Dear Mr. Zoellick,

I refer to the Arrangement between the Ministry of Finance of Japan (hereinafter referred to as the Ministry) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Association, and the International Finance Corporation (IBRD, IDA, and IFC being hereinafter sometimes collectively referred to as the World Bank Group) that was agreed on June 15, 2000.

I am pleased to inform you that the Government of Japan has made a contribution to the Japan Social Development Fund (hereinafter referred to as JSDF - TF023779) for FY12 in the amount of JPY 3,560,000,000 which will be allocated to grants in support of World Bank Group-financed operations and programs, or utilized as otherwise agreed between the Ministry and the World Bank Group.

May we kindly request that the Bank continue to promote among its staff the importance of in-country public signing ceremonies to increase recognition of the role of Japan as a partner in development and the financier of JSDF grants. We would also like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for information about upcoming public signing ceremonies in recipient countries, and look forward to future announcements.

The Donor consents to the disclosure of this Letter and related information on the JSDF by the Bank in accordance with the World Bank Policy on Access to Information.

Sincerely yours,

Nobumitsu Hayashi
Executive Director for Japan
Dear Mr. Hayashi,

Thank you very much for your letter of December 20, 2011, confirming the Government of Japan’s FY12 contribution of JPY 3,560,000,000 to the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF). It is my pleasure to express our gratitude to Japan for its financial contribution to this important program, and for Japan’s valued partnership in development.

Japan's contribution will help provide invaluable technical assistance to the poorest countries in the world. JSDF reaches out to the most vulnerable populations and supports innovative investments and capacity building activities at grassroots levels. The World Bank will administer this new contribution in accordance with the terms of the JSDF Arrangement, as amended, between the Japanese Ministry of Finance and the World Bank Group.

We will continue to encourage our staff to appropriately acknowledge the role of Japan as a partner in development and as the sole financing partner in the JSDF. Our country offices will facilitate public signing ceremonies of legal agreements under the JSDF and invite Japanese representatives to be present and publicize the role of Japan through local media. As in the past, we will keep you informed of forthcoming signing events. As you know, we have been making a significant effort to increase the visibility of JSDF through major events to disseminate lessons learned from successful projects. We are also planning to showcase the results of such projects at the Annual Meetings in Japan this October.

Please extend our appreciation to the government and people of Japan for their continued generosity and partnership through JSDF.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Zoellick