

**RATING ACTION COMMENTARY****Fitch Affirms North American Development Bank at 'AA'; Outlook Stable**

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Fitch Ratings - London - 27 Feb 2026: Fitch Ratings has affirmed North American Development Bank's (NADB) Long-Term Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'AA' with a Stable Outlook. A full list of rating actions is at the end of this rating action commentary.

NADB's 'AA' rating is driven by its Standalone Credit Profile (SCP) and shareholder support, both assessed at 'aa'. The 'aa' SCP reflects the lower of our solvency (aa+) and liquidity (aaa) assessments, adjusted down by one notch due to the 'medium risk' business environment. Our 'aa' support assessment considers the coverage of net debt by callable capital subscribed by the US (AA+/Stable), along with a 'moderate' propensity to support the bank.

**KEY RATING DRIVERS**

**Capital Payments Continue:** In 2025, NADB received USD209 million in paid-in capital from its two shareholders, Mexico (BBB-/Stable) and the US. This included USD89 million from Mexico, covering its scheduled 2025 payment and arrears from prior years, and USD120 million released by the US. NADB expects both shareholders to meet ongoing payment obligations consistent with the General Capital Increase schedule.

**'Excellent' Capitalisation Underpins Solvency:** NADB's excellent capitalisation remains a key rating strength. Fitch's usable capital-to-risk-weighted assets (FRA) ratio increased to 104% at end-2025 from 90% at end-2024, among the highest levels for rated multilateral development banks (MDBs). The rise reflects higher usable capital after the capital payments. NADB's leverage stayed low, with the equity-to-assets ratio rising to 44% at end-2025 from 37% at end-2024. Fitch forecasts the FRA and equity-to-assets ratios to remain well above their respective 35% and 25% 'excellent' thresholds through 2028.

**US Risk Eased:** Fitch considers the risk associated with the US Executive Order from February 2025, mandating a review of US membership in international organisations,

including MDBs, to have eased. Continued US commitment is evident through the capital releases after Mexico cleared its arrears in 2025. NADB's relevance is reflected in its participation in funding cross-border projects in sectors facing challenges. A shareholder withdrawal, while not Fitch's expectation, would lead to winding down NADB's operations under its statutes.

**'Moderate' Credit Risk:** The weighted average rating of loans was at 'BB+' at end-2025, unchanged from the prior year. Loan performance remained strong, with the non-performing loans ratio falling to 0.1% at end-2025 from 0.9% at end-2024, with one exposure classified as non-performing. NADB's focus on non-sovereign operations (private, public-private and sub-national loans) means that its credit risk assessment does not benefit from an uplift for preferred creditor status.

**'Low' Solvency Risks:** Fitch assesses NADB's risk management policies as 'strong'. This reflects its conservative risk management based on its policies and record, balanced against its sectoral and geographical concentration, which is a relative weakness compared with other MDBs. The equity risk is 'very low', as NADB has no equity participations.

The five largest exposures accounted for 34% of the portfolio at end-2025 (2024: 31%), consistent with a 'low' concentration risk assessment. Sectorial and geographic concentration is high, with more than half of exposures to sustainable energy sectors in the US and Mexico. NADB reduced its exposure to Mexico's electricity sector to 24% of loans at end-2025, from 46% in 2020, by expanding lending beyond the energy sector, including in the US, under its 2024-2028 Strategic Plan.

**'Excellent' Liquidity Profile:** NADB's 'aaa' liquidity assessment reflects its 'excellent' liquidity buffers and high credit quality of its treasury assets. Liquidity buffers, measured as liquid assets to short-term debt, stood at 7.3x at end-2025, down from 7.8x, well above the 1.5x 'excellent' threshold. The credit quality of NADB's treasury assets remained stable, with 83% rated 'AAA'/AA/'F1' at end-2025, up from 82% at end-2024 and above the 70% 'excellent' threshold. Fitch expects both liquidity metrics to remain consistent with an 'excellent' assessment over the medium term.

**'Medium Risk' Business Environment:** Fitch assesses NADB's business environment as 'medium risk', resulting in a one-notch negative adjustment from its solvency assessment. The business environment balances i) a 'high risk' business profile assessment (-2 notches), which is largely a product of the bank's small size, focus on non-sovereign loans and minor policy role relative to similarly rated peers, partly offset by sound governance standards; and ii) a 'low risk' operating environment assessment (+1

notch). NADB maintains good relations with local governments and municipalities, which have been the key beneficiaries of its lending programmes.

**Shareholders' Support:** Fitch assesses extraordinary support from NADB's shareholders at 'aa', reflecting 'aa+' capacity to support and a 'moderate' (-1 notch) propensity to support. The capacity to support assessment is anchored on the coverage of NADB's net debt by callable capital subscribed by the US. The 'moderate' propensity to support balances the ongoing capital increase and the limited size and geographical coverage of the bank relative to rated peers.

**Mexican National Scale Rating Affirmed:** NADB's Long-Term IDR is materially above Mexico's sovereign Long-Term IDR (BBB-/Stable). Consequently, the bank's rating on the Mexican National Rating Scale is 'AAA(mex)'. The Long-Term National Rating is sensitive to a change in NADB's Long-Term IDR if it was downgraded below Mexico's Long-Term IDR.

## **RATING SENSITIVITIES**

### **Factors that could, individually or collectively, lead to negative rating action/downgrade:**

Given that NADB's ratings are underpinned by the SCP and support, any negative rating action would require a deterioration in our assessment of both NADB's SCP and support assessments.

**Shareholder Support:** A downgrade of the US sovereign rating or weakening in shareholders' propensity to support due to delayed capital payments by Mexico or delayed release of US paid-in capital.

**Solvency (Risks):** Significantly higher non-performing loans or weakening in the average rating of loans affecting our assessment of the bank's SCP. This could be driven by changes affecting the bank's borrowers operating in Mexico's renewable energy sector.

**Solvency/Business Profile:** The withdrawal of a major shareholder that significantly affects NADB's capitalisation or business profile.

### **Factors that could, individually or collectively, lead to positive rating action/upgrade:**

**Support (Capacity):** An upgrade of the US sovereign rating to 'AAA'/Stable would lead to an improvement in our assessment of support and overall Long-Term IDR, provided the bank's SCP does not deteriorate by several notches, given the three-notch cap between SCP and shareholder support assessments.

**Solvency (Risks):** An improvement in the bank's SCP, stemming from a material improvement in the credit quality of the bank's loan portfolio, non-performing loans being at a 'very low' level on a sustained basis and reduced concentration.

**REFERENCES FOR SUBSTANTIALLY MATERIAL SOURCE CITED AS KEY DRIVER OF RATING**

The principal sources of information used in the analysis are described in the Applicable Criteria.

**PUBLIC RATINGS WITH CREDIT LINKAGE TO OTHER RATINGS**

NADB's rating is linked to the US sovereign rating.

**ESG CONSIDERATIONS**

NADB has an ESG Relevance Score of '4' for Rule of Law, Institutional and Regulatory Quality. All supranationals have a score of '4'. Supranationals are neither subject to bank regulation nor supervised by an external authority. Instead, supranationals comply with their own set of rules. Fitch pays particular attention to internal prudential policies, including compliance with these policies.

NADB has an ESG Relevance Score of '4' for 'Policy Status and Mandate Effectiveness'. The bank only operates in the U.S. and Mexico as per its bylaws. Any sovereign rating action taken on Mexico or the US could affect our assessment of NADB's loan portfolio and/or support assessment.

The highest level of ESG credit relevance is a score of '3', unless otherwise disclosed in this section. A score of '3' means ESG issues are credit neutral or have only a minimal credit impact on the entity, either due to their nature or the way in which they are being managed by the entity. Fitch's ESG Relevance Scores are not inputs in the rating process; they are an observation on the relevance and materiality of ESG factors in the rating decision. For more information on Fitch's ESG Relevance Scores, [visit www.fitchratings.com/topics/esg/products#esg-relevance-scores](http://www.fitchratings.com/topics/esg/products#esg-relevance-scores).

**RATING ACTIONS**

| ENTITY / DEBT ⚡ | RATING ⚡ | PRIOR ⚡ |
|-----------------|----------|---------|
| <hr/>           |          |         |

|                                    |                                |                          |          |  |                                      |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|--|--------------------------------------|
| North American<br>Development Bank | LT IDR                         | AA Rating Outlook Stable |          |  | AA Rating<br>Outlook<br>Stable       |
|                                    | Affirmed                       |                          |          |  |                                      |
|                                    | ST IDR                         | F1+                      | Affirmed |  | F1+                                  |
|                                    | Natl LT                        |                          |          |  | AAA(mex) Rating<br>Outlook<br>Stable |
|                                    | AAA(mex) Rating Outlook Stable |                          |          |  |                                      |
|                                    | Affirmed                       |                          |          |  |                                      |
| senior unsecured                   | LT                             | AA                       | Affirmed |  | AA                                   |

[VIEW ADDITIONAL RATING DETAILS](#)

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## **APPLICABLE CRITERIA**

[National Scale Rating Criteria \(pub. 22 Dec 2020\)](#)

[Metodología de Calificaciones en Escala Nacional \(pub. 22 Dec 2020\)](#)

[Supranationals Rating Criteria \(pub. 03 Oct 2024\) \(including rating assumption sensitivity\)](#)

[Metodología de Calificación de Supranacionales \(pub. 12 Feb 2025\)](#)

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North American Development Bank

UK Issued, EU Endorsed

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