High Level Seminars
& Other Thematic Seminars

Palais des Congrès, Hôtel Ivoire
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

24-27 May 2010
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& Other Thematic Seminars

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The Annual Meetings of the African Development Bank (AfDB) Group Boards of Governors represents a unique opportunity for knowledge dissemination among high level decision makers in Africa, key officials of bilateral and multilateral development agencies, renowned academicians, leading agents of non-governmental organizations, civil societies and the private sector.

Over the years, the Bank Group has capitalized on this unique gathering to organize a series of events prior to the formal opening of the Annual Meetings. The Annual Meetings have traditionally been preceded by a Ministerial Round-table discussion designed to address a major issue/theme of concern to the development of Africa. It is usually followed by a series of High level seminars, which deal with specific topics of immediate relevance to policy makers, civil society organizations and development practitioners in Africa. Except for this year, the Ministerial Roundtable discussions will be replaced by a Governors Dialogue. Which will be a closed session reserved only for Governors and Bank Group Senior Management. Together with the usual four high level seminars there will be a CEO Dialogue session, where CEO’s of African organizations will discuss the critical elements for translating Africa’s huge business potential into real business opportunities. Also, side events consisting of thematic seminars organized by various departments of the Bank will be taking place -- all geared towards addressing current development issues affecting the African continent.

The African Development Institute in the Chief Economist’s complex has been vested with the responsibility for planning, organizing and coordinating the seminars and side events that have been programmed.

The Office of the Chief Economist collected, reviewed and compiled the various Concept Papers related to the High Level Seminars and the thematic seminars to guide the discussions that will take place on the various themes. These Concept Notes have been widely circulated to the official delegates of the Annual Meetings and are available on the Bank’s website (www.afdb.org). A short abstract on each of the seminars is presented in this brochure for ease of reference.

The Palais des Congrès in Hôtel Ivoire, Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire will be the venue for all the seminars and side events. The Conference Centre is equipped with adequate facilities including highly fitted rooms for various types of meetings, interpretation facilities as well as easy access.

The Chief Economist’s Complex in collaboration with various departments/Units of the Bank conducted a careful selection of the chairpersons, panelists and Moderators for the CEO Dialogue, High Level Seminars and other side events with a view to providing the audience with the highest level of expertise on development issues available inside and outside African.

* Names of Chairpersons, Presenters and Panelists are subject to change.
Thematic Seminars
Launch of the “Making Finance Work for Africa” Website

Date       Monday, May 24, 2010
Venue      Hotel Ivoire, Glacier
Time       7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

PANELISTS

Mr. Thomas LOSSE-MÜLLER, Program Coordinator, Pan-African Organizations and Programs, GTZ and Chair, MFW4A Supervisory Committee
Mr. Gabriel NEGATU, Director, Governance, Economic and Financial Reforms Department, AfDB
Mr. Mthuli NCUBE, Chief Economist and Vice President, AfDB

PRESENTER

Mr. Stefan NALLETAMBY, Coordinator, Partnership for Making Finance Work for Africa, AfDB

The objective of this breakfast meeting is to present the Making Finance Work for Africa website and the resources that it makes available to the financial sector practitioners, policymakers, country authorities and researchers across the continent.

The launching will begin with an introduction of the Partnership for Making Finance Work for Africa and its role in scaling up financial sector development efforts across the continent by the panel. It will then discuss the efforts by the Bank and its partners are making in addressing the data gap for African financial sectors as part of a MFW4A-sponsored continent-wide data collection effort. Finally, it will introduce and showcase the Partnership’s website, www.mfw4a.org, the first-ever hub for African financial sector knowledge that centralizes previously scattered documents, data, news, and opinions on African Financial Sectors in one easy-to-navigate, intuitive online tool.
Dissemination of the African Economic Outlook 2010

Date       Monday, May 24, 2010
Room       Casino, Salle Ivoire I
Time       11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Mthuli NCUBE, Chief Economist and Vice President, AfDB

SPEAKERS

Mr. Henri-Bernard SOLIGNAC-LECOMTE, Head of Unit, OECD Development Centre, France.
Mr. Emmanuel NNADOZIE, Director, Economic Development and NEPAD Division, UNECA.
Mr. Thierry de SAINT MAURICE, Head of Delegation in Côte d'Ivoire, European Commission.
Mr. Peter WALKENHORST, Manager, Research Department, AfDB.
Mr. Jean-Philippe STIJNS, Economist, Africa & Middle East Desk, OECD Development Centre

DISCUSSANT

Mr. Oupa G. MAGASHULA, Chairman, African Tax Administration Forum, South Africa

The African Economic Outlook (AEO) is an annual publication jointly prepared and published by the AfDB, the Development Centre of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). The AEO has received generous financial support from the European Commission and the Committee of Ambassadors of African, Caribbean and Pacific States.

The Report surveys and analyzes the economic performance of African economies and provides information on a country-by-country basis on the short to medium term prospects on the Continent. The 2010 edition of the AEO covers 50 African countries, up from 47 countries in the previous year. Each year, the Report addresses a specific theme that focuses on a critical, but under-researched area of Africa’s socio-economic development. The theme for this year is: “Public Resource Mobilization and Aid”.
African Financial Markets Initiative Workshop:
“Strategic management of international reserves for domestic bond market development in Africa”

Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2010
Room: Hôtel Ivoire: Chandelier
Time: 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Thierry de LONGUEMAR, Vice President, Finance, AfDB

PANELISTS

Mr. Rostom FADLI, Director, External Financial Relations, Banque d’Algérie
Mr. Lamido A. YUGUDA, Acting Director, Reserve Management Department, Central Bank of Nigeria.
Mr. Emmanuel ASSILAMEHOO, Assistant Director, Financial Markets Operations, BCEAO.
Mr. Masaru TANAKA, Deputy Director-General and Chief of Centre for Monetary and Cooperation in Asia International Department, Bank of Japan.

MODERATOR

Mr. Stefan NALLETAMBY, Coordinator, Partnership for Making Finance Work for Africa, AfDB

In light of the large foreign reserves now managed by African Central Banks, an increasing number of reserve managers are adopting the same investment principles used by private sector asset managers, focusing on the risk/return profile of the reserve portfolios. During the workshop, the panel will tackle the costs and benefits of active reserve management from the perspective of Algeria, Nigeria and the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO). It will also consider the role played by EMEAP Central Banks in allocating reserves to the Asian bond funds, for the development of the Asian domestic bond markets.

The objective of this seminar event, will be to provide an opportunity for African Central Banks to share experiences on the different approaches used in reserve management. This will enable participants to identify challenges faced by reserve managers in the allocation of foreign exchange reserves across asset classes, taking into consideration trade-offs between safety, liquidity and returns. In addition, the role of reserve management operations in developing efficient and sound domestic bond markets will be discussed, following the lessons learnt from the Asian bond market initiative.
The Role of Independent Oversight in Promoting the Development Effectiveness of the Bank Group

Date Monday, May 24, 2010
Room Hôtel Ivoire, Glacier
Time 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Bo GORANSSON, Adviser to the President, AfDB

PRESENTERS

Mr. Edward OUKO, Auditor General, AfDB
Mr. Colin KIRK, Director, Operations Evaluation Department, AfDB
Mr. Per Eldar SOVIK, Director, Compliance Review and Mediation Unit, AfDB

DISCUSSANT

Mr. Joshua KLEMM, Africa Program Manager, Bank Information Center, Washington

Sound corporate governance is a prerequisite for any modern financial institution, as it plays a key role in maintaining the institution’s credibility and reputation. But the link to corporate objectives is not always widely understood. At the Bank Group, the independent oversight functions exercised by the Auditor General’s Office (OAGL), The Operations Evaluation Department (OPEV) and The Compliance Review and Mediation Unit (IRM), each contribute not only to sound corporate governance but also to the Bank’s development objectives. Yet the role and contribution of these functions is not widely known or understood outside the Bank.

The seminar aims to raise awareness of the importance of independent oversight in contributing to sound corporate governance and the efficient and effective delivery of development results. Presentations by the panelists will highlight the key themes:

- The changing global and institutional background.
- The continuing importance of integrity, accountability and sound corporate governance for the Bank’s work (particularly in view of the General Capital Increase and ADF Replenishment).
- The specific roles of OAGL, OPEV and CRMU, and the link to development results.
Reproductive Health, Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction in Africa
The African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)

Date: Monday, May 24, 2010
Room: Hôtel Ivoire, Salle Coup de Fusil
Time: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Caleb FUNDANGA, Governor, Bank of Zambia

SPEAKERS


Mr. Francis Menjo MBAYE, University of Yaoundé II, Faculty of Economics and Management, Cameroon: Production of Child Health, Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction in Cameroon.

Mr. Damien MEDEDJI, Unité d’Analyse Avancée en Pauvreté (UAAP), INSAE, Ministère du Développement de la Prospective et de l’Evaluation des Actions Publiques: La demande des services de santé de la reproduction au Bénin : une analyse par l’approche des fonctions de contrôle.

Ms. Sarah SSEWANYANA, Executive Director, EPRC, Uganda Cost effectiveness of Reproductive Health Interventions in Uganda: The Case for Family Planning services.

Mr. Sunil BUNDOO, Dept of Economics and Statistics, University of Mauritius: An Analysis of the Impact of Reproductive Health on Growth and Poverty: the Case of Mauritius.

RAPPORTEUR

Mr. Samuel MWAKUBO, Manager, Research, African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)

The objective of the Event is to disseminate the findings and policy implications of these studies (Reproductive Health, Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction Nexus in Africa: Research Findings and Policy Implications) among senior African policy makers in Ministries of Finance, Central Banks, donor organizations and other stakeholders.

The key issue to be addressed is the condition under which effective demand for and cost effective delivery of reproductive health services can contribute to sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction in Africa drawing on evidence from 19 country case studies from 16 African countries, namely, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Congo, Cote-d’Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo, Uganda and Zambia. A key message is that in order for the utilization of reproductive health services to contribute to economic growth and reduce poverty, several complementary actions such as a conducive macroeconomic environment, expanding and flexible labor markets and supportive socio-cultural milieu, among others are needed.
"Agriculture and Agro-business" and "Mobile Commerce" CITI – African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)

Date           Monday, May 24, 2010
Room           Casino, Salle Ivoire I
Time           4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Mthuli NCUBE, Chief Economist and Vice President, AfDB

SPEAKERS

AERC Economists
Mr. Gabriel ELEPU from Uganda, and
Mr. Mwangi KIMENYI from Kenya

Corporate clients
Mr. LAMBLIN, CEO of the SIFCA Group
Mr. Vanhelleputte WIM, CEO of MTN

Central Bank Governors (tbc)

MODERATOR

Mr. David COWAN, Citi’s chief African Economist

This is an event that is jointly sponsored by the Citigroup, the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) and the Bank. The events’ objective is to provide a bridge between academic research and public policy making and is structured around key topical themes.

For this event two themes will be covered – agriculture and agro-business, and mobile commerce. A brief outline of coverage of each theme is outlined in the following sections:

Agriculture/agro-business – This session will explore the policies and models that promote private investment in agriculture/agro-business and strike the proper balance between large-scale "corporate" farming, issues of land reform and small land-holdings, while taking into account extenuating factors such as climate change and climate variability, which has, climate variability and change has continued to severely compromise agricultural production and food security in many African countries.

Mobile Commerce - This session will explore the policies and regulatory framework for managing the explosion of mobile commerce across the African continent which has recorded the most rapid uptake of mobile telephony and the attendant investment in ICT since the year 2000. Mobile phone technology has effectively reduced the costs of doing business by empowering users with timely knowledge, reducing transaction costs, and appropriate skills for increasing productivity. And with the concept of agriculture as a commodity chain, mobile commerce has in several cases erased barriers to trade entrance, production, and consumption decisions. While access to finance, financial services and systems are undoubtedly necessities for economic growth, this session will delve into the questions of regulation of initiatives that provide financial services to the previously underserved or unserved.
Women in Fragile States: From Passive Victims of Violence to Active Agents of Change

Date       Monday, May 24, 2010
Room       Hôtel Ivoire, Salle des Fêtes I
Time       4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

PANELISTS

Dr. Donald KABERUKA, President, AfDB
H.E. Ms. Ingrid FISKAA, State Secretary, The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
H.E. Mr. KAMITATU, Minister of Planning, Democratic Republic of Congo
H.E. Mr. Sheku SESAY, Governor of the Central Bank of Sierra Leone
Dr. Saran Daraba KABA, President, Mano River Women’s Peace-building Network

MODERATOR

Ms. Tumi MAKGABO, Owner, Tumi & Co. and former CNN International Anchor

This is an event that is jointly sponsored by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the African Development Bank.

The objective of the event is to initiate a dialogue on women’s role in the context of fragile states and to propose concrete actions that governments, the African Development Bank and other partners can take in order to empower women and increase women’s participation in conflict and in post-conflict situations.

Women in conflicts and post-conflict settings continue to be viewed as victims and not as vital contributors to lasting peace and sustainable growth. The continued marginalization of women has consequences for post-conflict recovery and the achievement of durable peace, security and reconciliation. This seminar will propose concrete measures to increase women’s active participation in conflict resolution, post-conflict planning and peace building, based on the key role women can play in re-establishing the fabric of recovering societies as inputs to the on-going Mid Term Review of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1889.
Strengthening the Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM) to address Food Security and Poverty Reduction in Africa

Date Tuesday, May 25, 2010
Room Casino, Salle Ivoire I
Time 8 a.m. – 9:30 am

PANELISTS

Hon. Dr. Agnes KALIBATA, State Minister for Agriculture and Animal Resources, Kigali, Rwanda
Mrs. Rhoda Peace TUMUSIIME, Commissioner, Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Dr. Namanga NGONGI, President, Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa, Nairobi, Kenya
Dr. Kamal ELKHESHEN, Vice President, Sector Operations, AfDB

Many parts of Africa suffer from insufficient food security. Decreased food production per capita in Africa has led to malnutrition, poverty and hunger. NEPAD’s goal for Africa is to achieve a 6% annual agricultural growth rate by 2015. Average levels of fertilizer use in Africa are 1/10th of the world average and make NEPAD’s goal unattainable. Fertilizer is an essential factor in boosting agricultural productivity. The African Heads of State Summit held in Abuja, Nigeria in June 2006, resolved to establish the AFFM. AFFM’s goal is to contribute to increasing fertilizer use from its current level of about 10 to 50 kg/ha by 2015. The Heads of State Summit mandated the African Development Bank to establish the AFFM, in collaboration with the AU and UNECA and to host it. Since March 2007 AFFM Secretariat is hosted and supported by the Bank. Failure of RMCs and other donors to honor their pledges, AFFM is yet to become effective.

The participants of the Roundtable will discuss strategies to advocate for fertilizer-related issues to be put and maintained at the top of the international agenda. They will discuss how best to strengthen the capacity of AFFM to promote higher and safer use of fertilizer for enhanced agricultural productivity and to effectively alleviate food insecurity in Africa. The roundtable will provide an ideal platform to appeal for RMCs and Donors to honor their pledges, as well as raise additional funds in support of AFFM.
Migration and remittances in Africa

Date       Tuesday, May 25, 2010
Room       Hotel Ivoire, Salle Coup de Fusil
Time       9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Charles Diby KOFFI, Minister of Finance, Côte d’Ivoire

SPEAKERS

Mr. Dilip RATHA, Lead Economist, Global Prospects Group, World Bank.
Mr. Peter WALKENHORST, Manager, Research Department, AfDB.

The World Bank and the AfDB are currently in the process of finalizing a comprehensive study on migration and remittances across Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries, and in destination countries outside of Africa. This research is intended to fill the knowledge gap on the impact of migration and remittances on development, and to strengthen the capacity of policy makers, local researchers and institutions to analyze relevant trends, determinants and impacts. Through research, surveys, analysis and consultation, the project is generating the first comprehensive body of information on migration and remittances in Africa.

The study covers a broad range of issues, including the topology of migration in Africa, remittance flows into Africa, harnessing other Diaspora resources, adverse impacts of migration in Africa, and policy recommendations. The analysis draws on existing information as well as primary household level data collected from six African countries (Burkina Faso, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Uganda).
From Survival to Growth: Industrial Clusters and Micro-Enterprises in Africa

Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2009
Room: Hôtel Ivoire, Salle des Fêtes II
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

PANELISTS

Ms. Megumi MUTO, Research Fellow, JICA Research Institute
World Bank, Africa Region (tbc)
Member country government, (tbc)

Ms. Leila MOKADEM, Manager, Financial Intermediation and Microfinance Division, Private Sector Department, AfDB

The objective of this seminar is to present the main findings of the African Enterprise Study in which the AERC, FASID/GRIPS, World Bank and JICA jointly investigated the determinants of private sector growth in Africa with a focus on micro-small level enterprises located in industrial clusters.

Private sector in Africa consists of high performing firms including FDIs and those owned by ethnic minorities, followed by a wide array of active, indigenous and often informal micro-small scale enterprises. However, there is a missing middle: few small enterprises grow successfully to become medium scale enterprises that become the engine of endogenous growth. How to fill in this missing middle towards sustainable private sector growth in Africa is the central question of this seminar.
Mobilizing the African Diaspora for Capacity Building and Development: Focus on Fragile States

Date       Tuesday, May 25, 2010
Room       Hotel Ivoire, Chandelier
Time       10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

PANELISTS

Mr. Hyung-Hwan JOO, Ministry of Strategy and Finance, Director General for International Economic Affairs Bureau Korea
Mr. Seung-Hun CHUN, President of the Korea Institute for Development Studies, Korea
Mr. Anup PUJARI, Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, Joint Secretary, India
Prof. Lin YONG, Vice Director, Institute for Ethnic Chinese Studies, Fujian Academy of Social Sciences, China

MODERATOR

Mr. Roland NGONG, Former Special Assistant to the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

DISCUSSANTS

Honorable Samura KAMARA, Minister of Finance, Sierra Leone
Mr. Jerzy POMIANOWSKI, Head, Partnership for Democratic Governance, OECD.

African governments of fragile states are looking for ways to identify and engage their nationals abroad (the Diaspora) in development; and, Diasporas are seeking ways to be engaged in the region’s development. Other regions have successfully engaged their Diaspora in various ways. What lessons could Africa draw from countries that have harnessed the expertise, investments and entrepreneurship of their Diaspora to accelerate capacity building and development?

The event will serve as a forum to:

1. Connect African Governments to networks of highly qualified experts in the Diaspora so that they can hear from each other about how best to partner in utilizing the Diaspora as non-sovereigns for capacity building and knowledge management toward accelerating outcomes under Pillar III of the Fragile States Facility (FSF). The networks of Diaspora professionals will include sector thematic (e.g., academics, scientists and engineers, finance and business management, etc); and those aligned to countries and regional economic communities or RECs; and, hometown associations (HTAs) focused on communities;

2. Share global experiences and good practices with RMCs/RECs/Diaspora about policies and instruments that are effective for engaging the Diaspora.

3. Identify the catalytic role that Bank could play in strengthening capacity of stakeholders for developing and implementing policies and instruments to institutionalize utilization of Diaspora expertise in capacity building for peace, improved governance, and service delivery, and mobilizing Diaspora financial resources for infrastructure extension (especially at sub-national levels), reconstruction and development.
African Capital Markets Workshop:
“Sovereign Debt Issuance: going the domestic or international route?”

Date       Tuesday, May 25, 2010
Room       Casino, Salle Ivoire I
Time       2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

MODERATOR
Mr. Pierre VAN PETEGHEM, Treasurer, AfDB

SPEAKERS
Mr. Serge ENAME NSOLET, Directeur Général de la Comptabilité Publique, Ministère du Budget, des Comptes Publics et de la Fonction Publique chargé de la Reforme de l’Etat, Gabon
Mr. Mamadou SARR, Directeur de la Comptabilité Publique et du Trésor, Ministère des Finances, Sénégal.
Mr. Dan BERMAN, Executive Director, JP MORGAN CHASE
Mr. Jackson KITILI, Director, Monetary Operation and Debt Management Department, Central Bank of Kenya (tbc)

Several African countries have tapped international capital markets before and during the recent global economic and financial crisis. Others are actively planning Eurobond issues, especially given renewed investor appetite for emerging market risk in the aftermath of the crisis. This crisis has highlighted the need for all categories of borrowers to diversify and optimize fund raising activities. This is even more critical for several African countries within the constraint of debt sustainability after massive debt relief exercises and limited concessional resources. But it is also argued that this international borrowing comes at a significant cost for several African sovereigns, it risks triggering another debt crisis especially for HIPCs, and is sometimes done at the expense of sufficient focus on the development of domestic local currency markets. During the workshop, the panel will debate on countries debt management approaches and strategic considerations and challenges for international and domestic issuance.

Objectives of this event are: (i) To discuss strategic debt management considerations, with respect to the mix of resources available from domestic, international capital markets and concessional channels within the constraint of debt sustainability; (ii) To share experiences from African countries that have developed their bond markets and launched bond issues in international markets as a way to finance their development needs; and (iii) To debate on whether international debt issuance should be brought back domestically, and the steps required for the domestic route to be viable alternative.
The African Business Leadership Award supports and directs attention to efforts made to benefit customers, shareholders, employees, governments, as well as all the economic actors who interact within any field related to the African private sector. It is to provide an example to African businessmen and women so they may be inspired to do their part in building African companies ready to compete in the global market place.

Date 25 May 2010
Room Hotel Ivoire, Patinoire
Time 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Award Winner
To be announced during the ceremony

CHAIR
Dr. Donald KABERUKA, President, African Development Bank

PRESENTER
Mr. Papa Madiaw NDIAYE, CEO, African Finance & Investment Group (AFIG)

ORGANIZER
Mrs. Monira DIALLO, African Finance and Investment Group (AFIG)

For many years, Africa was starved of home-grown visionaries. Over time, the Continent started to be blessed with quite a few of them. It is reassuring to note that, today, Africa enjoys the emergence of a growing group of “A to Z visionaries”, i.e., those who not only develop a vision, organize the resources to implement it, but most importantly are ultimately successful in their actions. The challenge now resides in turning vision into action for economic growth and sustainable development. These business leaders must be recognized by Africans and in Africa.

The award is therefore established to honor outstanding contributions in African Business and Private Sector Development. The prize is awarded annually by a group of African private sector companies and presented by the President of the African Development Bank during the African Development Bank Annual Meetings.
2009 was the first year of the Award. It was held on May, 10 in Dakar, Senegal, during the annual Meetings of the African Development Bank and rewarded Mrs. Louisa Madjako Mojela, a South African business woman, Managing Director of the Women Investment Portfolio Holdings Ltd. (WIPHOLD). The ceremony was presided over by Dr, Donald Kaberuka, President of the African Development Bank. The event was a great success as it achieved its goal to reward an individual’s action as well as her lifetime of achievements which were readily recognized by all. Moreover, the ceremony was attended by a large number of high profile guests, and co-sponsored by several leading African companies represented by Mrs. Evelyne Tall (Regional Director of Ecobank), Mr. Douglas Munatsi (CEO of ABC Holding) and Mr. Andrew Alli (CEO of Africa Finance Corporation).

The AfDB has a unique vantage point: its involvement into the African private sector and the resources it deploys to provide an enabling environment for the growth of the African private sector by supporting African governments with financial and technical support.
The High Level Seminars
The High Level Seminars

The Bank Group’s Boards of Governors Annual Meetings have traditionally been preceded by a Ministerial Roundtable Discussions which is followed by High Level seminars all designed to address a major issue/theme of concern to the development of Africa. This year the Ministerial Roundtable discussions has been replaced by a Governors dialogue (closed session) reserved for Governors only. However, the four High Level Seminars remain and a CEO’s Dialogue has been introduced.

These high level seminars sessions are attended by dignitaries from Africa and other regions of the world, development experts from multilateral, bilateral, non governmental organizations, civil societies, private sector and the academics. An estimated 500 participants are expected to attend this plenary session.
THE PLENARY SESSION
Africa on the Rebound

Date       Wednesday, May 26, 2010
Room       Plenary Hall
Time       8:30 a.m. – 9 a.m.

INTRODUCTORY MESSAGE

Mr. Mthuli NCUBE, Chief Economist and Vice President, AfDB

CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Donald KABERUKA, President, AfDB

The overall theme of this year’s Bank Group Annual Meetings High Level Seminars is: “Africa on the Rebound”. The themes of the four High Level Seminars that follow are crafted around contemporary issues such as climate change, food security and equitable development as related to development strategies of Bank Group Regional member Countries (RMCs). They are set around the challenges encountered in the development growth of African countries, and divided into four specific topics to be examined during the Seminars.
HIGH LEVEL SEMINAR Nº 1
Climate Change and Development Financing

Date       Wednesday, May 26, 2010
Room       Casino, Salle Ivoire I
Time       9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

PANELIST

H. E. Mr. Pravin GORDHAN, Minister, Ministry of Finance, Republic of South Africa
H.E. Mr. Ogunlade DAVIDSON, Minister, Ministry of Energy and Water, Republic of Sierra Leone
Mr. Youba SOKONA, Secretary, Sahara and Sahel Observatory, Tunisia

MODERATOR

Mr. Constant NEMALE, Director, Africa 24, Paris, France

This high level seminar will discuss the key issues around climate change and development financing, taking into consideration the fact that Africa faces the dual-challenge of adapting to climate change with limited resources while taking a low-carbon development path has implications for economic growth and development. It is clear that the cost of climate change adaptation and mitigation requires substantial volumes of financial resources that are beyond Africa’s financial ability. Climate change is likely to disproportionately impact developing countries and more so, the poorest within those countries. Immediate and concerted action is therefore needed for both climate change mitigation and adaptation.

In general, debate on climate change financing has focused mainly on ‘who is to pay,’ ‘who is to receive and how much’ and ‘how the resources are to be governed’. A critical concern among developing countries is that financing for climate change will put additional pressure on official development assistance (ODA). Traditionally, commitments to ODA have neither involved legally binding obligations to pay, nor mandated entitlements to receive. In contrast, climate change support, especially for adaptation to climate impacts is viewed as a matter of restitution for climate damages. This distinction lies at the heart of this concern. Indeed, developing countries have to contend with the reality that development assistance and climate change finance will flow from the same sources creating the need to ensure that any push for the latter does not impact negatively on the security of the former.

Sources of climate finance can broadly be divided into market-based mechanisms and climate funds financed from public sources. Market based mechanism operate under various emissions trading schemes most of which use carbon as the unit of exchange, hence the term ‘carbon markets’. Market-based mechanisms are mainly targeted at climate change mitigation. On the other hand, climate funds are created using public finance flowing mainly from developed to developing counties through multi-lateral institutions, bilateral government agencies or non-governmental groups. Experience so far demonstrates that the question of successful financing for climate change mitigation and adaptation in Africa needs to go further than sheer mobilization of international funds. The limited extent to which Africa has been able to benefit from these financial vehicles brings to question
the appropriateness of their structure and governance, as well as the capacity of the continent to fully tap into these resources.

It is expected that this seminar will address the following concerns: (i) What are the realistic prospects of new and additional funds for climate change mitigation and adaptation (in addition to ODA)? (ii) What is the most favorable global climate finance architecture for the continent? (iii) How can the continent be more proactive and instrumental in the allocation, administration and absorption of climate change resources? and (iv) In view of the prevailing effects of climate change and the urgency of appropriate response, what can Africa do on its own?
HIGH LEVEL SEMINAR № 2
Measuring Development in Resource Based and Rural/Informal Economies

Date: Wednesday, May 26, 2010
Room: Casino, Les 4 Coins du monde
Time: 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

PANELISTS
H.E. Olusegun Olutoyin AGANGA, Minister, Federal Ministry of Finance, Nigeria
Mr. Moubarak LO, Director, Emergence Consulting Group, Senegal
Prof. Francois ROUBAUD, Director of Research DIAL/IRD, France

MODERATOR
Mr. Peter GUEST, Editor of This is Africa (Financial Times Group).

This high level seminar is aimed at examining the limitations and suggested improvements of standard measures. If the key to a good quality of life were simply to have a good income, governments could concentrate their efforts on economic. Reality, however, is quite different. Prior to the global financial and economic crisis, Africa outperformed other regions in terms of real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth, including several developed countries. Even during the crisis Africa has done relatively well, and growth has remained relatively high. But the crisis has had negative developmental effects such as unemployment, access to services, poverty, and insecurity, demonstrating the limitations of the use of GDP growth as measure for progress.

Progress of society should be measured by the quality of life, not just monetary measures of wealth; sometimes, a household that’s poorer in monetary terms can be better off in terms of living standards and quality of life. Therefore, GDP or any other single aggregated indicator of economic performance can be misleading, and the use of more comprehensive measures is needed. Human Development Index (HDI) is a step in the right direction. This calls for investment into capacity to produce timely statistics on household living standards, social development, and other measures of well being.

The issues that will be discuss during this seminar will focus on (i) What are the most urgent improvements to existing measures of economic performance that are needed to allow policy makers to better align national developments strategies with the reality on the ground? (ii) How to best take into account intergenerational considerations in the compilation of national economic statistics? (iii) What is the role of international and regional organizations in the promotion of a comprehensive approach to measurement of economic performance and living standards? And (iv) How the can the Bank further assist African countries in improving the alignment of statistics with national development goals, especially in reflecting improvements in the well-being of their populations?
The role of the government in the economy has always been a controversial topic. However, and as a result of the current economic and financial calamity, it became even more discordant and more divisive. In the recent history, the debate concerning the role of the government in economic activity has gone through three stages. First, and starting in the late seventies, market liberalization gained ground. According to the neo-liberalism principles or what was termed latter as the “Washington Consensus”, the importance of the unregulated markets dominated the administrative state planning. Prominent leaders like Ronald Reagan declared that “government is not a solution to our problem; government is the problem.” Accordingly, many African countries attempted to reduce the role of the public sector, eliminate distortions in prices, interest rates, and wages, and encourage growth in the private sector. Moreover, donors advised and pushed African governments to reduce their direct interferences in the economy. Privatization of State Owned Enterprises (SOE), liberalization of international trade, and limiting the role of the state to provision of basic services (public goods) became the norm. Second, and almost simultaneously, a number of emerging economies have been successful in invigorating their development path based on more state-led models of growth. Moreover, a number of economists were arguing for more government intervention in order to achieve the national development goals, and to develop the necessary infrastructure to provide basic needs and to assist in the export-led growth. Thus, a re-expansion of the role of the state was called for as an essential ingredient for high and sustained growth. With globalization and its negative by-products on some of the Least Developed Countries, the anti-Washington Consensus views gained ground. Third, in the content of the recession of 2008, it became very clear that the role of the government in economic activity will not be diminishing anytime soon. On the contrary, it will be expanded. Gone are the days of hard-line neo-liberalism. As such, the conventional view of the role of...
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the government in market economies is under major questioning. Additionally, recent trends in international business and global financial markets have added more ambiguities to the role of state and called for a second look at what the government should do or should not do in order to secure sustainable growth and development.

The discussions would be centered around the following issues: i) Southeast Asian countries have embraced a "regionalized" development strategy that hinges on joining the cross-national division of labor established by multinational corporations (MNCs) operating in Asia. Can Africa follow the Asian example? (ii) Given the recent pressure from the G-20 and other institutions, should African economies follow the international monetary standards or (following the examples of China and India) should they phase in the convertibility of their capital accounts until their economic and financial systems are sufficiently mature? And (iii) What are the options for managing the public sector that maximize its contribution to growth while optimizing synergies with the private sector? What can be done to avoid past errors?
HIGH LEVEL SEMINAR Nº 4
Climate Change – Implications for Agriculture and Food Security in Africa

Date       Wednesday, May 26, 2010
Room       Casino, Les 4 Coins du monde
Time       11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

PANELISTS

H.E. Mr. Sangafowa Mamadou COULIBALY, Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Côte d’Ivoire (tbc)
Dr. Lindiwe SIBANDA, CEO, Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANPRAN), South Africa
Prof. Calestous JUMA, Professor, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, USA
Ms. Sheila SISULU, WFP Deputy Executive Director, Italy

MODERATOR

Mr. Jeff KOINANGE, Host of Capital Talk of K 24, Kenya

The changing climate effects of increased temperatures, sea level rise, shifts in precipitation patterns and increased frequency and intensity of extreme climate events such as droughts, floods and storms collectively threaten Africa’s agriculture and food security. Their impacts on productivity, reduction in suitable land for crop production, increased prevalence of pests and livestock diseases, destruction of agricultural infrastructure and the general loss of livelihoods for the agricultural dependant population contribute to increased vulnerability to food insecurity and increased poverty. They therefore present a challenge to the achievement of the other MDGs in Africa.

Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) is arguably the most vulnerable region to the impacts of increased climate variability and increased frequency and intensity of extreme events in terms of food security. This is mainly due to its repeated exposure to extreme climate events, strong reliance on rain-fed agriculture for basic food security and economic growth and entrenched poverty. The net balance of changes in cereal-production potential for SSA is projected to be negative over the next few decades, with net losses of up to 12%. Overall, about half SSA countries will be at risk of significant declines in food crop and pasture production due to climate change.

In view of the potential adverse effects of climate change on agriculture, which further exacerbates poverty and constrains economic development in Africa, the African Development Bank is increasing its efforts to support its Regional Member Countries in addressing these issues. Through its agriculture sector strategy the Bank aims primarily at contributing to the broader development objectives of greater agricultural productivity, food security and poverty reduction by: (i) improving rural infrastructure, including water management and storage, and trade-related capacities for access to local and regional markets; and (ii) improve the resilience of the natural resource base, and thereby protect investments. At project level, the major interventions in the agriculture water business plan seek primarily to increase water availability for agriculture and energy while also addressing climate change adaptation, flood and droughts management. The Bank
recognizes that appropriate and reliable information is fundamental to addressing the risks of climate change. In response, the Climate Information for Africa’s Development (ClimDev-Africa) program is aimed at strengthening institutional capacities of Africa’s regional climate centers to be able to provide useful and reliable climate data to support development planning in the continent.

The discussions would be centered on the fact that much work on climate change, particularly in developed countries, has focused on mitigation (reducing emissions). But Africa is a minor contributor to global gas emissions and two-thirds of its greenhouse gases come from deforestation. Central Africa has 20% of the world’s remaining tropical moist forest, crucial for the global climate. But even if global carbon emissions were reduced tomorrow, Africa would still be faced with adapting to climate change. African countries are the least prepared, in institutional resources and capacity, to address the consequences of climate change or to tap climate-friendly technologies. A cross-cutting adaptation strategy for Africa would allow the continent to minimize negative impacts and capitalize on opportunities for low-carbon growth and poverty alleviation, including multipurpose water storage infrastructure, rural biomass for land rehabilitation, bio-energy and carbon sequestration, irrigation, sustainable forest management, and carbon market development.
Turning Africa’s Resources and Revenue into Results. Presentation of the 2010 Africa Progress Report by the Africa Progress Panel

Date Wednesday, May 26, 2010
Room Casino, Salle Ivoire I
Time 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

PANELISTS

Graça MACHEL, Member of the Africa Progress Panel, Women and Children’s Rights Activist, President of the Foundation for Community Development

Peter EIGEN, Member of the Africa Progress Panel, Founder and Chair of the Advisory Council, Transparency International and Chairman of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

Michael KEATING, Executive Director, Africa Progress Panel
Dawda JOBARTEH, Head of Research and Policy Coordination, Africa Progress Panel
Mo IBRAHIM, Founder, Mo Ibrahim Foundation (tbc)
Guest from ONE.org (tbc)

This event is going to be a presentation of the Africa Progress Panel (APP) 2010 Africa Progress Report, titled: Turning Africa’s Resources and Revenue into Results. It will review the progress in Africa over the last 5 years, highlighting main challenges and opportunities ahead and proposing key policy recommendations for African leaders. It will present its findings and recommendations of the 2010 Africa Progress Report; and 2010 ONE/DATA Report.

The objective of this event is to engage participants in a substantive discussion around concrete actions for African leaders and their partners to secure sustainable and equitable progress in Africa.
Capacity-Led Growth: Lessons from Emerging Countries

Date       Wednesday, May 26, 2010
Room       Casino, Les 4 coins du monde
Time       5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

PANELISTS

Mr. Donald KABERUKA, President, AfDB
Mrs. Frannie LEAUTIER, Executive Secretary, ACBF, Zimbabwe
Mr. Jun Youn KIM, Director, National IT Industry Promotion Agency, Korea
Mr. Nguyen Hoa CUONG, Director, International Cooperation, Agency for Enterprise Development, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Vietnam
Mr. NEO Kok Beng, Adjunct Associate Professor, National University of Singapore

MODERATOR

Mr. Albert RUDATSIMBURWA, Journalist, FM Rwanda

Between 1960 and 1965, period during which most of African countries have acceded to independence, the average per capita incomes (in purchasing power parity terms) of South Korea and Singapore were lower than those of some African countries. In 1980, the average per capita income of South Korea and Singapore were respectively three times and eight times higher than that Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2008, that of South Korea is 15 times while that of Singapore is 25 times higher than the region’s.

Where as, where some economies such as Singapore built on the reform and the revitalization of the public service and the large scale dissemination of Information and Communication Technologies, others such as South Korea were remarkable by the central role given to the Government in the process, others adopted the free market as the main driver of change.

Weak capacity in African countries is commonly referred to as the cause of the widening gap between African and Asian emerging countries. The understanding of the process through which capacities have been built in these countries is therefore important for Africa so that it can draw useful lessons from the history of development and growth of the Asian emerging countries. The session on capacity-led growth is precisely aimed at deepening this understanding.

The objective of the session is to draw lessons for Africa from the experience of economic growth in Asian emerging countries. The specific objective is to provide a forum for authorities who have been, in many ways, key actors of the growth process in these countries, as policy makers, business men and women, or scientists, to share their experience with African authorities.
CEO’s Dialogue: Taking Africa to The Next Level Through Business

Date       Thursday, May 27, 2010
Room       Casino, Salle Ivoire I
Time       5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

PANELISTS

Mr. Donald KABERUKA, President, AfDB
Mr. Lassine DIAWARA, CEO, Bollore Group & SITARAIL, Burkina Faso
Mr. Tarak CHERIF, CEO Alliance Group, Tunisia
Mr. Jimnah MBARU, Chairman, Nairobi Stock Exchange, Kenya
Ms. Funke OPEKE, CEO and Founder, Main Street Technologies, Nigeria

MODERATOR

Ms. Carol PINEAU, Head of the US Think Tank Global Financial Integrity, USA

As the global economy is now showing signs of continuous recovery, the outlook for Africa while bright remains fragile, with many potential downside risks. The continent faces essentially three major challenges: (i) how to raise growth; (ii) how to sustain high growth; and, (iii) how to increase the developmental impact of growth. It is generally agreed that the private sector holds the key to growth and prosperity in Africa. There is no doubt that the entrepreneurial spirit in Africa is vibrant and that African markets are lucrative. Yet formal African domestic and international trade remains low, and the competitiveness of African business also remains low. The main issue then is how the business sector in Africa can drive growth and prosperity in Africa by creating new competitive advantages and markets, as well as how government can help businesses to cope with these challenges?

Doing business in Africa is considered by many to be risky and businesses face many challenges, including but not limited to: among others high regulatory and administrative barriers, poor or weak infrastructure, Corporate Governance challenges, lack of access to financing and high political and economic risk.

However, beyond these challenges, there are great business opportunities to exploit in Africa. In his book Africa Rising, renowned global business consultant Vijay Mahajan counsels against looking at Africa through the prism of a continent caught in a “poverty trap” or through the “media dark continent”. Instead, Africa should also be seen as a remarkable marketplace with massive needs and surprising buying power. He notes that there are close to 150 million Africans with spending power similar to that in the West, and another 400 million in the middle from households with stable jobs. These constitute huge market opportunities for business. Among other things, they consume mobile phones, drink cocoa-cola, read books and magazines, and their children play MP3s and surf the net. According to data from the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), in 2008 there were over 39 million mobile phone subscribers in East Africa and 6.7 million internet users. Using U.S. 8 fluid ounces of finished beverage, Coca-cola reports that in 2008 per capita consumption of its beverage products was 36 ounces in Kenya, much higher than 7 in India, though still lower than the global average of 85.