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## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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The virtual Development Committee meeting took place on Friday, April 17, 2020 from 6:30 am-9:30 am (EDT). Korea’s Governor, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance, Mr. Nam-Ki Hong, attended the Development Committee as the representative of our constituency. The decision to move to a “virtual” format was in recognition of the health risks related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Development Committee communique is available [https://www.devcommittee.org/communiques](https://www.devcommittee.org/communiques)

During the meeting, the representative of our constituency, Korea’s Governor, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance, stressed international cooperation to strengthen member countries’ responsiveness, resilience and restructure. He suggested that, for efficient implementation of development projects, we need to be flexible in allowing movement of essential persons and goods. Also, he mentioned easing the debt burden for developing countries, and especially for the poor countries, is of top priority in enhancing their resilience.

Our constituency statement highlighted that many countries in our constituency have particular vulnerabilities that mean they have limited capacity to detect COVID-19 and respond quickly. Given these vulnerabilities, we encourage the WBG to ensure that additional flexibility and support to access resources will be available to our constituency countries. Our constituency statement also drew attention to the devastation of Tropical Cyclone Harold and the importance of ongoing WBG assistance for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction for our affected member countries.

The Constituency Statement is available [https://www.devcommittee.org/statements](https://www.devcommittee.org/statements)
ISSUES OF INTEREST TO OUR CONSTITUENCY

COVID-19 Facility

To support member countries with their response to the COVID-19 crisis, the World Bank Group’s Board of Directors approved a US$14 billion Fast-Track Facility on 17 March. This package supports efforts to prevent, detect and respond to the rapid spread of COVID-19. Total financing consists of US$6 billion from World Bank (IBRD and IDA) and US$8 billion from IFC.

The package is available to support all eligible IBRD and IDA members and, via the International Finance Corporation, existing private sector IFC clients within these countries. IDA and IBRD support can be delivered through a range of mechanisms, including budget support or projects.

IDA and IBRD support will be allocated to countries at 0.1 percent of GDP, subject to minimum and maximum levels. A minimum allocation of US$2.5 million applies for countries with populations below 500,000 and a minimum allocation of US$5 million applies for countries with populations above 500,000. The maximum allocation for countries with populations up to 20 million people is US$20 million.

The fast and flexible support, US$4 billion of IBRD and IDA’s will be made available using a Multiphase Programmatic Approach (MPA) in combination with flexibilities in policies, directives and procedures for responding to emergency situations.

Two of our constituency members, Cambodia (US$20 million) and Mongolia (US$26.9 million), were among the first group of countries to receive support through the Multiphase Programmatic Approach. Many of our Pacific Island members are also expected to access this support for their COVID-19 response, with approvals expected throughout April as projects are developed.

This fast-track financing package focuses on the immediate health response to contain spread of the virus. This first phase will be followed by actions to support member countries in addressing the economic impact of the virus in addition to its ongoing development support.

This second phase of economic support will have three pillars: protecting the poor and vulnerable; supporting businesses; and strengthening economic resilience and speed of recovery.

Current estimates indicate that the WBG can provide financial support in the order of US$150-160 billion over the next 15 months to 30 June 2021, and US$330-350 billion in the period up to June. These estimates include the US$14 billion Fast Track Facility mentioned above, frontloading US$35 billion of IDA-19 resources into FY21, and use of a US$10 billion buffer in IBRD’s balance sheet set aside for responding to systemic crises.

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<th>Q4FY20 + FY21-23 $ billion</th>
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These estimates are subject to a number of risks, notably the impact of market and economic conditions on IBRD, IDA and IFC’s balance sheets. We will be monitoring these risks closely to ensure the World Bank Group remains financially sustainable to support member countries through the crisis and beyond.
IDA19 Update

IDA19 negotiations were finalized in December 2019 and will provide US$82 billion in loans and grants to IDA-eligible countries between 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2023. Borrower countries in our constituency were represented by Samoa, who put forward issues faced by developing countries, especially small island developing states.

IDA19 continued to recognize the development challenges small states are faced with in achieving their development goals. As such, IDA19 will maintain its strong support for small states with minimum base allocations. In addition, it will also help small states achieve economies of scale, harmonize policies, strengthen crisis preparedness and resilience, and adapt to the effects of climate change. Under IDA19, small states stand to benefit from the increased Regional Window to support regional integration efforts which can help expand markets and achieve economies of scale.

The IDA19 policy package includes five special themes – jobs and economic transformation (JET); fragility, conflict and violence (FCV); climate change; gender and development; and governance and institutions – and incorporates four cross-cutting issues – debt, technology, investing in people, and disability inclusion. Key features of the package include:

**Debt:** IDA19 includes an incentive-based approach to help countries manage debt sustainability. The Sustainable Development Finance Policy (SDFP) will aim to increase capabilities of IDA countries to address debt-related vulnerabilities and support countries towards sustainable development finance. This will include helping IDA countries strengthen debt reporting to increase transparency and public accountability.

**Crisis response:** IDA19 provides a sharper focus on crisis preparedness and earlier response to slower-onset crises. IDA19 policy commitments support stronger resilience building, including pandemic preparedness, and reduce the risks that climate shocks pose to poverty reduction and human capital development. The Crisis Response Window (CRW) will support early responses to slower-onset crises.

**Regional integration:** The IDA19 Regional Window will support investments and policy reforms that support regional integration, including infrastructure for greater regional connectivity, power, trade and the digital economy. Regional integration issues will include global public goods, such as reducing air and water pollution, marine litter, and creating development opportunities for refugees and host communities.

**Jobs and economic transformation:** IDA19 will support job-creating private investments, including in quality, accessible infrastructure, as a critical element of poverty reduction and inclusive growth. It will also help build the opportunities for and capabilities of workers and entrepreneurs and connect them to jobs. The Private Sector Window (PSW) will support the IFC and MIGA to further scale up investments and mobilize private sector investments in IDA countries.

**Disability:** IDA will support evidence-based policymaking and ensure that public services are more inclusive by assisting with improvements in social sector service delivery, boosting client’s ability to adopt universally accessible GovTech solutions, and strengthening the availability of core data for evidence-based policy making, including disaggregation by sex and disability.

Within our constituency, Mongolia will graduate from IDA assistance at the end of IDA18 (June 2020). This is a significant milestone which recognizes the significant development gains achieved by Mongolia.

**IBRD and IFC Capital Increase Update**

The resolution of the IFC’s capital increase of US$ 5.5 billion was officially adopted on March 16, following the United States Congress authorization. Constituency members will be formally notified in due
course on the adoption of the capital increase resolutions and the process for subscribing to the additional IFC shares. Members will have three years from the date of resolution to subscribe to the IFC shares.

For IBRD’s $7.5 billion paid-in capital increase, which was endorsed in 2018, to date, members have provided paid-in capital of $1.2 billion. In total, 67 members have submitted subscription documents, of which 32 have either fully or partially paid for their shares.

These capital increases will be important for enabling IBRD and IFC to provide the level of support mentioned above for the COVID-19 response package, and ongoing support post-crisis. Given the severity of the current crisis, President Malpass is encouraging all members to accelerate their subscriptions and payments under the IFC and IBRD capital increases so that these can be fully leveraged in support of client countries.

**Fragility Conflict and Violence (FCV) Strategy**

The World Bank Group released its Strategy for Conflict, Fragility and Violence in March 2020. The Strategy aims to enhance the Bank’s support to countries to address the causes and impacts of fragility, conflict and violence (FCV), and help countries strengthen their resilience. The Strategy helps low- and middle-income countries deal with a range of issues, including high levels of violence, forced displacement shocks, and subnational conflict.

Support to IDA countries to address FCV issues will be delivered through the IDA19 FCV Envelope, which will provide incentives to confront FCV risks and drivers. The FCV Envelope offers more support to countries to address fragility from increased inequality, lack of opportunity, exclusion and perceptions of injustice.

The FCV Strategy is structured around four pillars of engagement. The four pillars provide guidance to the Bank on how to engage in different types of FCV settings, help inform Country Partnership Frameworks and programs, and provide more effective and tailored support to government and private sector clients. The four pillars are:

1. **Preventing violent conflict and interpersonal violence** by addressing the drivers of fragility and immediate- to long-term risks, such as climate change, demographic shocks, gender inequality, patterns of discrimination, economic and social exclusion, and perceptions of grievances and injustice.

2. **Remaining engaged during conflict and crisis situations** to preserve development gains, protect essential institutions, build resilience, and be ready for future recovery.

3. **Helping countries transition out of fragility**, by promoting approaches that can renew the social contract between citizens and the state, foster a healthy local private sector, and strengthen the legitimacy and capacity of core institutions.

4. **Mitigating the spillovers of FCV** to support countries and vulnerable communities that are affected by cross-border crises, such as forced displacement or shocks resulting from famines, pandemics, and climate and environmental challenges.

The Strategy emphasizes six high-priority issues in FCV settings: (i) investing in human capital; (ii) supporting macroeconomic stability and debt sustainability; (iii) creating jobs and economic opportunities; (iv) building community resilience and preparedness, especially regarding the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation; (v) engaging on justice and the rule of law; and (vi) developing approaches to dealing with the security sector within the WBG’s mandate and comparative advantage. Throughout the Bank’s work in FCV settings, a special focus will be on gender in line with the WBG Gender Strategy.
Global Footprint

The World Bank Group’s Global Footprint strategy will increase the Bank’s field presence by moving staff, resources and decision-making closer to clients. This strategy aims to provide closer and more effective engagement with member countries in pursuit of our Twin Goals – Ending extreme poverty and Promoting shared prosperity. Lessons and experience from our East Asia and Pacific region, which is already relatively decentralized under the Vice President Victoria Kwakwa, were used to inform the Bank’s Global Footprint Strategy.

The Global Footprint Strategy is expected to be rolled-out commencing July 1, 2020. There is however a possibility that the Strategy’s implementation process may adversely affected by the travel restrictions and other disruptions arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The six principles guiding the strategy are: (1) Ensuring continued strong World Bank Group comparative advantage in global knowledge; (2) Being consistent with maintenance of budget discipline; (3) Strengthening field presence in Middle East Asia, North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, countries experiencing Fragility Conflict Violence (FCV), and low-income clients; (4) Increasing field presence of practice management and technical expertise, with more delegated authority; (5) Complementing the country-based model with critical mass locations to get staff as close to clients as possible; and (6) Attracting and deploying highly skilled professionals with global knowledge and experience in multiple locations.

For IBRD and IDA, currently around 55% of total staff are in headquarters compared to 45% in non-headquarters locations. The intent is to change this mix so that by FY22 the proportion of total staff in HQ/Non-HQ locations will be approximately 50/50, moving to 45% in headquarters and 55% in non-headquarter locations by the mid-2020s.

For those staff working in operations, the intent is to have nearly 60% of the operations workforce in the field and closer to clients by FY22. Consistent with the greater focus on IDA and FCV countries, the proportion of staff moving to IDA countries will increase by 18.5% over this period while those supporting FCV countries will also increase in line with IDA commitments.

A more effective and stronger field presence requires looking at issues such as staff skill mix, incentives, and the pathway to a more decentralized approach. Specific activities to address these include: (1) Increasing technical presence in country offices by launching recruitment drives for new skilled staffs and designing career mobility framework; (2) Increasing foot print in FCV locations by giving incentives to staffs working in these areas and launching a specific recruitment drive for FCV staff; (3) Reducing the footprint in headquarters by a combination of managing attrition at the corporate level, reviewing and
rationalizing the backfilling of headquarter vacancies, and facilitating deployment of headquarter staff to field locations.

Further work is also required in identifying the budgetary impact of the global footprint strategy and capturing these costs into the budget for FY21.

Constituency Performance and Learning Review (PLR)

The Performance and Learning Review (PLR) for Mongolia’s FY13-18 Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) was completed on November 13, 2019. This PLR also updated the current strategy and extended it until December 31, 2020. Although there has been considerable social and economic change since the CPS was approved, the key pillars and objectives remain highly relevant to address Mongolia’s development challenges. Managing the mining economy, promoting economic diversification, and better service delivery continue to be at the heart of the Mongolian government’s own development plans, which include the Sustainable Development Vision 2030 and the Economic Recovery Program.

On February 6, 2020 we also received the PLR for the Regional Partnership Framework FY17–21 covering nine Pacific Island Countries (PIC9): Kiribati, Nauru, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. This PLR confirmed that the Regional Partnership Framework continues to be relevant and well aligned with PIC9 development priorities, and the progress towards achieving the objectives under all four Focus Areas of the Framework is broadly on track. The PLR concluded that five of the objectives have already been achieved, three are on track, and three are on track but have some delays (in part due to challenges of implementing infrastructure projects, which routinely encounter procurement issues deriving from thin client capacity as well as the remoteness of PIC9 countries).

IFC Supreme Court Update - Progress report on Jam case

In 2019, we reported to you on a case before the Supreme Court involving the IFC’s immunity from prosecution (the ‘Jam Case’). This lawsuit arose from an IFC loan of US$450 million extended to Tata Mundra to construct a power project in Gujarat, India in 2008. The Petitioners, led by Mr. Jam and residents of Gujarat State were seeking to hold IFC liable for property damage, environmental destruction, loss of livelihood, and threats to human health that they claim arose from the construction and operation of the project. The petitioner’s claim of lender liability was based on a report from the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman that IFC did not adequately consider the project’s impact on residents, and that IFC failed to address environmental and social issues during its supervision of the project, which eventually contributed to harms suffered by the petitioners.

The case was initially heard in the Washington District of Columbia (DC) court in 2016, which dismissed the complaint on the grounds that IFC is immune from such suits, with reference to United States (US) legislation covering immunities to international organizations. The petitioners appealed the decision in the US Court of Appeals in 2017, where it was again dismissed, and then appealed to the United States Supreme Court regarding the interpretation of the US legislation. In February 2019 the Supreme Court, ruled that the specific piece of legislation did not give IFC absolute immunity and IFC could be subject to suit in the US that are based, at their core, on IFC commercial activities conducted in the United States.

The District of Columbia court heard the case in February 2020 and again dismissed the lawsuit, by ruling that IFC is presumptively immune from suit under US law. The judgement provided by the judge is that the petitioners did not demonstrate that the grievance occurred in the United States. The judge noted the petitioner’s allegations that the loan agreement was approved by IFC’s board of directors in Washington, D.C., however, they have not established that the basis of the complaint, which is IFC’s failure to supervise
and monitor construction to ensure compliance with numerous environmental and social sustainability requirements, was carried out in the United States.

The petitioners are represented by EarthRights International, a non-governmental organization. The Bank expect that EarthRights will appeal this decision to the DC Circuit Court again and if they lose, to the US Supreme Court. It is management’s opinion that the judge’s decision is well-reasoned, and it will not be easy to overturn on appeal. Nevertheless, further appeals could take 6-8 months or longer before the case is finally resolved.

This decision provides significant support to the view that US law provides World Bank Group institutions immunity in the United States for their lending activities. However, the case does not address how immunities in the Articles of Agreement may be interpreted or affect cases that may be brought in other countries. The Jam Case instigated the need for clarifying existing immunity provisions in the respective Articles of World Bank institutions. In time the bank will need to review its establishment agreements; accountability mechanism processes; enhancing litigation preparedness; and policies and practices. The process will take time as capitals and constituencies will need to be consulted before changes can be made to ensure that the Bank continues to deliver its development mandate.
## Constituency Projects

**FY2020 Commitments as of April 4, 2020**

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<td>Statistical Innovation and Capacity Building in Kiribati</td>
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<td>Engaging Citizens to Improve Service Delivery Through Social Accountability</td>
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<td>Entrepreneurship-focused socioemotional skills for the most vulnerable youth in rural Mongolia</td>
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<td>Second Economic Management Support Operation</td>
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FINANCIAL RESULTS

IBRD and IFC Shareholding Reviews

In 2010, Governors agreed to conduct periodic IBRD and IFC shareholding reviews, every five years, beginning in 2015. These reviews are to inform Governors; there is no requirement to make shareholding changes as a result of these reviews.

The first review in 2015 concluded with the IBRD and IFC capital increase proposals endorsed by Governors in 2018. The resolutions for the IBRD capital increase was adopted by Governors in October 2018. Following legislative approvals, the US Governor, Secretary Mnuchin, last week signed the IFC capital increase resolution to supplement the IFC capital base.

The 2018 capital increase package comprised both selective capital increases, which change the voting structure between member countries, and general capital increases, which seek additional capital from all members in proportion to their shareholding.

The second review, scheduled for 2020, is underway. This review is being led by the Board’s Committee on Governance and Executive Director’s Administrative Matters (COGAM). This review builds on the lessons and approach applied in 2015.

A key tool in the 2015 review, which will inform the 2020 review, is the IBRD “Dynamic Formula”. This formula combines economic weight (GDP over 5-years) and IDA contributions (weighted towards three most recent replenishments) to derive a calculated shareholding for each member country. The Dynamic Formula provides a reference for identifying under or over represented shareholdings in IBRD (i.e. it is an input to discussions; it is not determinative) and help inform the pace at which shareholding may be realigned.

For IFC, in the absence of a shareholding formula, discussion in 2015 focused on achieving better alignment with IBRD, as part of the wider capital package, and took account also of consultations with shareholders. It is expected that alignment with IBRD will again be an important consideration in the IFC shareholding review.

The Board will update Governors with progress on the reviews at the 2020 Annual Meetings.

IDA Voting Rights

At the 2019 Annual Meetings, Governors endorsed a review of IDA’s Voting Rights and for the Board to lead this review. The main reason for a review is the current framework has been in place for almost 50 years (since IDA03) and IDA Participants felt that a review would be both timely and appropriate given IDA’s transition to a hybrid financing model1.

IDA Participants also observed that the current voting framework is complex, outdated, and needs to be reconsidered in light of incentives on IDA Participants to maximize their contributions, fairness, and protection of IDA recipient voting power.

Guiding principles underpinning the review reflect IDA’s key attributes of inclusiveness, financial sustainability, the importance of IDA members’ voluntary contributions, and the voice of IDA Recipients. Elements of the current framework include a two-tier membership structure (Part I and Part II countries) with no clear process for transition, votes are allocated at time of membership and with each IDA

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1 The hybrid financing model, introduced with IDA18, is where IDA is financed by contributions and issuing bonds in the markets.
replenishment, the cost of votes depends on the tier of each member, and preemptive rights and rules restricting dilution of votes that differ for each tier.

The organizing framework for the review comprises four interconnected building blocks to help address these elements, as shown in Figure 1 below:

**Figure 1: Key Interrelated Building Blocks**

There will be two phases to the review. The first phase will outline options for each building block. The second phase will be a deeper analysis on the preferred option, a narrowing down of block options for further analysis, consensus building towards a combination of building blocks, and the development of an implementation pathway to achieve any agreed change.

The organizing framework provides the Board flexibility to consider options for each element of the framework and to identify the collective benefits and drawbacks of the options.

The Board will provide regular updates on the review to IDA Deputies and Borrower Representatives and will update Governors on progress at the 2020 Annual Meetings.
Between October 1, 2019 to April 10, 2020, the WBG has appointed these Vice Presidents. More information on these Vice Presidents can be found in the link below their names.

**Axel van Trotsenburg**  Managing Director, Operations, World Bank, effective October 1, 2019  

**Mari Pangestu**  Managing Director, Development Policy and Partnerships, World Bank, effective March 1, 2020  

**Hiroshi Matano**  Executive Vice President, Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), effective December 16, 2019  
[https://www.miga.org/bio/hiroshi-matano](https://www.miga.org/bio/hiroshi-matano)
Kunil Hwang

Gerard Antioch
An Australian national, is the World Bank Group Alternate Executive Director representing Australia, Cambodia, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu since November 2018.

Warwick White, Senior Advisor to the Executive Director
Responsibilities: Audit and Budget Committees, IFC Financial, IAD, Integrity, Finance and Markets, Trade and Competitiveness, Transport and ICT
Home country: New Zealand
Constituency representation: New Zealand, Cambodia

Jerry Nathan, Senior Advisor to the Executive Director
Responsibilities: Governance, Macroeconomics & Fiscal Management, Poverty, Voice (Voice Secondment Program and Voice Reform), Small States and Pacific Seminars, Oceans, Office Annual Report, Newsletter, Website
Regional responsibility: Africa
Home country: Marshall Islands
Constituency representation: Marshall Islands, Kiribati

Bokwon Lee, Advisor to the Executive Director
Responsibilities: HR Committee, Jobs, Urban, Rural & Social Development, Social Protection & Labor
Regional responsibility: LAC
Home country: Korea
Constituency representation: Korea, Tuvalu

Kirsty McNichol, Advisor to the Executive Director
Responsibilities: CODE, IPN, CAO IEG, IDA, IFC, Gender; PPPs, Fragility, Conflict & Violence; Safeguards & Procurement, Trust Funds
Regional responsibility: World Region
Home Country: Australia
Constituency representation: Australia, Papua New Guinea
Tony Sewen, Advisor to the Executive Director
Responsibilities: IPN, CAO, Health, Nutrition & Population, Education; Small States
Regional responsibility: MENA, SAR, Myanmar
Home country: Vanuatu
Constituency representation: Vanuatu, Palau, Samoa

Ulziisaikhan Dash, Advisor to the Executive Director
Responsibilities: MIGA, Water, Energy & Extractives
Regional responsibility: ECA, Mongolia
Home country: Mongolia.
Constituency representation: Mongolia, FSM

Tobais Bule, Advisor to the Executive Director
Responsibilities: COGAM, ICSID, Climate Change, Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources
Regional responsibility: EAP (China, Indonesia, Lao, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor Leste, Vietnam)
Home country: Solomon Islands
Constituency representation: Solomon Islands, Nauru

Eun Jong Chang, Program Assistant
Home country: Korea

Beatrice Nguerekata, Program Assistant
Home country: France

Elsa Warouw, Program Assistant
Home country: Indonesia
On April 2020, the WBG released its East Asia and Pacific Economic Update: *Ease Asia and Pacific in time of COVID-19*. Report can be seen at [http://hdl.handle.net/10986/33477](http://hdl.handle.net/10986/33477).