



# World Bank Update

## PARLIAMENTARY NEWSLETTER

July - August 2010

### IDA FIELD VISIT IN MALI JUNE 20-23, 2010

From June 20 to 23 a group of 9 Parliamentarians, from Burkina Faso, France, Italy, Nigeria, Portugal and Senegal plus representatives of the Polish Foreign Ministry and the secretariats of parliamentary organizations Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF) and PNoWB participated in a field visit to Mali. During the visit, which happened in the week following the second meeting of the IDA16 replenishment negotiations, in Bamako, the delegation saw IDA projects on the ground, and met with beneficiaries and World Bank counterparts in Mali. The delegation amongst others met with members of the Malian parliament, who shared their views on Mali's development and development challenges. Mali MPs who were also members of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF) and the local chapter of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB) joined



*Mali: Delegates-Parliamentary Field Visit*

several meetings and meals, as well as the project visits.

The visiting Parliamentarians found the leadership of the Mali Government to be strong and convincing, and the donor group including the World Bank very supportive of the Government's development efforts. Still, Mali is on track only to meet a few of the MDGs, and is unlikely to achieve goals 3, 4 and 5, promoting gender equality, reducing child mortality and improving maternal health. Mali continues to be in great need of investments, tourism, remittances and ODA, as well as of improving its own tax-base.

to continue its no-interest lending, as well as grants, to the poorest countries, among them Mali. At the IDA16 meeting in Bamako, the World Bank presented the participating donor country representatives with proposals for enhancing IDA's effectiveness and focuses on development results as well as potential scenarios and related financing options for IDA16. During IDA16, it has been agreed to focus especially on gender, climate change and fragile and conflict affected countries within the broader framework of achieving development results.

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*Mali Prime Minister*

The ongoing IDA16 replenishment negotiations are necessary to provide the World Bank with the ability

### IDA 16 as an opportunity for increased aid effectiveness

PNoWB, in partnership with European Parliamentarians with Africa (AWEPA) has launched an IDA 16 and Aid Effectiveness campaign. The Campaign calls on the World Bank to deepen its commitment to aid effectiveness throughout IDA 16 replenishment, implementation and monitoring by focusing on four key areas, with the ultimate goal of bringing the world closer to meeting



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the MDGs in 2015. The four key areas are country ownership, strengthening statistical systems, peer review and leading by example in population, health and nutrition programs. In addition, the Campaign calls for the Bank to increase its engagement with donor and partner country parliamentarians. All Campaign materials are available in English (Arabic, French and Spanish coming soon) on a dedicated IDA 16 and Aid Effectiveness Campaign page [http://www.pnowb.org/content\\_84\\_1](http://www.pnowb.org/content_84_1) If you have questions or would like to discuss ways that the Campaign can be incorporated into development-related events in your Parliament or organization, please contact the Campaign team at [secretariat@pnowb.org](mailto:secretariat@pnowb.org)



## FROM THE REGIONS

**Burkina Faso** - On June 10th 2010, the World Bank Office in Ouagadougou participated in a regional forum as part of the continent-wide consultations for the reviewing of the Bank's strategy for Africa, outlined in the Africa Action Plan (AAP). Some ten countries, linked by videoconference to the Dakar (Senegal) hub, initiated a deep brainstorming on how to optimize the way the WB prioritizes and conducts its mission throughout the continent. Three Parliamentarians

were on hand at the Ouagadougou site and represented the National Assembly during the event: Hon. Fatoumata Diendere, Hon. Thiemoko Konate and Hon. Bassirou Ly, all members of the PNoWB's local chapter, actively contributed to the debate. After the June 10th videoconference, the agenda will go local with the in-country AAP consultations. The attending MPs voiced their great interest in these consultations and assured that the Burkina Faso National Assembly would be available and honored to be an active participant in the dialog to reshape and improve the WB's support to Africa's development.

For more information, please contact [lmensah@worldbank.org](mailto:lmensah@worldbank.org)

**Brussels** - A delegation from the European Parliament's temporary Financial Crisis Committee held two meetings with the World Bank in separate missions to Beijing, at the end of May, and to Washington on 8-9 June. In Beijing the group led by MEP Wolf Klinz was received by Klaus Rohland, World Bank Country Director for China, and Ardo Hansson, Lead Economist for China who introduced the Bank's activities in China and provided perspectives on recent and future economic developments. This was followed by an extensive exchange with the MEPs on a range of challenges and opportunities faced by China. Possible future visits of senior staff from the WB Beijing office to Brussels were also evoked. In Washington the delegation exchanged views with Carlos Braga - Acting Corporate Secretary Vice President- on the global economic outlook, giv-

ing particular focus to economic problems in Europe. The Crisis Committee was initially supposed to end its work at the end this year with the adoption of its report on the EU's approach to the financial crisis but its mandate is likely to be extended for another year.

For more information, please contact [glaryea@worldbank.org](mailto:glaryea@worldbank.org)

**Sweden** - The Annual World Bank Conference on Development Economics, or ABCDE was held from May 31-June 2 in Stockholm, Sweden.



This year's conference titled 'Development Challenges in a Post-Crisis World', attracted more than 500 experts from around the world and covered a wide set of topics such as aid effectiveness, climate change, and post-crisis recovery. The debate featured three Nobel Laureates Robert Solow, James Mirrlees and Eric Maskin. The panel explored the implications of short-term policies to stimulate growth, while acknowledging that longer-term issues of poverty reduction and climate change should not be neglected. <http://go.worldbank.org/2ICIKNRHS0>

Also see: <http://www.sweden.gov.se/abcde2010> for the full conference program, and webcasts.



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## SELECTION OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

For more information on these activities, please contact [mtxeront@worldbank.org](mailto:mtxeront@worldbank.org). E-courses can be found on [www.parliamentarystrengthening.org](http://www.parliamentarystrengthening.org)

### *Consultations on Country Assistance Strategies (CAS)*

The World Bank regularly engages parliamentarians and other constituencies during consultations on the Country Assistance Strategies



(CAS). The Board is scheduled to review the CASes for Bangla Desh, Lesotho, Pakistan as well as the Interim Strategy Note (ISN) for Chad in July. In all these countries, members of parliament were involved in the CAS consultations.

### *August 29-31-2010 CCPAC Conference-PAC Association Panel, Quebec, Canada*

The World Bank Institute (WBI), in collaboration with the Parliamentary Centre - Africa, will organize an international panel of African and Asian regional Public Accounts Committee (PAC) associations at the 31st Annual Conference of the Canadian

Council of Public Accounts Committees (CCPAC). This panel will enable CCPAC Members to hear about these newer associations and facilitate a dialogue between Canadian participants and their Commonwealth counterparts. In addition, the session will allow the newer PAC associations to further learn about Canada's experience. More information on: [www.parliamentarystrengthening.org](http://www.parliamentarystrengthening.org)

### *July 20-IPU Speakers Conference in Geneva*

Vice President for Poverty Reduction and Economic Management (PREM), Otaviano Canuto will be representing the World Bank in a debate on how to reach the Millennium Development Goals at the 3rd World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments in Geneva. The main theme of the conference will be "Parliaments in a world of crisis: securing global democratic accountability for the common good".

### *Ongoing-Africa Strategy Consultation*

For the past five years, the World Bank has based its support to Africa on the Africa Action Plan. However, changes in the global economy as well as a new economic environment in Africa make it necessary to renew our approach. Preparation of a new strategy is under way, and the World Bank is seeking stakeholder input to inform the strategy. You can share your views online at: <http://go.worldbank.org/YPFHJFPPY0> or by sending an email to: [africaconsult@worldbank.org](mailto:africaconsult@worldbank.org).

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Developing Countries Lead Global Recovery*

The World Bank projects global gross domestic product (GDP) to expand between 2.9 to 3.3% in 2010 and 2011. Developing countries will



lead the global recovery, expanding almost twice as fast as high-income countries, according to the Bank's latest Global Economic Prospects 2010 released on June 9. Developing economies are expected to grow between 5.7 and 6.2% in 2010, while high-income countries are projected to grow between 2.1 and 2.3%. The full report and data on the global outlook, regional trends, inflation, financial flows, and commodities is available at [www.worldbank.org/globaloutlook](http://www.worldbank.org/globaloutlook).

### *China's Growth Remains Strong*

China's economy has continued to grow robustly after the economic crisis. Although there has been some softening in growth recently, China's economic outlook remains favorable according to the China Quarterly Update released on June 21, 2010. The report projects GDP growth at 9.5% for 2010 and 8.5% for 2011 but cautions that further reforms are needed to facilitate rural-urban integration and development of a competitive labor market. More information at: <http://go.worldbank.org/WRAOM3ZN10>



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## ***Stimulus Helps South Asia Rebound***

South Asia rebounds strongly following the global financial crisis, says the South Asia Economic Update 2010: Moving Up, Looking East, the World Bank's first yearly assessment of the economies of the region, released on June 7. South Asia is poised to grow by about 7% in 2010 and nearly 8% in 2011. The drop in growth during the crisis was the smallest among all regions. "Integration, not the lack of it, and prompt policy responses are driving rebound of growth to 7% in 2010 and 8% in 2011. The drop in growth during the crisis was the smallest among all regions," says Dipak Dasgupta, principal author of the report. More information at: <http://go.worldbank.org/6BU9N0AZM0>

### WORLD BANK NEWS

## ***New World Bank Access to Information Policy Takes Effect July 1***

The World Bank is on track to begin implementing the first phase of its new policy on Access to Information on July 1. The new policy is



one of several major reforms the Bank has undertaken to increase its effectiveness, efficiency and accountability, and positions the Bank as a transparency leader among multilateral organizations. More information at: <http://www.worldbank.org/wbaccess>

## ***Corruption Fighters Tackle Stolen Asset Recovery***

At a time of global economic hardship, corruption fighters from around the world convened in Paris on June 8-9 to support efforts against asset theft and safe havens for ill-gotten gains. The event was co-sponsored by the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (StAR) and the government of Switzerland. By conservative estimates, every year up to \$40 billion is stolen from developing countries through bribery, misappropriation of funds and other corrupt practices. The lost opportunities are enormous. Developing countries could use \$40 billion to finance first-line treatment for 240 million people with HIV/AIDS for a full year. More at [www.worldbank.org/star](http://www.worldbank.org/star) or <http://go.worldbank.org/XEGRFILVY0>

## ***World Bank Appoints Andrew Steer as Special Envoy for Climate Change***

On June 25, 2010, World Bank President Robert B. Zoellick announced the appointment of Andrew Steer as Special Envoy for Climate Change, a new position created to ensure focused leadership and representation of the World Bank in the international discussions around climate change. Andrew Steer, who once served as the World Bank's director of environment and recently returned to the bank after three years as director general of policy and research for the United Kingdom's Department of International Development. More information at: <http://go.worldbank.org/CDMD5LCYQ0>

## ***Tuvalu Joins the World Bank***

On June 24, the Pacific Island country became the latest (and 187th) member of the World Bank Group when Finance Minister Lotoala Metia signed the Articles of Agreement of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA) - the two institutions that make up the World Bank. With a population of just over 12,000 and a total land area of 26 square kilometers, Tuvalu is the world's fourth smallest nation and the World Bank Group's smallest member. More information at: <http://go.worldbank.org/GRMEFUPM50>



## ***G20 Should Support a Pro-Growth Agenda for Developing Countries***

The Group of 20 should strive to promote long-term, broad-based growth, since this represents the most effective means to help lift tens of millions of people in the developing world out of poverty. Moreover, faster growth in developing countries could kick off a virtual cycle towards more diversified, sustainable and less volatile global demand, the World Bank said in a background paper entitled "Recovery at the crossroads: Role and implications for developing countries, prepared for this weekend's G20 summit. More information at: <http://go.worldbank.org/44A986CNU0>