### SUMMARY NOTE

#### I. Introduction

The session opened with a welcome from Philip W. Moeller, PhD., the moderator for the panel. There were some 30 people in attendance. Special appreciation was noted for the support from John Garrison and the Civil Society Team for the organization of the panel and for the scholarship for Khemraj Persaud to attend the Fall Annual Meetings and participate in the panel. The session has built on two previous panels within the last year on the inclusion of LGBT issues in social assessments carried out for projects financed by the World Bank. The first and third panels were organized by ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation and the St. Paul’s Foundation for International Reconciliation.

The first panel was held in conjunction with the Civil Society Policy Forum for the 2013 Spring Meetings. It gave a personal context to discrimination with the respective stories and perspectives of the panelists. It also discussed the important role of the faith based community in service provision and also highlighted how the faith-based community can be a source of homophobia as well as a supporter of inclusivity. It also informed the audience of the initiation of a study by the WB on the costs of homophobia.

The second panel was organized by the bank shortly after the first panel in June 2013. It included Rachel Kyte, Vice President for the Sustainable Development Network of the World Bank. It drew on the important parallel of how the WB moved ahead on gender issues and the experience the WB has had in advancing social issues as an integrated part of the work of the World Bank. At this panel the President of the World Bank appeared unexpectedly and gave his appreciation for the work done to date and the need to go forward.

The lens for the panel organized for the Fall Annual Meetings was ‘how does one proceed from raising the issue of LGBT inclusion to making such a policy and then ensure that it becomes an effective operational practice in the cycle of World Bank work. The panelists were invited to consider four areas need to make such a transition, namely (i) how would/is the Bank address/addressing inserting the concept of LGBT into operational policy, and in terms of operations, (ii). What issues would relate to communicating and collaborating on this new direction with client governments; (iii) What consultation and research are needed to support moving ahead with this initiative? (iv) what needs to be done to work with the NGO/CSO community on these issues; and (v) how would one address local perceptions of cultural continuity and inclusivity? Thus, how do we bridge the islands supporting LGBT inclusivity?
II. Moderator and Panelists

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moderator</strong></td>
<td>Philip W. Moeller, PhD.</td>
<td>Consultant, Institutional Development, governance, change management, and social assessment and Director of International Programs</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pwmoeller@aol.com">pwmoeller@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Panelist</strong></td>
<td>Rachel Kyte</td>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sdnvpoffice@worldbank.org">sdnvpoffice@worldbank.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Panelist</strong></td>
<td>Phil Crehan</td>
<td>Consultant, Sexual Minorities and Development</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pcrehan@worldbank.org">pcrehan@worldbank.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Panelist</strong></td>
<td>The Rev. Canon Albert Ogle</td>
<td>President</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aogle@cox.net">aogle@cox.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Panelist</strong></td>
<td>Khemraj Persaud</td>
<td>Program Coordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Khem_persaud@yahoo.com">Khem_persaud@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III. Comments of the Panelists

A. Question, Philip W. Moeller: Moderator

At the last panel in June 2013 the moderator asked President Jim Kim to address those present. The President began, first, by thanking all those who had worked to move ahead LGBT inclusion in the focus of project work, and, then secondly, urged the continuation of the effort. He said, “When one goes down the road of social justice, one does not go half way.”

This was a most impressive statement and signal of support. The question that comes to mind, then, is where are we and how do we proceed to make the transition from concept to policy to practice?
Response: Rachel Kyte: Vice President, Sustainable Development Network

Thank you for the invitation to be here. It is timely and important to take a closer look at the links between LGBT issues and achieving development results. Looking around the globe, we can see that “social inclusion matters”. The Arab Spring might serve as one of the latest examples. There are substantial costs – social, political and economic – to ignoring the exclusion of entire groups of people.

For us at the World Bank Group it was time to take a fresh look at what “social inclusion” means for development as well as more specifically for our work and our twin goals of ending poverty and achieving shared prosperity.

- On Wednesday we launched the new report “Inclusion Matters: The Foundation for Shared Prosperity”. It is the first of its kind for the Bank Group and it is one of the most comprehensive reviews of these issues available, anywhere.
- Never before has the World Bank Group addressed such complex social issues in such a comprehensive manner, and in many ways we are breaking our silence.
- For the first time, a major World Bank Group report addresses the exclusion faced not only by women and ethnic minorities, but also talks of the exclusion of other groups, such as the LGBT community.
  - The report highlights that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender are targeted for exclusion in many, if not most, cultures. They are still criminalized in many countries, and in some it is a crime punishable by death. In Africa, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, combined with the overall anti-LGBT attitudes in most parts of the continent, has fueled a series of attacks against LGBT populations. Even when homosexuality is not illegal it is common for homosexuals to face social exclusion.

The report references the World Value Survey (2005-2008) in which over 90 percent of the respondents in Jordan, Iran and Georgia, and over 80 percent in Turkey, South Korea, Ethiopia and Burkina Faso reported negative attitudes toward homosexuals. But the report goes beyond stock taking and talks about what exclusion means in terms of lost opportunities. Men who have sex with men are also among the groups who face greater discrimination when diagnosed with HIV, making them likely to be refused services.

In the US in 2011, according to the National School Climate Survey 82 percent of LGBT students between the ages of 13 and 20 were called names or threatened at school because of their sexual orientation, and almost two fifths of them experienced physical harassment. 55 percent were “cyberbullied”. This discrimination translates into missed opportunities: Students who experienced higher levels of victimization because of their sexual orientation or gender identity were between two to three times as likely to have missed school. They were more than twice as likely to report that they did not plan to pursue any post-secondary education as well as having higher levels of depression and lower levels of self-esteem.

The key message of our new report is a positive one: perceptions can be changed.
• The report finds that there is a growing acceptance of homosexuals. This positive change is particularly strong in India and Mexico, where the former used to have an almost universal rejection of homosexuality. Public education campaigns were instrumental, and homosexuality was decriminalized in 2003 in Mexico and in 2009 in India. European and LAC countries have also become more liberal than they were previously, considering homosexuality more “normal” than rather merely “tolerating” or accepting it.
• For our work at the WBG this report is a clarion call to pay more attention to issues of exclusion. I am confident that it will also inspire a discussion about how and why LGBT issues matter for our work.
• Most importantly, however, it will hopefully spur action to make our work more inclusive so that nobody will have fewer opportunities for a better life because of his or her sexual identity.

B. Question: This report is a major stepping stone for LGBT inclusivity. Phil, can you give as a bit of an overview of the work you are doing and help set the stage that has led to this report.

Response: Phil Crehan

Introduction

I am very excited to be here and talking about these issues. I’m working on the India-Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation and Development project. I was invited here to speak about this project and its involvement with Civil Society. I was also asked to provide a historical breakdown of LGBT issues and projects at the Bank and how that’s transformed into greater engagement with Civil Society on this issue.

Setting the Stage

If we look back to 2002, the first World Bank report that included LGBT issues was published. It was titled “Gay and Lesbian AIDS prevention, Empowerment and Treatment”. A second one also came out that year, titled “Global HIV Epidemics Among Men Who Have Sex With Men: Epidemiology, Prevention, Access to Care and Human Rights”. Both of these reports were important because they addressed how gay men are disproportionately affected by HIV.

Then in 2004, another report was published. It was titled “Sexual Orientation, AIDS, and Violence in Africa”. Finally, also in that year, the World Bank hosted its first panel on sexual minorities. It was moderated by Rachel Kyte and titled “Exploring Violence, discrimination, and marginalization of sexual minorities”.

Jump forward a few years to 2012 we see two projects that included LGBT/sexual minority populations. On December 4, 2012, the World Bank held an LGBT focus group discussion in
the Philippines. It was conducted before their Country Gender Assessment, and the lessons learned were incorporated in the final draft. At the same time in Indonesia, the governmental social inclusion program “PNPM Peduli” partners with a range of CSOs (69 in total) for greater inclusion of minority groups. Three of them are LGBT groups that explicitly work on greater inclusion into the mainstream.

Then we come to the first part of the study I am working on. In 2011, the South Asia Region AIDS team and UNAIDS prepared “Charting a Programmatic Roadmap for Sexual Minority Groups in India”. This looked at discrimination, violence, and exclusion among sexual minorities. This was followed up by an invitation by the South Asia Region’s Vice President to visit India and Nepal and research ways to scale up LGBT projects. Fabrice Houdart received a grant through the Nordic Trust Fund to create a Knowledge Product on Sexual Minorities in India.

**Knowledge Product and ‘Cost of Homophobia’**

The first part of project is primary research in India. With a research organization, Amaltas, we planned on focus group discussion, surveys, and regional consultations (mixed-methods approach). We are at a stand-still, however, as a result of our communications with India’s Department of Economic Affairs. The way the World Bank operates in developing nations is by working with a country’s Ministry of Finance. Through the MoF, its DEA endorses in-country activities like research projects. We are now working with the Bank’s Country Office and an organization through the Ministry of Health (National AIDS Control Organization) to bring attention to the DEA that this project is welcomed and necessary.

The second part of our Knowledge Product is proceeding smoothly. We are working with an economist, Dr. Lee Badgett, on a methodology to quantify the lost costs of excluding LGBT people. We call this the “Cost of Homophobia”. She will be examining micro-level links between homophobia and exclusion of LGBT people and economic development. The methodology will quantify the gaps in outcomes, and then monetize the gaps in outcomes. Contact me with any more questions about this methodology.

Finally, this whole project has been an active engagement with civil society. We have an internal review panel which has Bank staff and CSOs from around the world. We engage NGOs in DC, during our trips to Europe, and work with civil society in India. CSOs have enriched this project, and we will continue to engage and consult civil society until the project is completed.

**In response to a LGBT WB/CSO Task Force**
Thus we can find examples of relevant work. There is, for example, a preliminary effort by Fabrice Houdart, the President of GLOBE, which looks at how the World Bank can internally include LGBT populations in programming. We also see activity external to the World Bank, ranging from studies by SIDA to grassroots partnerships on LGBT issues. What seems to be missing is a means of linking all these activities. The moderator has spoken of bridging the islands, and I agree that we need to examine how the World Bank and CSOs converge on LGBT issues.

The World Bank’s Civil Society Team just came out with a report that examined the engagement of the World Bank and Civil Society from 2010-2012. It set a framework or trajectory for the ways in which the Bank best engages CSOs. First is Information, then Dialogue, Consultation, Collaboration, and finally the apex of engagement, Partnerships. The report argued that the Bank, in recent years, has been most successful in the first three processes of interaction.

I am very supportive of this analysis. It would be useful to use this analysis to guide the formation and focus of a task force that would itself represent “partnership.” It can guide the conversation necessary to move LGBT issues forward in the focus of development work.

C. Question: Philip W. Moeller, moderator: Canon Ogle, the number of civil society groups in any one country has mushroomed in recent years. Sometimes these groups seem to be working at cross purposes. Could you speak to your experience with coalition building and how this can strengthen LGBT inclusivity?

Response: The Rev. Canon Albert Ogle

First, let me express my appreciation for the support offering by John Garrison that including enabling Kemraj Persaud to join in this panel. Our interaction with the staff of the World Bank has been supportive and positive.

Indeed, the various advocacy groups representing civil society often have different perspectives. My work in Uganda has tried to show these groups that there is strength in supporting a common, comprehensive approach. Coalitions that support, health, gender, poverty, education, and LGBT issues all have greater impact than single organizations which focus on one issue. These issues are inter-related if one looks at the comprehensive nature of poverty and development. There is a mindset that also comes from approaching things in a collaborative and comprehensive way. It is often a key to the development of local problem-solving and the building of local ownership. As an outsider we can facilitate the formation of coalitions, but they must be locally owned to be effective. LGBT issues must be rolled into the whole of community development.
Messaging within such coalitions, moreover, requires special consideration. External groups have a tendency to approach LGBT inclusion from the perspective of human rights, in part reflecting the importance of human rights in many western countries. This approach is often countered in developing countries when it comes to the LGBT community. A better approach is to include the issues of the right of access and the cost of exclusion along side human rights. The results of the study on the Costs of Homophobia, therefore, will be especially valuable to advancing the LGBT cause in development thinking.

A special note also needs to be made relative to the role of the faith-based community in the development process. Faith-based groups make up a significant portion of service providers in many countries. They can be positive or negative agents in access for the LGBT community. Such groups should not be allowed to advance homophobia in the performance of service provision. Denying access is counter to the theologies of most religions.

Civil society stands ready to work with the World Bank in the battle to end poverty. Here is where inclusion is so important. The role of the World Bank in serving inclusivity is receiving increased focus. We have learned that the World Bank has received a request from a civil society organization supporting LGBT issues in Nepal for an Inspection Panel. The basis for this request focused on how adequate was the social assessment conducted by the World Bank team and how reflective of local cultural traditions is the structuring of access under a World Bank health project. We think there will be more such requests if the culture of the World Bank does not fully embrace LGBT inclusivity.

The framework prepared by Fabrice Houdart is a most interesting start to a consideration of what to look for in specific types of World Bank project and sector activities. It would be especially helpful to those who have yet to be sensitized to LGBT issues.

Moving ahead, however, seems to need some sort of mechanism for communication between the staff of the World Bank and Civil Society. Reflective of the statements of the President of the World Bank at the last panel, it would be most effective to have an endorsement and establishment of a collaborative task force under the Office of the President. This would be a clear signal and assist to effective inclusivity.

D. Question: Philip W. Moeller, moderator. Khemraj, you have experience in Guyana with community organizing. Would you comment further on coalition building and local culture as well as address how civil society might assist advancing inclusivity for the LGBT community?

Answer: Khemraj Persaud
Good morning. Let me begin by thanking the Bank for putting together this panel and for agreeing to dialogue and engagement on an issue that for a long time has remained in the closet, no pun intended. My name is Khemraj Persaud and I am the Program Coordinator at the Society Against Sexual Orientation Discrimination (SASOD). SASOD is the leading LGBT human rights advocacy organization in Guyana. I have significant experience working on LGBT community organizing and human rights advocacy domestically as well as regionally at the Caribbean level. I am excited to be here and to have an opportunity to share my knowledge and experience.

**CSO Coalition Building**

Civil society coalition building is important for collective action and impactful advocacy and awareness-raising. In Guyana, we started what we call the Guyana Equality Forum (GEF). The GEF is a loose network of civil society organizations and grassroots groups that are working on human rights and equality issues. It includes groups and organizations that have a specific focus such as women’s rights, children’s rights or the rights of indigenous peoples but that also support human rights for LGBT citizens. We recognize that many of the issues are cross-cutting... homophobia, gender inequality and other forms of discrimination are strands of the same rope and when we fight one, we fight all. Coalition building also provides opportunities to do more effective advocacy and public education by having non-LGBT actors speak on issues such as sexual orientation and gender identity. This helps to demonstrate that the issues are not only supported by gay people.

I also would like to underscore the importance of engaging with faith communities. It is not often that I am sitting on the same side of the table with members of the church – usually I am on the opposite side - and for this repositioning I am very happy. Despite the progress we see here today, however, the evangelical movement remains one of our biggest adversaries. The exportation of homophobia continues unabated from the global north. Churches like Exodus International and His Way Out Ministries continue their crusade of demonizing LGBT people. It is therefore imperative that we include faith-based organizations in discussions like this and, more importantly, involve them into the advocacy movement. We have seen success with this approach in Guyana where our Roman Catholic bishop has attended and spoken at many of our events.

**Local Culture**

We are beginning to see small incremental changes in terms of governmental response. In Guyana, our government agreed to hold public consultations on decriminalizing same-sex intimacy and enacting legislation to protect LGBT citizens from discrimination. In Jamaica and, more recently, Belize, we have also seen some positive political rhetoric. That being said,
however, I think there is an urgent need to move from rhetoric to action mainly because LGBT people continue to be marginalized, excluded and discriminated against, and in some very unfortunate instances killed because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. We, therefore, cannot afford any more time debating the morality, or legality for that matter, of this issue. Governments must take bold political leadership to address the issue of human rights and protection for LGBT people. We cannot keep waiting for the right time because the time will never be right. If every group’s humanity and equality were premised on broad public acceptance, few minorities would enjoy them.

Search for a Mechanism

CSOs have an important role to play in how we move forward after today’s discussion - in how we advance from policy to practice.

- The Bank must first ensure the sustainability of its engagements with LGBT civil society organizations that are working on the ground in communities, and it must also ensure that these engagements are impactful. It cannot just be a ‘ticking the box’ exercise.

- The Bank has long described itself as a ‘knowledge bank’. Recognizing the huge gap that exists with regards to data on how homophobia and transphobia impacts the daily lives of LGBT people and their ability to enjoy their economic and social rights, the Bank must prioritize funding for research that examines these issues.

- The Bank must provide increased funding for grassroots LGBT organizations that are largely under-resourced and requires ongoing capacity building and technical assistance. This will ensure that service delivery is more effective and that advocacy and awareness-raising efforts are improved and sustained.

- The Bank must ensure the involvement of LGBT organizations in consultations on national development and broad policy agenda at the country level. It must use its leverage to get LGBT issues included in poverty reduction strategies developed by member countries. The Bank’s country offices can do more to reach out to LGBT groups and ensure that they are informed on development project and initiatives that are likely to have an impact on LGBT communities.

IV. Moderator’s Summation:

Philip W. Moeller, PhD.

The panelists have brought a broad range of perspectives on the impact of current practices of the World Bank on the LGBT community and the need for a policy of inclusivity that includes the LGBT community. The panelists have raised this need specifically within the context of bringing an end to poverty, noting that if any community is left out, poverty cannot be brought to an end. Inclusivity, by definition, must be comprehensive.
Several of the panelists have called for the formation of a collaborative mechanism that would join the work of the staff of the World Bank and the experience of civil society in making the inclusivity of the LGBT a reality in development work. An expansion of this concept, perhaps as a task force, will be provided as an addendum to the final report for this session.

We seem to be on the threshold of potential change for LGBT inclusion. Most certainly the just published report on inclusivity is a key framing document which details why the World Bank should include the LGBT community in poverty reduction strategies and sustainable development goals. Other donors have already gone farther, and there are many CSOs that have extensive field experience. The WB is known for its appreciation of best practice. There is chance of lost opportunity, however, if there is not more collaboration on the issues of LGBT inclusivity, especially with those who have experience and are often significant service providers. The challenge for us all is how to be creative and innovative in order to unleash further creativity and innovation. We need to join together and walk past conceptual thresholds into operational applications. We can do this together; we have to do it together. Only then will it be sustainable.

THANK YOU FOR COMING TO THIS PANEL