

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE INTERIM HAITI RECONSTRUCTION COMMISSION AND THE HAITI RECONSTRUCTION FUND

The Interim Haiti Reconstruction Commission (IHRC) and the Haiti Reconstruction Fund (HRF) should constitute a partnership for advancing Haiti's recovery from the January 12 earthquake. This will be achieved through several structural and operational relationships. Structurally, the IHRC will review and approve all projects and programs for financing by the HRF. The IHRC can use the HRF as a flexible source of finance to meet strategic reconstruction needs determined by the IHRC that are not being fully financed by other sources, and the IHRC can request that the HRF prioritize specific sectors, projects or regions of the country.

At the level of governance, there is an important overlap of members between the IHRC Board and the HRF Steering Committee. Also, the observers to HRF Steering Committee meetings are drawn from the IHRC Board. Institutionally, the IHRC can be represented on the HRF Steering Committee through the Chairperson or a designated representative. The HRF Secretariat can participate in IHRC Board meetings as an observer and resource entity.

Operationally, the HRF can support the IHRC by helping to finance the Commission's operations. IHRC Board and HRF Steering Committee meetings are being synchronized to accelerate the financing of recovery activities. The HRF Secretariat has been co-located with the IHRC in order to ensure seamless communications and coordination. Projects and programs that receive HRF financing will adhere to the quality, reporting and other standards established by the IHRC.

The IHRC can facilitate the work of the HRF in several ways: a) by addressing bottlenecks and expediting licenses, permits and land title for approved activities financed by the HRF; b) by encouraging development partners to contribute to or increase their contribution to the HRF; and c) by guiding implementing agencies and partner entities to work together to develop proposals that meet the strategic needs of the recovery.