I. INTRODUCTION

The African Development Bank will host a Civil Society Organizations (CSO) Forum during its 2013 Annual Meetings in Marrakech, Morocco. In line with the Bank Framework for Enhanced Engagement with Civil Society Organizations, which was adopted by the Board of Directors in 2012, the CSO Forum will provide an opportunity to strengthen the partnership between Civil Society Organizations and the African Development Bank Group.

In continuation to the adoption of the Framework, that strongly emphasizes cooperation between Civil Societies and the Bank, the Gender and Social Development Monitoring Division (ORQR4) decided to devote this day to three departments of the Bank, whose missions are central to the purpose of the new Framework. The three key departments include the Secretary General’s office (SEGL), the Integrity and Anti-corruption Department (IACD) and the Unit of Compliance and Mediation (CRMU).

II. OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of the Forum is to strengthen the partnership between the Bank and CSO’s across Africa, by proving a platform for dialogue and information exchange.

The Forum is organized with CSOs in mind and provides an opportunity to discuss important issues concerning:
- The Bank’s new disclosure policy and access to information;
- Integrity and the fight against corruption
- The Independent Inspection Mechanisms (IIM).

III. PARTICIPATION

Thirty members from diverse CSO’s across Africa have been invited to participate in this year’s Forum. Also included are staff and Senior Management from the Bank.

The forum will be fully participatory. Participants will be offered the opportunity to actively interact in dialogue and discussion and to share their experiences concerning the topics.

All interested parties are encouraged to participate. A special invitation is extended to members of the Board of Directors, Managers and Staff of the Bank.

IV. AGENDA

The program for the Civil Society Forum is attached to this information note. The event will be held on May 28th 2013, at the Palmeraie Complex Diamant in Marrakech, Morocco.
CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS FORUM
ANNUAL MEETINGS IN 2013, MARRAKECH, MOROCCO
PALMERAIE-DIAMOND COMPLEX
Tuesday 28th May 2013

08:00 - 08:30 Registration of Participants and Opening of the Exhibition

08:30 - 09:00 Opening Ceremony
Address from the Guest of Honor – Dr. Emmanuel AKWETEY
Opening of the Forum by Mr. Emmanuel MBI, FVP/COO, BAD

09:00 - 10:45 SEGL: Policy Dissemination and Access to Information
Moderator: Mr. Marc COHEN, Division Manager of ORQR2
Presenter: Mr. Mike SALAWOU, Assistant to the VP-SG, SEGL and DAI Team Coordinator

10:45 - 11:15 Coffee-Break

11:15 - 13:00 IACD: How can we work together to fight against corruption in Africa?
Moderator: Ms. Anna BOSSMAN, Director, IACD
Panelists:
- Mr. Anthony Okon NYONG, Division Manager, ORQR3
- Mr. Abesselam ABOUDRAR, President of the Central Authority for the Prevention of Corruption, Morocco.
- Mr. Ezzeddine NCIRI, Chief of integrity and prevention of corruption, IACD

13:00 - 14:30 Lunch-Break

14:30 - 16:45 CRMU: Role and procedures of the independent Inspection Mechanism
Moderator: Ms. Ginette Ursule YOMAN, Division Manager, ORQR4
Presenter: Mr. Sékou TOURE, Director of the Mediation and Compliance Unit (CRMU)
Case Study:
- Mr. Ahmed CHEBOUNI, Director of the Development Center, of TENSFIT, Morocco

16:45 - 17:15 Coffee-Break

17:15 - 17:30 Closing Ceremony of the Forum
Word of thanks of the Coalition, representing CSOs
Closing remarks, Mr. Simon MIZRAHI, Director, ORQR.