



July 29, 2022

Mairead Lavery
President and Chief Executive Officer
Export Development Canada

cc:

Martine Irman, Chair of the Board of Directors, Export Development Canada
Mary Ng, Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic
Development

Dear Mairead Lavery,

We are writing to seek clarification regarding EDC's Principles on Leverage and Remedy and their application in the case of the Hidroituango dam project in Colombia.

In 2016, EDC approved a loan of \$466 million to Empresas Públicas de Medellín (EPM), a portion of which was allocated for construction of the Hidroituango dam. EDC approved the loan despite [widespread warnings](#) of corruption and social and environmental harm.

In 2019, Isabel Zuleta, then spokesperson for the coalition Movimiento Ríos Vivos, [met with](#) representatives of EDC. During the meeting, Ms. Zuleta raised concerns about EDC's support for the project and called on EDC to provide remedy to the thousands of people harmed by the construction of the dam and its near collapse in 2018.

We wish to bring your attention to our recent [opinion piece](#), in which we point out that EDC has never publicly disclosed having taken measures to provide any form of remedy in this case.

We would like to gain a clearer picture of precisely how EDC's Principles on Leverage and Remedy have been applied in the case of the Hidroituango dam. To this end, we would like to know:

1. Did EDC conduct an assessment of its "connection to harm and the nature of its responsibility with regard to remedy"? If so, what were its conclusions?

2. What measures has EDC taken to “ensure that affected stakeholders have access to remedy”? For instance, did EDC take any steps to press either EPM or the Colombian government to provide remedy?
3. Have any parties involved in the Hidroituango project provided remedy to the victims as a result of EDC’s efforts to “enable” remedy?

We look forward to your responses.

Sincerely,

Kathy Price
Campaigner
Amnesty International Canada

Georgina Alonso
Program Officer
Above Ground (a project of MakeWay)