

## **IFC ADVISORY #10**

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### IFC EHS Guidelines Update

Today April 30, 2007, **International Finance Corporation (IFC)** is pleased to announce the online publication of the final versions of the General Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines and fifty-five (55) Industry Sector EHS Guidelines, marking a significant milestone in the review and update of the World Bank Group's Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines.

The new [World Bank Group EHS Guidelines](http://www.ifc.org/ifcext/enviro.nsf/Content/EnvironmentalGuidelines) are available at the following website:  
<http://www.ifc.org/ifcext/enviro.nsf/Content/EnvironmentalGuidelines>

This new set of EHS Guidelines replaces those documents published since 1998 in Part III of the World Bank Pollution Prevention and Abatement Handbook (PPAH), and between 1991 and 2003 on the IFC web site.

The EHS Guidelines update builds on the recent effort to create the IFC Policy and Performance Standards on Social and Environmental Sustainability, which was completed one year ago. Over the last two years, the EHS Guidelines review and update process has relied on the technical input of over 80 external consultants as well as the collective, global project experience of IFC and the World Bank.

As part of this process, IFC sought and received extensive input from external stakeholders through a public comment period that extended from August 2006 through April 2007. Comments from industry associations, NGOs, technical experts, private sectors companies, regulatory agencies, and other multilateral financial institutions provided valuable recommendations to improve the quality and robustness of the new EHS Guidelines.

Over the next few weeks, IFC will also announce the details of a permanent review and update mechanism to ensure that the EHS Guidelines remain current with industry practices for EHS issues.

Seven (7) industry sector guidelines, as below, are still under final review and will be published in the next few weeks for a 60-day comment period. Please check at the following link for updates, and to register and provide comment once drafts become available:  
<http://www.ifc.org/ifcext/policyreview.nsf/Content/EHSGuidelinesUpdate>

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  - Water & Sanitation
  - Waste Management Facilities
  - Pulp and Paper Mills
  - Thermal Power
  - Aquaculture
  - Large Volume Inorganic Compounds Manufacturing and Coal Tar Distillation
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