Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) (2 Parties)
- Green Climate Fund (2 Parties)
- Bank for International Settlements (IBS)
- Black Sea Trade and Development Bank (BSTDB)
- Caribbean Development Bank
- Central European Bank (CEB)
- Eurasian Development Bank
- Global Environment Fund (GEF)
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
- Russian Trust Fund for Development
International Financial Institutions

Specific steps of your Government in the last two years to promote the principles of the Convention in relation to IFIs’

(i) Meetings and bodies
(ii) Official policies
(iii) Projects, including where relevant, any projects to be carried out in an Aarhus Party
(iv) Compliance and review mechanism
International Financial Institutions

Specific steps of your Government in the last two years to promote the principles of the Convention in IFIs’ meetings and bodies

- **Made information available to the public** on IFIs’ meetings and work of their bodies
- **Maintained dialogue with stakeholders** to discuss any matter of relevance or interest; encouraged participation of public and stakeholders in IFI meetings
- **Promoted institutional respect of the IFI polices related to Aarhus Convention principles** at meetings and the application of the principles in relevant policies
- **Included concrete links to Aarhus Convention in IFI policy documents**
- **Official delegation** of Party to IFI meetings included representatives of the non-governmental sector and business
International Financial Institutions

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International Financial Institutions

Specific steps of your Government in the last two years to promote the principles of the Convention in IFIs' official policies

- Promoted Convention principles during Board discussions on policies and programmes
- Provided advice to IFI when revising policies/strategies by seconding an expert; active participation in consultation process
- Requested IFI to open up revised policies and strategies for public consultation
- Made information on consultation process available to relevant stakeholders
- Ensured that any comments received during public consultation are integrated in the next draft version of policy or and inform public of the outcomes of the process
- Continuously monitored that all IFIs follow their transparency guidelines
International Financial Institutions

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International Financial Institutions (IFIs)

Specific steps of your Government in the last two years to promote the principles of the Convention in IFIs’ projects, including where relevant, any projects to be carried out in an Aarhus Party

- Monitored transparency guidelines with regard to publishing information online

- Involved network organizations in development of project documents and consultations to reach more people who are directly affected by the projects – as a result a few projects have no been ratified or been redone after such consultations

- Promoted Convention principles in projects carried out in the Party’s country

- Enabled participation of public in implementation of specific project activities

- Ensured that concerns of public were considered in the project cycle

- Set up Coordination Council to improve multi-way flow of information between donors, government agencies, CSO and to strengthen coordination at national level
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International Financial Institutions

Specific steps of your Government in the last two years to promote the principles of the Convention in IFI’s compliance and review mechanism

- **Ensured establishment of integrity compliance programs** with high standards
- Helped guide new IFI to **ensure full implementation of recently adopted Accountability Framework** through regular review by Party
- **Closely monitored compliance review frameworks** and ensured they are in line with Party’s commitment in other forums
- Actively supported efforts of IFIs to **continuously improve their sanctions regime**
- Took an active role in ongoing reforms, e.g. of the World Bank’s Inspection panel
- **Took an active role** by e.g. chairing the Board Compliance Review Committee and through this role raised and **promoted Convention’s principles**
International Financial Institutions

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International Financial Institutions

Specific steps of your Government in the next two years to promote the principles of the Convention in IFIs

1. Regarding implementation of projects / strategies financed by IFIs in Party

- Implement strategic documents which in part include Convention’s principles
- Continue to apply Convention’s principles in all projects/plans/strategies financed by IFIs in the Party
- Strengthen trust by
  (a) better identifying stakeholders and
  (b) methods of communication for those directly affected by IFI projects in country and involved in project implementation
International Financial Institutions

Specific steps of your Government in the next two years to promote the principles of the Convention in IFIs

2. Regarding meetings, policies, compliance mechanism of IFIs

- Rally like-minded shareholders around reform issues and positions promoting Convention principles
- Replicate positive experience made with coalitions of like-minded government shareholders promoting Convention principles
- Party representatives to continue stay alert in the various management boards
- Act when concrete programmes/projects are distributed for written approval
- Encourage review of an IFI’s policy and contribute to these reviews by upholding the Convention’s principles
International Financial Institutions

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PART II
CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES
Cross-cutting issues

Additional cross-cutting issues to enhance access to information and public participation in international forums

Additional issues identified by Parties:
- Attendance of meetings with stakeholders

Additional issues identified by Stakeholders:
- Participation of citizens/lay people;
- Keeping observers (NGOs) out of negotiating sessions;
- Participation of CSOs in negotiations of an international agreement;
- Identification of civil society contact points both at the IGO secretariat and at the civil society.
Cross-cutting issues (Parties)

Effective tools/practices Parties have used or are planning to use to address these cross-cutting issues as to enhance access to information and/or public participation in international forums

- Yes, our government has used effective tools/practices. (13)
- Yes, our government is planning to use effective tools/practices. (3)
- No. (7)
Cross-cutting issues (Parties)

The tools/practices shared by Parties aim at addressing the following cross-cutting issues:

- Different modalities for engaging stakeholders (11)
- Self-organization of stakeholder (0)
- Hosting an international event (1)
- Identification of the public (1)
- Other (please specify) (3)
Cross-cutting issues (Stakeholders)

Effective tools/practices stakeholders have used or are planning to use to address these cross-cutting issues as to enhance access to information and/or public participation in international forums (e.g. in IFIs, UNFCCC processes or others)

- Yes, our organization has used effective tools/practices (18)
- Yes, our organization is planning to use effective tools/practices (16)
- No (2)
Cross-cutting issues (Stakeholders)

The tools/practices shared by Parties aim at addressing the following cross-cutting issues:

- Different modalities for engaging stakeholders (7)
- Self-organization of stakeholder (4)
- Hosting an international event (2)
- Identification of the public (2)
- Other (please specify) (8)
Cross-cutting issues (Stakeholders)

Would you suggest to Parties to implement effective tools / practices to address cross-cutting issues as to enhance access to information and/or public participation in international forums?

- Yes (19)
- No (3)
Cross-cutting issues (Stakeholders)

The kind of effective tools/practices stakeholders would suggest to Parties

• **Organize different kinds of meetings**
  workshops, online conference and webinars, regional meetings to create alliances and networks for cooperating on similar issues

• **Use online tools**
  including World Wide Views method; online forums/Mobile apps

• **Use tools with a focus on facilitating access to information**

• **Use tools with a focus on facilitating public participation**
  e.g. stakeholder participation in governing structures of international forums

• **Prepare briefings and other information material**
  e.g. briefing for Aarhus Parties on their obligations and commitments in relevant forums

• **Use existing support structures/institutions**
  e.g. Aarhus Centers; Eastern Partnership