World Bank Sanctions System Annual Report 2020

29 October 2020

The World Bank Group (WBG) <u>published</u> its Sanctions System Annual Report Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20), covering the Bank's actions from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020. According to the Annual Report, the Integrity Vice Presidency has started 46 new investigations and submitted 26 cases and 22 settlements to the Office of Suspension and Debarment (<u>OSD</u>). The OSD is headed by the Chief Suspension and Debarment Officer (<u>SDO</u>), who has temporarily suspended 30 firms and sanctioned 19 respondents via uncontested determinations. In FY20, seven firms and individuals were sanctioned by the Sanctions Board in six decisions arising from contested cases that can be found here.

Here are some interesting summaries of the Annual Report:

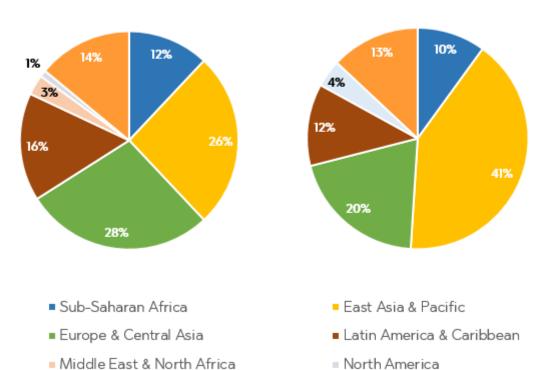
Regional Origin of Respondents Sanctioned by the SDO and the WBG Sanctions Board

(176 Respondents) (FY16 - FY20)

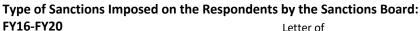
South Asia

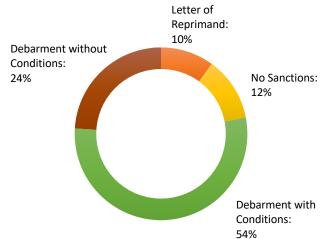
Regional Origin of Respondents Sanctioned by Settlement

(123 Respondents) (FY16 - FY20)

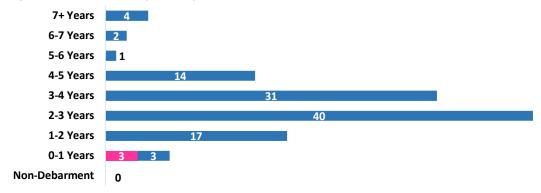


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Length of Debarments Imposed by the SDO (FY16-FY20)**



Length of Debarments Imposed by Sanctions Board (FY16-FY20)



^{**} Debarments for a period of exactly X years are in the higher category (i.e., a 3-year debarment is in the category "3-4 years").

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Five firms undertook to comply with the cooperation requirements and six firms continued to comply with the ongoing cooperation requirements of settlements from previous fiscal years. These 11 firms were obliged to hire an independent investigator to carry out 32 investigations.

66 investigations were still active at the end of FY20, 16 open for over 18 months, 11 for 12-18 months and 39 open for less than 12 months.

BLOMSTEIN constantly monitors the sanction activities of the World Bank and will continue to report on further developments. If you have any questions about the World Bank's sanction system or that of any other Multilateral Development Bank, please don't hesitate to reach out to Roland Stein or Bruno Galvão. Roland and Bruno will be more than happy to assist you.