

October 8, 20120

Comments from Canada on the Decision-by-Mail: Saint Lucia (Caribbean regional program): Proposal for Phase 1 Funding

Dear Colleagues,

We welcome the opportunity to provide comments on the proposal for Phase 1 funding for the regional PPCR pilot in the Caribbean. We fully understand the challenges of developing a regional program to integrate climate resilience considerations into countries' and regional institutions' development strategies, and we appreciate the efforts made to date. As agreed at the June 2010 Sub-committee meeting, we could consider the approval of a country proposal, provided that it includes a short description of the proposed regional framework.

However, sufficient detail has not been provided in the St. Lucia proposal about the regional framework to allow us to make an informed decision and approve the proposal. The information on pages 37-38 does not advance our understanding of what regional institutions will be engaged to deliver results under a regional framework, nor how national initiatives will be structured to compliment regional activities, in order to contribute to the overall success of the PPCR.

We note that a draft regional framework for the PPCR in the Pacific has been provided under separate cover (along with 3 country-level proposals), and we would like to inquire why a similar concise framework for the Caribbean has not been presented yet? The initial 'kick-off' meeting for the Caribbean took place in October 2009, followed by the first scoping missions in December 2009; surely sufficient information has been made available by now to develop a draft proposal outlining the regional track of the PPCR. We do not want to delay the process in St. Lucia, but the onus is on the IADB and WB to provide the required information on the regional track of the Caribbean pilot, in order to fulfil the objectives of the regional pilot.

Based on information on the CIF website, it is our understanding that the August 2010 First Joint Mission produced as an outcome a finalised proposal for the release of Phase 1 funds for the Caribbean regional pilot. The information would be valuable in helping to inform PPCR Committee members about the proposed proportion of funding that may be available for the region-wide activities, as well as the six country-level proposals.

Canada would welcome receiving a draft regional framework for the Caribbean from the executing agencies, as well as information on the proposed budget for Phase 1 as soon as possible. This will allow us to move forward and quickly approve the St. Lucia proposal, in keeping with the decision taken by PPCR Sub-Committee members in June 2010.

Regards,

Jan Sheltinga