Annual meetings 2019 in Washington DC

There were two anniversaries to celebrate at this year's annual meetings: The 75th anniversary of the founding of the World Bank and the 100th meeting of the Development Committee of the Governors of the World Bank.

The German delegation was led by Martin Jäger, State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

In his statement to the Development Committee, State Secretary Jäger emphasised three issues on which Germany had supported the World Bank's capital increase and which were also of central importance for Germany in the IDA negotiations:

- Climate Protection
- Jobs and private sector development with focus on Africa
- Stabilisation of fragile states and crisis prevention

Poverty reduction is indeed the Bank's core mandate. However, this can no longer be achieved today without climate protection, Jäger explained. The bank must therefore remain a pioneer in climate protection and the Paris Climate Protection Agreement must guide IDA in its actions. Jobs and private sector development are a German priority, particularly in Africa, and Germany sees great potential for implementing the country platforms here. Germany is concerned about the increasing indebtedness - more transparency is particularly necessary here. Jäger welcomed the increased activities of the World Bank in fragile states. The future strategy of the World Bank to work in fragile states must become a milestone and also play a strong role in IDA, he added.