

## **The AfDB Boards of Directors discuss the IRM Panel's Compliance Review Report on the Bujagali Projects in Uganda**

The Boards of Directors of the African Development Bank Group, chaired by the President of the Bank, met on July 9, 2008 in Tunis to discuss the findings of the Independent Review Mechanism's Compliance Review Panel's Report on the Bujagali hydropower and interconnection projects in Uganda. The Panel made findings relating to the social, cultural, environmental, hydrological and economic aspects of the Bujagali Projects. There were findings of compliance and non-compliance with Bank policies and procedures. In addition, the Panel was concerned about the way in which Bank Management and staff had handled certain issues but, because of gaps or lack of clarity in the Bank policies and procedures, was unable to make clear findings of either compliance or non-compliance. Following the independent Compliance Review Panel's presentation there was a rich Board discussion of the report, during which Executive Directors expressed their support for the IRM and the Panel, their strong interest in ensuring that the Bank has effective policies and procedures for dealing with the social and environmental impacts of Bank-funded projects, and the importance of establishing an appropriate balance between the concerns of all stakeholders and the imperatives of development and poverty reduction in Africa. At the end of the discussion, the Boards of Directors decided: first, to accept and adopt the Compliance Review Report including its findings and recommendations. Second, the Boards instructed the Bank's Management to prepare two action plans. The first one responds to the Panel's recommendations on the Bank's policies and procedures. The second one deals with the Report's actionable project-specific findings on non-compliance and areas of concern. Finally, the Boards approved the Panel's recommendation that the Independent Review Mechanism monitor the implementation of the project-specific action plan.

To access the Compliance Review Report please visit [www.afdb.org/irm](http://www.afdb.org/irm)