



HIGHLIGHTS – BOARD MEETING OF 16 SEPTEMBER 2015

INTRODUCTION

The Board of Directors held its meeting at the CCIA Building in Abidjan on 16 September 2015. The Meeting was chaired by **Dr. Akinwumi ADESINA**, President of the Bank Group. Please find below the key decisions reached during consideration of the agenda items.

UGANDA: Uganda Rural Electricity Access Project

The above-mentioned project aligns with one of the operational priorities of the Bank's Ten-Year Strategy (2013-22) and its main objective is to provide reliable and affordable electricity to households and SMEs in the rural areas.

Board members expressed satisfaction with the quality of the document and the role that the Bank proposes to play in promoting and increasing the level of access to electricity in Uganda. They pointed out the need to take into account, in the course of implementation, the tariff, gender and environment related challenges so as to ensure the sustainability of the project and positive impact on the quality of life of the population concerned.

The Bank Group President emphasised the need to scale down the timeline for implementation and generally called for a significant improvement in the rate of disbursement. He informed the Board that Senior Management will soon submit to him a plan of action in that regard.

At the end of its deliberations, the Board approved the above-mentioned project.

MOROCCO: Nador West Med Port Complex Construction Project

The above-mentioned project is in line with ongoing effort to implement the National Transport Sector and Logistics Development Strategy and in particular construct, upgrade and modernize transport infrastructure and services with a view to improving logistic competitiveness of the national economy and the living conditions of people in the project impact areas.

Board members welcomed the public-private partnership and the cooperation with other MDBs such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Economic Development (EBRD) and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD). They also welcomed the impact the project will make at the national and regional levels. They underscored the potential for job creation and the positive prospects for the most vulnerable people in the project area but pointed out issues of sustainability and competitiveness given the possibility of saturation within the Mediterranean zone.

At the end of its deliberations, the Board approved the above-mentioned project.

TANZANIA: Arusha Sustainable Urban Water and Sanitation Delivery Project

The objective of the above-mentioned project is to support the effort of the Government of Tanzania to promote green and inclusive growth through the provision of reliable and sustainable water and sanitation services in the city of Arusha; and thereby contribute to improvement in health, social well-being and living standards of the beneficiaries.

Board members welcomed the document, the integrated Water and sanitation approach and the institutional support for the project. They, however, emphasized the need for sustainability of the project which depends on sound financial management and good governance in general; and on the tariff structure to be adopted. In that regard, they suggested that the issue of tariff be carefully studied upstream to ensure a sustainable access to the vulnerable population.

At the end of its deliberations, the Board approved the project under review.