

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW PROCUREMENT RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. Further to the approval, on May 7, 2008, by the Board of Directors of the Bank Group of the new *Rules and Procedures for procurement of Goods and Works and Rules and Procedures for the use of Consultants*, these rules have become **effective as of November 1, 2008**. They are currently posted on the Bank's website in both French and English versions.
2. In the course of the implementation of these rules, it is important to note the following:
 - 2.1 All projects approved on or after the effective date (November 1, 2008) will be subject to these new Rules.
 - 2.2 Projects approved prior to November 1, 2008 but for which new procurement processes are initiated on or after such date, shall comply with the new *Rules and Procedures for procurement of Goods and Works and Rules and Procedures for the use of Consultants*.
 - 2.3 Notwithstanding the above paragraph, borrowing countries may continue to use, until June 30, 2009, the old *Rules of Procedures for Procurement of Goods and Works, and for the Use of Consultants* in respect of financing agreements signed before November 1, 2008. Should borrowers choose to use the old Rules, they should inform the Bank.
3. One of the major changes in the new Rules is a requirement for Borrowers to prepare and submit a **Procurement Plan** to the Bank for approval before the start of loan negotiations. The initial plan should ideally cover the period of project implementation and be updated annually in the event of any modification thereto; it may however cover the initial eighteen months of project implementation and be updated annually if required. A new template of the Procurement Plan is available on the Bank's website.
4. Preparation of new Standard Bidding Documents (SBD) and detailed manuals based on the new Rules is in progress and the final documents will be available during the first quarter of 2009. In the meantime, current SBDs should still be used by Borrowers for project related procurement.