

Tango Bonds: Success for the Italian bondholders in the jurisdictional phase of the ICSID claim, now we enter the merits.

Nicola Stock, President of TFA, states: "The decision is a success and a satisfaction for Italian bondholders and vindicates their right to bring claims for Argentina's violation of their international treaty rights. After the registration and the constitution of the Tribunal we have passed the third step, a stage complicated by Argentina's strategies that have continually sought but failed to stop the claims."

The World Bank's ICSID Tribunal presiding over the Italian bondholders' case against the Argentine Republic issued its highly-anticipated decision on jurisdiction, by majority, in favor of the Italian investors. In the landmark decision issued on August 4, 2011, the Tribunal also ruled that the arbitration proceeds to the merit phase regarding Argentina's liability for its 2001 default on billions of dollars of bonds.

The Tribunal ruled, in a lengthy, 285 page, decision, in favor of the Italian bondholders, rejecting Argentina's numerous objections, all successfully opposed by the Italian Claimants.

"The Tribunal's decision is a success for all Claimants who have endured first Argentina's historic default, then the unjust, wholly inadequate and unreasonable exchange offer and confiscation of bondholders rights, followed the delays and legal objections calculated to protract the proceedings to an unreasonable point." - Stock said - "We will now continue to act in order to establish Argentina's liability and achieve a fair compensation for the damages suffered by the Italian bondholders".

"We now enter the merits stage of the proceeding and we are ready to deal with it with undiminished energy and will in order to achieve the best possible result for the Italian bondholders - Stock continues - while remaining, as always, available for a constructive dialogue, never occurred before, with the Argentine opponent that would allow a fair and responsible solution".

The Tribunal will next establish the procedure for the arbitration's next phase.

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Italian bondholders participating in the ICSID arbitration may obtain information on the case by sending a request for information to info@tfargentina.it or consulting the website www.tfargentina.it. Any participating bondholders who revoke their participation in the cases against Argentina referenced above place the protection of their rights against Argentina at risk.

Rome, 11 August 2011