PRESENTATION OF SAVANAS E ENSEADAS LDA AND ITS ASSIGNMENT FOR THE THIRD INDEPENDENT REVIEW MECHANISM

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF SAVANAS E ENSEADAS LDA

Savanas E Enseadas LDA, which is carrying out the third review of the Independent Review Mechanism (IRM) of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) is a relatively new Development Strategy and Business Solution firm registered in Portugal in 2016 with its Headquarter in Lisbon. It has been established by like minded development professionals and experts with track record of over 25 years of Africa experience in providing sustainable development and inclusive growth opportunities. The firm provides high level evaluation, policy, strategy and advisory services to international institutions, development agencies, ministries, civil society and the private sector. The team combines knowledge of and experience with accountability mechanisms with deep knowledge of the African environment and context. Its recent clients included the African Union and GIZ.

SAVANAS TEAM FOR THE THIRD IRM REVIEW:

Zeinab B. Elbakri, Team Leader

She is the senior adviser of the firm and leads the firm’s team for this assignment. She has extensive knowledge of and has worked in accountability mechanisms of other institutions. She was member of the World Bank Inspection Panel between 2012- 2017, during which time, she was directly involved /responsible for at least fifteen cases handled by the Inspection Panel during this period. During her time with the Panel, she was involved in updating of its operating procedures and its different internal and external reviews with the aim of modernizing the Panel. Since completing her term with the World Bank’s Inspection Panel, she has continued to work in the area of accountability, primarily with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). She holds a PHD in Sociology from the University of Hull in UK and is a Canadian Citizen. In this assignment, she is in charge of overseeing the entire work, document review, interviews, consultation with external stakeholders, report drafting and revision, presentation to CODE and the Boards of Directors of the AfDB.

Ginette Kamuanya NZAU-MUTETA, Expert

She has wide experience in the assessment of programs and projects and preparation of strategic documents in various sectors with many international organizations such as the African Development Bank. She also has experience in leading dialogue with government, development partners, private sector civil society organizations. She is a national of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and holds a Master’s degree in development economics from the University of Antwerp in Belgium. She is fluent in French and English. With such a background, she will play a key role in the different tasks required in the third review of the IRM such as preparation of the Inception Report, consultations and interviews at the Bank headquarters and the preparation of the first draft report and the revision of reports including results of consultations.
**Sunita Pitamber, Expert**

She has worked at very strategic and managerial levels in many international development organizations such as the African Development Bank and the United Nations. Her scope of work covers areas such as evaluation, gender and women development and empowerment, job creation, capacity building, governance, fundraising and resource mobilization. Besides, she has proven experience in fragile states, support to peace and security through rule of law institutions and post conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction. She holds a PHD in Development Economics from the University of Bremen in Germany. She will play a key role in the preparation of the Inception Report and also participate in missions in the field.

**Dawnia Latacha Leibrandt, Expert**

She is a seasoned expert in various aspects of communications and change management such as development of communications strategy, design of graphics and visuals, development of content for websites, management of social media, development and analysis of data. She has applied these communication skills in many development areas such as infrastructure, gender, energy and IT projects for many international organizations. She holds a Master’s degree in Leading Innovation and Change from New York, St Johns’ University and is a national of South Africa. In this assignment, she will be contributing in different tasks such as the preparation of the Inception Report and the revision of draft reports.

**SAVANAS ASSIGNMENT FOR THE THIRD IRM REVIEW**

The assignment of the firm is to carry out the third review of the IRM as stipulated in the Terms of Reference of the Review that was approved by the Boards of Directors on 13 February 2019. The TORs have broad areas of focus, which can be consolidated and summarized as follows:

1. To undertake a thorough assessment of the extent to which the IRM has been an effective recourse mechanism for people affected by project financed by the AfDB and a useful accountability instrument to the AfDB. It will examine the handling of complaints through compliance review which is conducted by the IRM Experts and handling cases through problem-solving exercises by the BCRM.

2. To evaluate the role of IRM as an accountability mechanism for the Bank, with special emphasis on effectiveness of IRM in enhancing learning and knowledge management/development within the Bank. It will examine the IRM experience with Spot-check advisory review of projects compliance, advisory services by the BCRM and other ways of knowledge enhancement and lesson learning within the institution. It will analyze the outreach and capacity building initiatives by the BCRM and how these can be improved to reach the local communities who in most cases, are the beneficiaries of AfDB-funded projects.

3. To examine the effectiveness of the BCRM in administering the IRM and review the current structure of BCRM and the extent to which it can be described as fit for purpose; examine the roles and profiles, employment terms, duties and conditions of Director, staff and IRM Experts and their respective workloads in order to enhance their support to the Boards of Directors of the AfDB.

4. To revise, if need be, the present IRM Enabling Resolution and its Operating Rules and Procedures to clarify any ambiguities.