

Jeffrey Hiday
Director General
Communications Department
September 12, 2024

Mr. Rayyan Hassan Executive Director NGO Forum on ADB

Response to Letter Regarding Civil Society Engagement at 2024 AllB Annual Meeting

Dear Mr. Hassan,

Thank you for your Aug. 30, 2024 letter outlining concerns regarding the participation of civil society organizations (CSOs) at the 2024 Asian Infrastructure Investment bank (AIIB) Annual Meeting in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. I am writing on behalf of the various Bank staff to whom you addressed the letter. Collectively, we reaffirm our commitment to ensuring stakeholder engagement that is meaningful, inclusive and transparent and therefore welcome the recommendations shared by NGO Forum on ADB and its network of CSOs.

For this Annual Meeting, we have extended invitations broadly across CSO networks, including yours, to encourage inclusive participation. We understand the potential challenges related to visa processing and are in close communication with the host government to try to facilitate efficient processing. If you or any CSO representative encounter a visa issue, please contact annualmeeting@miit.uz and copy Denis Kongere (denis.kongere@aiib.org).

As suggested in your letter, the 2024 AIIB Annual Meeting will, for the first time, provide a dedicated space for CSO coordination and bilateral meetings. This year's public program includes several seminars open to all participants, including civil society members. You can find details of the sessions here. A CSO meeting with AIIB Management and a separate session with the Complaints-resolution, Evaluation and Integrity Unit (CEIU) are an important part of this agenda. In addition, we will consider organizing bilateral discussions on some of the topics you mention, but this will be subject to the availability of relevant experts in Samarkand.

We have been grateful for the dedication CSOs have shown by participating in our new

quarterly dialogue sessions organized jointly by AIIB and CSO representatives, as well as

various policy consultations and project discussions. We look forward to continued

participation in the quarterly dialogue session planned for November and hearing about topics

you would be interested in discussing in future sessions. Going forward, we will continue to

explore additional avenues for collaboration.

We hope that this Annual Meeting will afford a meaningful opportunity for CSOs to exchange

with Bank management and staff on key topics, as well as to build relations with stakeholders

and clients.

Thank you once again for your continued collaboration. We look forward to your participation

in the 2024 Annual Meeting.

Yours Sincerely,

Jeffrey Hiday

Director General, Communications

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)