(This material may be subject to updates in the coming few months as new institutions join the network.)

10th Annual Meeting of IAMs
Washington, D.C.
September 2013

Basic criteria for participation in the IAM network

The basic criteria for participation in the IAM network, as agreed by the Independent Accountability Mechanisms (IAMs) at the 10th Annual Meeting of IAMs in Washington, D.C., include the following:

- Citizen-driven complaint and response mechanism;
- Operates at the international level;
- For a public institution which finances or supports development-related activities;
- Operationally independent;
- And considers social and environmental impacts/concerns.

The concept of a citizen-driven complaint mechanism, and what these mechanisms do, is described in more detail in the publication developed jointly by the IAMs for the Rio + 20 Summit on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro in June, 2012. This publication is entitled: *"Citizen-Driven Accountability for Sustainable Development: Giving Affected People a Voice - 20 Years On."*

The IAMs that have participated in any of the Annual Meetings of IAMs to date are part of the IAM network. There is also a simple process through which other organisations may be able to join the existing IAM network and participate in its Annual Meetings, in light of the basic criteria noted above.

For this purpose, there will be a small committee consisting of three IAM representatives. These representatives will come from the IAMs which hosted the two most recent IAM Annual Meetings, and the IAM which will serve as host of the next Annual Meeting. The committee shall consider any expression of interest from other organisations to participate in the network, in light of the above-noted criteria. If the committee agrees on participation by a new organisation, it shall inform the existing members with an opportunity for any objections. In the absence of objection, the interested organisation may join the IAM network and participate in its Annual Meetings.