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Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu,
Under-Secretary-General and High Representative, UNOHRLLS
405 East 42nd Street Room S-3245, New York, USA

Subject: The Joint Report on MDBs Contributions to the SDGs

Dear Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu,

2020 will go down in history as a life turning point. Although 2020 had signaled the start of the SDGs Decade of Action, the COVID-19 pandemic has eclipsed all other significant problems of the century. It has threatened to reverse the progress made in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As the largest providers of development financing and long-term partners of developing countries, the multilateral development banks (MDBs) have collectively pledged to mobilize a \$230 billion global response package between 2020 and 2021 to reduce the impact of the pandemic. \$75 billion of this pledged amount will go to the world's poorest countries before the end of the year.

The heads of MDBs have reflected on opportunities to strengthen support for the 2030 Agenda at this critical time towards rebuilding a more resilient post-COVID-19 world. The MDBs have supported countries' efforts to make progress in the SDGs since 2015. This support was captured in a recently published report I am sharing with you titled, "Financing the SDGs: the contributions of the multilateral development banks." I had proposed this joint initiative to my colleagues during IsDB's chairmanship of MDBs meetings in 2020. The report showcases opportunities to deepen the SDGs' focus as MDBs support countries to recover from the current crisis.

I avail myself of this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and trust. Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Dr. Bandar M. H. Hajjar
President, Islamic Development Bank Group

Encl. "Financing the SDGs: the contributions of the multilateral development banks" Report, December 2020

<https://www.isdb.org/financing-the-sustainable-development-goals-the-contributions-of-the-multilateral-development-banks>