

**AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DEVELOPPEMENT  
VICE PRESIDENCY POWER, ENERGY, CLIMATE & GREEN GROWTH**



**Ref.: PEVP.0/LTR/AA/KK/2026/06/010  
Date: June 4, 2026**

[REDACTED]  
Officer-in-Charge  
Special Procedures Branch  
c/o Office of the United Nations  
High Commissioner for  
Human Rights (OHCHR)  
Via E-mail: [ohchr-registry@un.org](mailto:ohchr-registry@un.org)

Dear [REDACTED],

**RE: JOINT COMMUNICATION FROM SPECIAL PROCEDURES DATED 05 MARCH  
2026 RELATING TO CORAL NORTH FLOATING LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS  
(FLNG) PROJECT (REF. AL OTH 26/026)**

We refer to your Joint Communication dated 05 March 2026, captioned above, addressed to the President of the African Development Bank (the “**AfDB**” or the “**Bank**”) and concerning the Coral North Floating Liquefied Natural Gas (FLNG) Project in Mozambique (the “**Project**”).

We acknowledge the concerns raised by the Working Group regarding the Project, particularly in relation to environmental, social, and human rights considerations. The Bank takes Joint Communication seriously and would like to respond as detailed below.

On 14 January 2026, the AfDB Board of Directors approved a private sector loan of USD 150 million in relation to the Project based on, *inter alia*, the following considerations:

- (a) the Project is aligned with Mozambique’s national development priorities: natural gas is identified as a strategic pillar of the country’s national development plan, with fiscal revenues from the sector earmarked to fund public investment in infrastructure, health, education, and social services;
- (b) according to the Joint Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) Principles, the Project is consistent with Mozambique’s Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and aligned with the Paris Agreement. In particular, the Project incorporates a zero routine flaring policy, best available technology for energy efficiency, and methane leak detection and repair consistent with best international standards, further reinforcing its climate credentials;
- (c) the Project is compliant with the Bank’s Energy Policy and Ten-Year Strategy (2024-2033) and presents positive additionality and very good development outcomes;

- (d) the Project complies with the Bank's Integrated Safeguards System, which covers environmental and social safeguards. Furthermore, the Project provides for the Bank's Independent Recourse Mechanism, an effective accountability and redress mechanism providing recourse for individuals and communities who may be impacted by the Project; and
- (e) the Project is located approximately 50 kilometers offshore in the Rovuma Basin and is therefore naturally insulated from security-related human rights allegations associated with onshore gas development. Additionally, the Project's Security Management Plan is consistent with the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights.

It should be noted that while the Bank does not support upstream exploration activities, it may finance the development of liquefied natural gas projects pursuant to its Energy Policy. As a matter of fact, natural gas is globally recognized as a transitional fuel that contributes to safeguarding and enhancing energy security while reducing global greenhouse gas emissions when supplanting more carbon-intensive fuels. Access to natural gas therefore represents a useful step in the energy transition. Indeed, this is the basis for the development of gas projects by several major multilateral development banks and international financial institutions.

Finally, we would like to assure the Working Group that, in line with best practices, the Bank's loan agreements provide for a robust contractual framework ensuring compliance with laws, regulations, policies and environmental and social standards, and enabling the AfDB, together with the other financiers, to monitor such compliance and require adequate remedial measures if necessary.

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

