



World Bank Update

PARLIAMENTARY NEWSLETTER

October 2010



October 8-10, 2010 Annual Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank Group

PARLIAMENTARIANS JOIN THE WB/IMF ANNUAL MEETINGS

The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB) is attending the World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings, with a delegation led by PNoWB Board Chair and UK MP Hugh Bayley, member of the Select Committee on International Development and a founder member of All Party Africa Group in the UK Parliament. While in Washington D.C., the PNoWB delegation will amongst others meet with World Bank Management, in addition to participating in the Program of Seminars and Civil Society Policy Forum; and serve as panel discussants in policy sessions.

FROM THE REGIONS

Please find below a selection of activities undertaken by country offices over the last month.

London, United Kingdom - On September 14, 2010, World Bank Managing Director Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala participated in a public event called "Delivering results in development - pound for pound, what's the best deal?", organized by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Overseas Development (APGOOD). Okonjo-Iweala shared the floor with Andrew Mitchell MP, UK Secretary of State for International Development, who presented his vision to drive for development results, in a discussion moderated by David Laws, Liberal Democrat MP and Chair of the APGOOD. Okonjo-Iweala highlighted the importance of maintaining development aid especially in the midst of the current economic crisis and praised the Secretary of State for committing to not "balancing the books on the backs of the poor". She reiterated the World Bank's commitment to aid effectiveness, results, and country-lead development.

For more information, please contact Afelton@worldbank.org or cotano@worldbank.org.

Italy - Hon. Enrico Pianetta and Hon. Mario Barbi from the MDG (Millennium Development Goals) Committee of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Chamber of Deputies met with the World Bank Vice



Robert B. Zoellick, President of the World Bank Group

The ECON Committee of the European Parliament will also visit D.C. for the World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings. The ECON Committee is responsible within the EP for amongst others the economic and monetary policies of the EU, the functioning of Economic and Monetary Union and the European monetary and financial system; and the international monetary and financial system, including relations with financial and monetary institutions and organizations. The delegation is led by ECON Committee Chair Sharon Bowles (UK), and the delegation will amongst others get an orientation on the World Bank's analysis of Global Economic Prospects, and the impact of the financial crisis on developing countries.

More information at www.fundbank-meetings.org

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President for Concessional Finance and Global Partnerships Axel van Trotsenburg, during the MDG Summit in New York (September 20-22). They were briefed on the IDA 16 process and the World Bank Group work in response to the crisis and in support of the MDG Agenda.

More information at <http://www.worldbank.org/ida>

Kosovo - World Bank staff working on the Public Sector Modernization Project (PSMP) recently approved by the Board of Directors, met in early September with the representatives of all the main opposition parties (LDD, AAK, AKR) to discuss the ratification of the Agreement on PSMP between the Government and the World Bank in the Parliament of Kosovo. The meetings included Members of Parliament from ethnic minority communities. A similar round of meetings took place in late July, when Bank officials discussed with Members of Assembly from the opposition parties the prospects of ratifying the Real Estate and Cadastre Registration Project. Agreements on both projects were signed by the Government of Kosovo in March 2010, but their ratification in Parliament is pending. Kosovo legislation requires ratification of all debt agreements by the Parliament of Kosovo with support from 2/3 of all Members of Parliament. For more information, please contact Dkowska@worldbank.org

Paris, France - The Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC) has established a global task force of parliamentarians which works with anti-money

laundering experts and organizations (including the World Bank and IMF) to develop a complementary approach to combating money laundering. This Anti-Money Laundering Global Task Force ((AML GTF) met in Paris on September 29-30. The purpose was to launch a major effort to develop tools, techniques, and materials that will assist parliamentarians around the world establish and monitor effective anti-money laundering regimes in their respective jurisdictions. Mr. Jean Pesme, Manager for Financial Market Integrity at the IFC represented the World Bank Group. For more information on the World Bank group's work on financial market integrity, please see www.worldbank.org/amlcft. Also consult the GOPAC website at www.gopacnetwork.org

Brussels, Belgium - The Vice President for the World Bank's Europe and Central Asia (ECA) operations Mr. Philippe Le Houerou, met with a group of MEPs in Brussels on September 29, including Danuta Hübner (Poland), Livia Jaroka (Hungary) and Corina Crețu (Romania). Mr. Le Houerou used the opportunity to introduce the new ECA strategy, which matches EU's "Europe 2020" strategy in the three pillars of competitiveness, social inclusion and energy efficiency/adaptation. Other topics discussed were the new World Bank Roma report launched in Prague on September 30, 2010, migration related challenges in Europe, and the role of the European Parliament under the Lisbon Treaty, especially with regard to the EU budget and external financial instruments. For more information, please contact glaryea@worldbank.org/

SELECTION OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

For more information on these activities, please contact mtixeront@worldbank.org
E-courses can be found on www.parliamentarystrengthening.org

Consultations on Country Strategies (CAS/CPS)

The World Bank regularly engages parliamentarians and other con-



stituencies during consultations on the Country Strategies. In October, the Board is scheduled to review the Country Partnership Strategies (CPS) for Azerbaijan, Macedonia FRY and Uruguay and the Country Assistance Strategy (CAS) for Tonga. In all these countries, members of parliament were involved in the consultations that shape the strategies.

The World Bank Country Office in Skopje, Macedonia engaged the Parliamentarians in the midst of the CPS preparation: meetings with parliamentary coordinators of largest political parties (both from the ruling coalition and the opposition) were organized in order to familiarize the MPs with the main directions of the new Partnership Strategy and solicit their views and comments. The meetings were highly



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appreciated by all involved, and led to requests for follow up meetings between the MPs and the World Bank.

While the Azerbaijan CPS was not formally consulted with the Parliament, the Head of the Economic Committee in Parliament participated in the High Level Policy Forum where the main directions of the CPS were discussed, and the Country Office also had informal meetings with a few individual members of the Parliament at different stages of CPS preparation. Consultations were undertaken with the civil society and business community and of course with the government quite extensively.

The Tonga Country Office discussed the CAS with a number of constituencies including government, donor partners, civil society and parliamentarians. Parliamentarians were especially concerned that the Bank do more in the outer islands, and the draft CAS was adjusted to reflect this. Parliamentarians were also appreciative of the Bank's commitment in the CAS to engage in dialogue and work constructively with any new Government following elections in late November.

September 29-October 2 – Meeting of GOPAC Task Force on UNCAC & Meeting of Southeast Asia Parliamentarians Against Corruption (SEAPAC), Manila, Philippines

This two-part event will allow the newly formed Bangladesh GOPAC chapter to engage in south-south dialogue on anti-corruption issues and to complete the process

of being formally recognized by GOPAC.

October 7-8 – World Bank Open Forum

As part of the World Bank's new Open agenda, parliamentarians and others who are not able to attend the Annual Meeting events will for the first time be able to join a special online event featuring live coverage from the 2010 World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings and panel discussions on key issues: open development, jobs, and the changing development landscape. For more information and to add your voice to the discussion, go to <http://blogs.worldbank.org/meetings/open-forum>

October 25-29 - NATO-PA Parliamentary field visit to Ethiopia

The World Bank Country office in Ethiopia will be the host to a Visit of the Sub-Committee on Transatlantic Economic Relations of the NATO-Parliamentary Assembly.

October 25-29 – Parliaments, Aid Effectiveness, and Conflict Prevention Workshop, Vienna, Austria

In collaboration with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) and the Parliamentary Centre, WBI is facilitating a workshop at the Joint Vienna Institute to discuss strategies parliament and parliamentarians can adopt in order to reduce the incidence of conflict and effectively manage conflict when it does emerge, focusing on parliamentary functions and oversight, parliament's role in the budget process, and promoting socioeconomic equality.

November 10-11– Parliament and Social Accountability Workshop, Dhaka, Bangladesh

WBI, in collaboration with the Affiliated Network on Social Accountability and Governance in South Asia, will deliver this pilot workshop with the aim to link MPs from relevant committees with civil society actors to explore social accountability issues and to develop a handbook on social accountability for MPs.

PNoWB Annual Conference 2010

Brussels, 2-4 December



PNoWB 10th anniversary

The Belgian Presidency of the EU and the Belgian Parliament, in partnership with the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB), the World Bank and IMF, will host the PNoWB Annual Conference 2010 in Brussels, Belgium from 2 to 4 December. To-date, the following four themes have been identified for the conference agenda: financing for development; evidence-based policy making; aid effectiveness and alignment; MDG progress review. For more information, see www.pnowb.org



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Egypt's Minister as new Managing Director

World Bank President Robert Zoellick on September 8 appointed Mahmoud Mohieldin, Egypt's Minister of investment, as the third Managing Director of the World Bank Group. Mr. Mohieldin, who led a comprehensive reform program to modernize the Egyptian economy, will in his new role oversee the offices leading the Bank's Knowledge development including: Finance and Private Sector Development; Sustainable Development; Poverty Reduction and Economic Management; Human Development; and the World Bank Institute. More information at <http://go.worldbank.org/SQ02KORMV0>

International Clean Energy Expert Joins World Bank

Daniel Kammen, Professor of Energy at Berkeley has been appointed on September 9 World Bank specialist for renewable energy and energy efficiency. He will provide strategic leadership to expand the institution's role as an enabler of global dialogue on clean energy. The appointment comes amid unprecedented demand from developing countries for World Bank support in their efforts to address development and climate change as interlinked challenges. More information at <http://go.worldbank.org/909HZ1SXH0>

World Bank Redoubles Help to Countries to Achieve 2015 MDGs

The World Bank estimates that as a result of the food, fuel and financial

crises, 64 million more people are living in extreme poverty in 2010, and some 40 million more people went hungry last year. By 2015, 1.2 million more children under five may die, and about 100 million more people may remain without access to safe water. The World Bank Group is fully committed to assisting countries to meet and reach the MDGs, including through a more than doubling of IBRD and IDA lending, from \$50 billion over FY07 and FY08, to \$106 billion over FY09 and FY10. More information at <http://go.worldbank.org/OJ0I1TH7Y0>

PUBLICATIONS

Protecting Land Rights is Key to Successful Large-Scale Land Acquisitions



On September 7th, the World Bank released the most extensive global survey of large land acquisitions. According to the study, as rising food and fuel prices create incentives for large-scale land acquisitions around the world, it is more important than ever for governments and the international community to protect existing local land rights. Strong and clear land rights make it more likely for existing owners to directly negotiate with investors, obtain higher payments for

land transfers and make sure investments benefit the public and the local economy. The study recommends that countries integrate land policy into overall development strategy. More information at <http://go.worldbank.org/OAV3EK4F00>

Education Strategy 2020: Stakeholder Comments Emphasize Centrality of Learning to Development

From Cartagena to Jakarta, the World Bank's Education Strategy 2020 team embarked on worldwide consultations this spring to engage stakeholders in shaping the content of its new ten-year strategy. Led by the World Bank's Education Director, Elizabeth King, the strategy team consulted over 1000 stakeholders from 69 countries which included civil society. These vital feedbacks from this Phase I Consultations have been captured in a Report released in August 31. More information at www.worldbank.org/educationstrategy2020

World Wide Governance Indicators Update

The latest update of the Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) were released on September 24, 2010 and provides data on six broad indicators of governance, together with the underlying source data, for over 200 countries and territories for the period 1996-2009. Full information on the WGI project is available on www.govindicators.org. For more World Bank indicators see <http://data.worldbank.org>