LAPSE OF TIME

EB/EVC/23/7

April 27, 2023

To: Members of the Evaluation Committee

From: Gilles Bauche, Committee Secretary

Subject: **Terms of Reference for the External Evaluation Panel**

Committee Action:	Committee Members' **consideration** on a lapse of time basis
Deadline to Request a Committee Meeting, after which Proposed Recommendation Deemed Approved:	**Thursday, May 4, 2023** **12:00 (noon)**
Additional Information:	A redlined version is also attached for the convenience of Committee Members.
Questions:	Mr. Bauche, SEC (ext. 36764)
Additional Distribution:	Members of the Executive Board

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE PANEL

2023/2024 External Evaluation of the Fund's Independent Evaluation Office (IEO)
Terms of Reference
April 25, 2023

1. Purpose of the Evaluation

To maintain the practice of conducting external evaluations of the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) on a five-year cycle, as set forth in the Terms of Reference for the IEO, the Executive Board has decided to initiate a fourth external evaluation of the IEO. The first external evaluation was concluded in April 2006, and in the resulting summing up Executive Directors considered it appropriate to conduct another external evaluation in five years. The second evaluation was concluded in March 2013. The third evaluation was concluded in July 2018. All three evaluations have had a major impact on the IEO, and many changes in IEO policy and IMF follow-up procedures have been made as a result of their recommendations.

Twenty-two years after its inception, the IEO is a well-established and important element of the Fund's governance structure. The purpose of the fourth external evaluation is to re-assess the effectiveness of the IEO and to consider possible improvements to its structure, mandate, operational modalities, and terms of reference.

2. Focus of the 2022/2023 Evaluation

The central objective for the upcoming evaluation will be to assess how successfully the IEO has continued to meet its goals: to serve as a means to enhance the learning culture within the Fund, strengthen the Fund's external credibility, and support the Executive Board's institutional governance and oversight responsibilities.

The external evaluation could assess the IEO's effectiveness along several dimensions, including:

(i) The appropriateness, relevance, timeliness, independence, and selection of the IEO's evaluation topics;

(ii) The interactions between the IEO, management, and staff and the Executive Board; collaboration with evaluation offices of other IFIs; engagement with external stakeholders;

(iii) Focus and format of IEO reports (timeliness, format ("short" v. "full evaluations"), conciseness, prioritization and resource implications of recommendations, application of the SMART[1] criteria to the IEO recommendations and specific suggestions (sub-recommendations);

(iv) Traction of IEO work, and progress in implementation of IEO recommendations, including in addressing the stock of pending recommendations, and how to further strengthen implementation of Board-endorsed recommendations and possibly further streamline implementation monitoring;

(v) IEO resourcing (human capital and budgetary resources).

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[1] For the purposes of this Evaluation, SMART is defined as specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and timely.

3. Evaluators

The evaluation will be carried out by a panel of three experts with a mix of professional backgrounds, including experience gained working with the Fund: _______, Chair, ____, and ______. They shall conduct their work freely and objectively and shall render impartial judgment and make recommendations to the best of their professional abilities. As noted in the IEO's terms of reference, an important element of the external evaluation would be the solicitation of inputs from a broad range of stakeholders, both from the official as well as the nongovernmental community.

4. Access to Confidential Information and Protection of Confidentiality

The evaluators will have unrestricted access to interview staff, management, and Executive Board members, as well as to all relevant Fund and IEO documents, minutes, and internal staff memoranda needed to carry out their task.

The evaluators undertake not to disclose, deliver, or use for personal gain or for the benefit of any person or entity without the consent of the Fund, any restricted or confidential information in possession of the Fund that they receive in the course of the evaluation. The Chair of the Evaluation Committee shall request an appropriate officer of the Fund to review the draft evaluation report with the purpose of pointing out to the evaluators any inadvertent disclosure of restricted or confidential information. The evaluators are free to request information from country authorities and other sources outside the Fund as they deem appropriate.

5. Evaluation Report: Publication, Executive Board Consideration, and Comments

The Fund owns all rights in and to the report and reserves the exclusive right to publish, print, and distribute the report in all forms or format, in whole or in parts The evaluators undertake not to publish the report or any part of the report separately. The staff, management, the Executive Board, and the IEO will have the opportunity to respond to relevant parts of the evaluation report in draft form, as well as when the evaluation report is formally submitted to the Executive Board for final consideration. Evaluators are free to take account of any comments on the draft evaluation report.

Comments on the evaluation report submitted to the Executive Board for final consideration will be part of the official record of the meeting. There is a strong presumption that the Executive Board will decide to publish the final evaluation report following its discussion, including any comments thereon, as well as the conclusions of the Executive Board consideration of the report.

6. Resources and Timing

The budget for the external evaluation of the IEO will cover the costs of the evaluation, including honoraria and travel costs. Within this budget, and in consultation with the Chair of the Evaluation Committee, the evaluators may arrange for research assistant support. The Fund will provide administrative support for the external evaluation.

The evaluators shall be provided with a letter of engagement, setting forth the terms and conditions approved by the Chair of the Evaluation Committee. The "Terms of Reference of the External

Evaluation of the Independent Evaluation Office," dated _______, 2023 shall be attached to the letter and acceptance of the engagement by the evaluators shall also mean acceptance of the "Terms of Reference." The engagement will expire with delivery of the evaluation report and its consideration by the Executive Board, or if the Executive Board determines that the engagement should be terminated for any reason. Evaluators will begin work in October 2023; completion of the evaluation report is expected for mid-2024. The evaluators will keep the Chair of the Evaluation Committee informed of the progress of the work.

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE PANEL

2023~~17~~/~~2018~~ 2024 External Evaluation of the Fund's Independent Evaluation Office (IEO)
Terms of Reference
~~August 4~~April 25,
~~2017~~2023

1. Purpose of the Evaluation

To maintain the practice of conducting external evaluations of the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) on a five-year cycle, as set forth in the Terms of Reference for the IEO, the Executive Board has decided to initiate a ~~third~~ fourth external evaluation of the IEO. The first external evaluation was concluded in April 2006, and in the resulting summing up Executive Directors considered it appropriate to conduct another external evaluation in five years. The second evaluation was concluded in March 2013. The third evaluation was concluded in July 2018. ~~Both~~ All three evaluations have had a major impact on the IEO, and many changes in IEO policy and IMF follow-up procedures have been made as a result of their recommendations.

~~Sixteen years~~Twenty-two years after its inception, the IEO is a well-established and important element of the Fund's governance structure. The purpose of the ~~third~~ fourth external evaluation is to re-assess the effectiveness of the IEO and to consider possible improvements to its structure, mandate, operational modalities, and terms of reference.

2. Focus of the ~~2017~~2022/~~2018~~ 2023 Evaluation

The central objective for the upcoming evaluation will be to assess how successfully the IEO has continued to meet its goals: to serve as a means to enhance the learning culture within the Fund, strengthen the Fund's external credibility, and support the Executive Board's institutional governance and oversight responsibilities.

~~Without limiting the choices of the evaluation team within this broad contour, t~~The external evaluation could assess the IEO's effectiveness along several dimensions, including:

(i) The appropriateness, relevance, timeliness, independence, and selection of the IEO's evaluation topics;

(ii) The interactions between the IEO, management, and staff and the Executive Board; collaboration with evaluation offices of other IFIs; engagement with external stakeholders.

(iii) Focus and format of IEO reports (timeliness, format ("short" v. "full evaluations"), conciseness, prioritization and resource implications of recommendations, application of the SMART[2] criteria to the IEO recommendations and specific suggestions (sub-recommendations);

(iv) Traction of IEO work, and progress in implementation of IEO recommendations, including in addressing the stock of pending recommendations, and ~~How IEO recommendations are endorsed by the Board and the follow up process, including~~ how to further strengthen implementation of Board-endorsed recommendations and possibly further streamline implementation monitoring;

(v) ~~How to handle the stock of past recommendations which have not yet been implemented;~~

(vi) IEO resourcing~~, including its~~ (human capital and budgetary resources).

3. Evaluators

The evaluation will be carried out by a panel of three experts with a mix of professional backgrounds, including experience gained working with the Fund: ~~Donald Kaberuka~~ Name, Chair~~person~~, Name~~Pernilla Meyersson~~, and ~~Der Jiun Chia~~Name. They shall conduct their work freely and objectively and shall render impartial judgment and make recommendations to the best of their professional abilities. As noted in the IEO's terms of reference, an important element of the external evaluation would be the solicitation of inputs from a broad range of stakeholders, both from the official as well as the nongovernmental community.

4. Access to Confidential Information and Protection of Confidentiality

The evaluators will have unrestricted access to interview staff, management, and Executive Board members, as well as to ~~access~~ all relevant Fund and IEO documents, minutes, and internal staff memoranda needed to carry out their task.

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5. Evaluation Report: Publication, Executive Board Consideration, and Comments

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relevant parts of the evaluation report in draft form, as well as when the evaluation report is formally submitted to the Executive Board for final consideration ~~in final form~~. Evaluators are free to take account of any comments on the draft evaluation report.

Comments on the ~~final~~ evaluation report submitted to the Executive Board for final consideration will be ~~considered~~ part of the official record of the meeting. There is a strong presumption that the Executive Board will decide to publish the final evaluation report following its discussion, including any comments thereon, as well as the conclusions of the Executive Board consideration of the report.

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The evaluators shall be provided with a letter of engagement, setting forth the terms and conditions approved by the Chair~~man~~ of the Evaluation Committee. The "Terms of Reference of the External Evaluation of the Independent Evaluation Office," dated ~~August 4~~_______, ~~2017~~ 2023 shall be attached to the letter and acceptance of the engagement by the evaluators shall also mean acceptance of the "Terms of Reference." The engagement will expire with delivery of the evaluation report and its consideration by the Executive Board, or if the Executive Board determines that the engagement should be terminated for any reason. Evaluators will begin work in October ~~2017~~2023; completion of the evaluation report is expected for mid-~~2018~~2024. The evaluators will keep the Chair~~man~~ of the Evaluation Committee informed of the progress of the work.