

MEMORANDUM

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Date: June 29, 2016

To: Victoria Márquez-Mees, MICI Director

From: Sergio I. Campos G., INE/WSA Division Chief

Re: Request No. MICI-AR-2016-0104 referring to the “Norte Grande Provinces Development Program” (AR-L1136) and related to Request MICI-BID-AR-2016-097. Management Response to the Registration of the Request.

This is in reference to your June 3, 2016 email notifying the Management of the Inter-American Development Bank (“Management”) of the Registration of Request No. MICI-BID-AR-2016-0104 (“Request”) by the Independent Consultation and Investigation Mechanism (“MICI”), and asking for Management’s response to the request submitted by

Province of Santiago del Estero, Argentina, supposedly in relation to a Bank-financed project, the “Norte Grande Provinces Development Program Water and Sanitation Infrastructure” (AR-L1136). Through that Request, the mentioned group of people asked the MICI to reactivate Request MICI-BID-AR-2016-097 (“Initial Request”), which the MICI had declared ineligible on April 12, 2016 (see Annex 1).

In this regard, based on paragraph 21 of the ICIM Policy (document MI-47-3), I hereby state the following:

- 1) It is not clear to Management that the Request should be considered by the MICI, as it deals with a specific matter that has already been reviewed and declared ineligible by the MICI in the context of a previous similar request—with the same allegations and the same Requesters—to which Management replied in due time and demonstrating it kept no relationship with a specific Bank operation. Moreover, it must in any case, be taken into account that the Request under review does not include or refer to new evidence or circumstances that were not present when the initial Request was made. Therefore, it seems that this issue has already been reviewed by the MICI, without there being any new circumstances that warrant the reconsideration of its eligibility; and,
- 2) Management reiterates what was irrefutably stated in our communication of March 14, 2016, sent to the MICI as Management’s Response to the Initial Request (MICI-BID-AR-2016-097), that the Bank is not financing under de Loan Contract No. 2776/OC-AR (AR-L1126), the project, or any other project that requires resettlement activities (voluntary or involuntary) in that region; and, consequently, there is no relationship between the Program financed by the Bank and the harm that the project is alleged to be causing the group of

individuals who have filed the Request under review. For more information about the above and for the purposes deemed appropriate, a copy of Management response to the initial Request is attached (see Annex 2).

We remain available to clarify or expand upon the information required in relation to this matter.

Annexes. 1, Email of April 12, 2016 sent by MICI Director Victoria Márquez-Mees to INE/WSA Division Chief Sergio I. Campos G. to communicate the determination of ineligibility for the Request MICI-BID-AR-2016-0097.

2, Memorandum of March 14, 2016 sent to MICI Director Victoria Márquez-Mees by Sergio I. Campos G. in response to Request No. MICI-BID-AR-2016-0097.

cc: Vice President of Countries
Vice President of Sectors and Knowledge
Manager of Infrastructure
Country Representative for Argentina
Chief of the Environmental Safeguards Unit
Chief of the Sovereign Guaranteed Operations Division of the Legal Department