



GBDRRRF

**THE GLOBAL BANK
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
AND RECONSTRUCTION FUND**

*Public Affairs Section of the
Global Bank*



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 4th, 2022

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Message by Global Bank President Ron Nechemia – on the Declaration of Independence



Message by Global Bank Group President Ron Nechemia on the occasion of the 246th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence — America Independence Day

Today the United States of America celebrates the 246th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence — **America Independence Day** — an occasion to celebrate hard-won freedoms, liberty, and independence. The

Fourth of July is a sacred day for Americans — a day of hope, remembrance, and resolve, of promise and possibilities.

On behalf of the Global Bank Group, I am honoured to send heartfelt congratulations to our American friends and the government of the United States —the host country of Global Bank — as America Independence Day on July 4th is celebrated. We, the Global Bank Group, look forward to working with the government of the United States of America in the years ahead to promote the protection of human rights, peace and stability, and economic development globally.

Today, the Global Bank Group joins our friends, host country, and allies to celebrate the United States' freedom, liberty, and independence. These are three of the many core values that Global Bank Group and the United States share, allowing us to work side-by-side to address some of the most significant challenges confronting humanity and explore opportunities around the world.

The United States takes justifiable pride and enjoys universal respect because its own Declaration of Independence, more than 246 years ago, was among the affirmations of human rights, freedoms and dignity that led to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Thomas Jefferson framed human rights as universal rights to freedom and dignity in the American Declaration of Independence of 1776. He wrote:

"We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed, by their Creator, with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness."

On the 246th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence — **America Independence Day** —we have come together in utter solemnity to remember our obligations to our forefathers, who proclaimed a vision of human rights for all the world's people; and to rededicate ourselves to do better where we have failed or fallen short.

The touchstone for our work, the guiding star for this anniversary year, is the inherent human rights, freedoms and dignity of every human being.

That is our inheritance. That is the legacy we seek to bring to life every day in every corner of the world. It is our solemn duty and our highest calling.

On this occasion, I reaffirm our commitment to strengthening the Global Bank Group—U.S.-Privileged Partnership for Peace, Prosperity, and Preservation of the Environment which reflects our common values and shared interests in improving the lives of every citizen. Global Bank Group is committed to working with the United States government on issues of mutual interest, including global peace and security, good governance, global health, food security, and respect for human rights for all the world's people.

About GB-DRRRF

The Global Bank Disaster Risk Reduction and Reconstruction Fund – an Umbrella Trust Fund (GB-DRRRF), established in 2017, is a multi-donor partnership and grant-making financing mechanism. Its purpose is mainstreaming climate change into development to help achieve the [Sendai Framework targets by 2030](#) - a decade-long plan to help make the world safer from disasters caused by natural hazards, to support the implementation of the [Global Climate Agreement in Paris](#), and prevent disasters undermining progress on the [Sustainable Development Goals](#). The rapid and flexible support offered by the [Global Bank Disaster Risk Reduction and Reconstruction Fund](#) makes it a central pillar of the [Global Bank Group](#) agencies' humanitarian response architecture.

More detailed information can be found on the GB-DRRRF's website <http://www.gbdrrrf.org/>

About Global Bank

[Global Bank](#) is the Global Bank Group's long-term sovereign lending institution. As a development bank with an agenda driven by G-7/G-8 and G-20-priorities, its leading priority is to promote global economic and social development. Unlike the multilateral development banks (MDBs), Global Bank is not restricted to operating only in developing countries.

The Global Bank Group represents, develops, and supports the collective interests of the Global Bank and its business interests globally. Global Bank is a full-fledged private sector global development bank, in formation, – the *world's second global development bank* – positioned next to the *World Bank Group* and next to the preeminent regional development banks. It combines the characteristics of a multilateral development bank with those of a private financial institution. The primary objective of the Global Bank is to reduce poverty in middle-income countries and creditworthy poorer countries by promoting sustainable development. To this end, Global Bank finances primarily public sector infrastructure projects and sustainable development through the provision of sovereign loans to developing countries. Global Bank's financial objective is not to maximize profit, but to earn an adequate income to ensure its financial strength and to sustain its development activities.

For information about the Global Bank, please visit www.global-bank.org/

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