



EFIC MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUM – OUTCOMES

29th May 2014

EFIC's fifth multi-stakeholder forum was held in Sydney on 29th May 2014. This document presents an overview of the meeting.

1. Participants

Participants were representatives from the following organisations:

- EFIC
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Trade Finance, OECD and Investment Section
- Human Rights Law Centre (HRLC)
- Jubilee Australia, and
- Oxfam Australia.

2. Agenda and Outcomes

The forum participants had an active and productive discussion on the agenda items, each of which is briefly outlined below.

1 Review of the multi-stakeholder forum

A questionnaire was distributed several weeks prior to the meeting to receive feedback on the forum, its effectiveness and relevance for the participants. Conclusions from the questionnaire and discussion at the forum were:

- the forum and discussion topics are of value to the participants and should be continued
- frequency could be reduced from twice to once a year and the next forum was tentatively scheduled for February 2014. This would not prevent participants from scheduling formal or informal meetings at other times should the need arise.
- meeting durations are appropriate
- Sydney has been the venue for previous forums but the possibility of alternating between Sydney and Melbourne was discussed
- membership is relevant. Other parties have participated at various times when it has been suitable or relevant for them. EFIC agreed that from now on it would advise of forum meetings on its website a couple of months in advance that would include a draft agenda and seek input and participation from others.
- terms of reference for the forum are broad and remain adequate.

2 EFIC DRAFT statement on human rights

EFIC presented a draft statement on human rights for discussion and input from forum members. The statement was developed by EFIC's Corporate Responsibility Group and is at an early stage of development. Input and advice from Forum members was gratefully received by EFIC and will be considered in the further development of the draft statement.

3 HRLC advocacy for a National Action Plan on the Implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

The HRLC presented a briefing paper it prepared on an Australian National Action Plan (NAP) on the Implementation of the UN Guiding Principles. The paper is intended to provide background on the

Guiding Principles and outline the case for the development of an Australian NAP. It uses examples from other countries for ideas Australia could use in developing its plan.

4 Coal industry

The forum had a general discussion on the export coal industry and how EFIC is involved through its transactions.

5 Transaction discussion – Escondida Copper Mine

There was general discussion on EFIC's involvement in the Escondida Copper Mine in Chile. EFIC advised its support for that project in via a media release and inclusion on our transaction register in March 2014. The discussion revolved around EFIC's assessment methodology which involved consideration of the transaction as associated with an existing project under EFIC's Policy and Procedure for environmental and social review of transactions.

6 Any other business

EFIC advised that the next independent audit of the application of EFIC's Policy and Procedure for environmental and social review of transactions is to be undertaken in the 2nd half of 2014 with an aim of publishing towards the end of the year.

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