Proposed International Finance Corporation (IFC) Investment in Delonex Energy Limited (Africa Region) September 12, 2013 United States Position

The United States appreciates that IFC categorized this project as an "A" given its substantial environmental risks.

The United States recognizes that IFC's involvement in this project will allow the application of IFC's performance standards to mitigate environmental risks. The United States also welcomes the assurances from staff that IFC's default environmental, health and safety guidelines will apply both at the corporate level and in downstream investments.

However, given that the risks inherent in hydrocarbon exploration investments are substantial, the United States would have wanted the Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS) on the project to provide sufficient detail about Delonex's downstream investments to allow a full assessment of the environmental impacts. As such detail is not available, the ESRS does not comply with the requirements of the U.S. legislative mandate governing our assessment of Category A projects.

For this reason, the United States wishes to be recorded as abstaining on this investment.