

March 11, 2015

## Approval by mail: Haiti: Strengthening Hydromet Services Project (PPCR) IBRD

Dear Mafalda, dear PPCR Team,

Germany has no objection to the implementation of the project. We would like to propose, however, some mechanisms for project implementation (cf, bold comments below). This should go without changing the project document itself.

Regards

Romeo

### Individual Comments on the Proposed Project

The proposed project seeks to strengthen the Government of Haiti (GoH)'s institutional capacity to provide hydro-meteorological and climate information services customized to the needs of the civil protection and agriculture sectors. We highly appreciate this approach, as reliable and readily accessible climate information represents an important prerequisite for mainstreaming climate change and enhancing climate resilience on national level.

Moreover, we welcome that the proposal foresees advancing the institutional reform of hydro-meteorological and climate information services as well as institutional strengthening of the responsible entities, in particular the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Sustainable Development (MARNDR). Given the fragile political situation and the recent appointment of a transition government, however, implementing the project directly with the MARNDR without an additional Project Implementation Unit entails the risk of discontinuity of counterparts and delays in implementation. **We therefore recommend to systematically document the progress of the on-going institutional reform in order to minimize loss of information and resulting delays caused by changes within the MARNDR and other involved ministries.**

In addition, the proposal mentions that there is a strong need to replace the currently fragmented and partly external financing of the hydro-meteorological and climate information services by a more sustainable model based on a cost-recovery principle. We highly appreciate that the MARNDR "has started exploring the possibility of allocating annual resources to cover operations and maintenance cost of the network". Yet, it seems that to date no decision has been made regarding the medium- or long-term financing of the hydro-meteorological and climate information services. **As a sound financing base is key to the sustainability of the project, and given the somewhat fragile political situation, we suggest to analyse funding options from public sector resources, based on the recently completed economic analysis of the information services.**

### Comments on Cross-Cutting Issues

#### Gender

We welcome that the project will "adopt a gender-sensitive approach by fostering equal access to hydro-met and climate information". However, the proposal does not state how this gender-sensitive approach will be pursued, i.e. how the project intends to tackle the specific challenges to provide women with hydro-meteorological and climate information. **Thus, given the mentioned evidence that "Haitian women and girls are particularly vulnerable" to climate change, we recommend elaborating in greater detail appropriate strategies to ensure a high share of female beneficiaries.**