

Switzerland welcomes President Goldfajn’s vision to address the multiple challenges the region is facing and position the IDB Group as a trusted partner. We strongly support the President’s commitment to ensure integrity and accountability and count on his leadership to make the Bank Group an effective, results-driven institution that lives up to the highest governance standards.

The current challenges call for a renewed effort to make the IDB Group fit for purpose. In the context of rising poverty and social inequality, exacerbated by the devastating impact of climate change affecting particularly the poorest populations, the IDB Group, as other MDBs, must rethink how it can step up its support for global and regional public goods without compromising its focus on fighting poverty and inequality. Deepening strategic partnerships and systematic coordination with other development actors, as well as the private sector and civil society, is critical to support the region on its path towards an inclusive and resilient future.

A focus on equality, inclusion, private sector development and an enhanced ambition on climate change must continue to be at the heart of the Bank’s mandate. We welcome the IDB Group’s emphasis on addressing poverty and inequality, strengthening the involvement of the private sector and promoting gender equality and diversity in all operations. We support efforts to scale up investments in social and economic infrastructure and strengthen the framework conditions for growth and private sector development. We call for a continued high ambition on climate change and green financing and expect full Paris Alignment of all operations as per the agreed timeline. We particularly welcome IDB’s Amazon initiative, as an innovative, regional program that tackles the nexus between development, climate change and biodiversity and are pleased to partner with the IDB on this.

Governance and institutional reforms are key to make the IDB Group more effective. We look forward towards continued progress in implementing reforms to strengthen the Bank’s governance framework in view of ensuring accountability, transparency and responsiveness in decision making and expect a clear roadmap to be presented to Governors. We welcome the IDB Group’s ambition to enhance development effectiveness, while complying with the highest environmental, social and governance standards. We acknowledge past progress and call on the IDB Group to continue pursuing institutional reforms, including by deepening synergies within the IDB Group, reforming internal incentive structures, and directing operations towards the IDB Group’s core comparative advantages.

Making efficient use of available capital and mobilizing private capital is critical to address the financing needs in the region. We appreciate the IDB’s leadership on balance sheet optimization and call for an in-depth review of the recommendations of the G20 Capital Adequacy Framework Review, in view of optimizing existing capital, while preserving the IDB’s financial solidity. We are open to consider the new business model of IDB Invest and the proposal on the future of the IDB Lab against the backdrop of the region’s absorption capacity and the IDB Group’s delivery capacity. We look forward to further discussions on these important proposals.

Switzerland thanks management and staff of the IDB Group for their tireless commitment towards strengthening the institution and delivering results for the region. Switzerland is committed to support the IDB Group on this path and looks forward to a continued close cooperation and constructive dialogue.