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THE WORLD BANK

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(AM97) Meeting: In Preparation for
Development Committee Meeting
(Event Date: September 22)

Tuesday, July 15, 1997
4:30 - 5:00 p.m.
MC 11-127 Conference Room

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President Wolfensohn - Briefings Books for Presidents Meetings - Meeting Material
Preparation for Development Committee Meeting - July 15, 1997

Archive Management for the President's Office

Document Log

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A. CLASSIFICATION

☒ Meeting Material
☐ Trips
☐ Speeches

☐ Annual Meetings
☐ Corporate Management
☐ Communications with Staff

☐ Phone Logs
☐ Calendar
☐ Press Clippings/Photos

☐ JDW Transcripts
☐ Social Events
☐ Other

B. SUBJECT: (AM97) MEETING: IN PREPARATION FOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING (EVENT DATE: SEPT. 22) (B) (N)
VENUE: MC 11-127 (CONF. ROOM)
CONTACT: MR. SHAKOW @ 31828
IN ATTENDANCE: JDW, SANDSTROM, ZHANG, SHAKOW, ASSAAD, ANSTEY, MUNOZ
(B) BY A. SHAKOW // DUE WEDNESDAY, JULY 9
EXC: HA // LFG (6/19)
Brief includes memo to Mr. Wolfensohn from Alex Shakow, July 10, 1997, "Background Note for Meeting on Tuesday, July 15 - Preparations for September 22 Development Committee Session"

DATE: 07/15/97

C. VPU

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D. EXTERNAL PARTNER

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☐ Part I
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☐ Other

E. COMMENTS:

File Location ☒ EXC ☐ IISC ☒ Archives	Cleared By Hany Assaad	Date: 07/16/97
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 View Update History

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 10, 1997

TO: James D. Wolfensohn

THROUGH: Zhang Shengman

FROM: Alexander Shakow

EXTENSION: 31828

SUBJECT: **Background Note for Meeting on Tuesday, July 15 --
Preparations for September 22 Development Committee Session**

Purpose of the Meeting To seek your guidance on the agenda and priority objectives for the Hong Kong meeting of the Development Committee.

Major Items

1. MIGA Capital Increase Ministers have asked that remaining issues be resolved "in an expeditious manner" and a report made to the Committee in Hong Kong. As was clear from the July 8 MIGA Board discussion, the solution is not yet in hand, but the impending D/C session serves as a useful action-forcing event to help bring about an acceptable compromise. As you emphasized, it will be important to present ministers a Board consensus or, failing that, narrow and clearly defined options for their consideration.
2. Facilitating Private Involvement in Infrastructure: Bank Group Action Program Separate papers are being prepared for the Board on individual components of the Program, along with an overview paper which will be considered by the Board on August 26. It will be important to determine exactly what we expect from the ministers, and what issues we wish to raise with them, apart from seeking their endorsement of the Action Program. Is this also an opportunity to focus attention on the broader Bank Group efforts to strengthen support for public-private partnerships?
3. Global Carbon Initiative EXCOM will soon discuss whether this subject should be placed on the agenda as a major discussion topic; an early decision is needed to prepare the ground with Executive Directors. This could be an attractive subject for the Development Committee -- it is a tangible, important initiative for which finance ministers' support is essential. This would be the first environment-related subject on the Development Committee agenda since completion of the Rio Earth Summit.

Other Items

1. HIPC While the last communique did not specifically ask for a progress report, there is much interest in this subject and so a short report should be prepared for the Committee, but not discussed -- unless there is a breakdown in forward movement prior to the meeting.

2. Strategic Compact The April communique "invited the World Bank Board to monitor closely the implementation of the Strategic Compact and requested periodic reports on progress achieved". The Board discussion of management's progress report, now scheduled for September 11, and the report itself could form the basis for informing the Development Committee about implementation progress. Given the tight timetable, the most practical approach will be to deliver to the ministers in Hong Kong a copy of the report's executive summary and, if necessary, a brief synopsis of the Board discussion of September 11. You should probably include in your President's Note to the Development Committee (issued before the meeting) highlights of recent progress, and discuss especially important points in your oral comments to the ministers. I would not, however, expect this item to be discussed in the restricted session.

3. Income Dynamics Gus O'Donnell and other EDs have suggested that this subject, which was raised by you at the Development Committee lunch in April, needs to be revisited by ministers after further discussion by the Board. This year's net income allocation discussion on July 31 is likely to precipitate additional pressure in this direction. How do you wish to approach this issue?

4. Corruption/Transparency The Anti-Corruption Action Plan is being discussed in a Board Seminar on July 15. As you know, this is a subject of great interest to the UK's new Chancellor, as well as to other OECD members, and increasingly to developing country leaders as well, following on your comments at last year's Annual Meetings. The September meeting is too soon for a full discussion by the Committee, and the agenda is already quite crowded, but is this a subject you might wish to explore at lunch with ministers?

Other

Plenary Speaker: We have usually invited an outsider to speak at the plenary session (in addition to you, Mr. Camdessus, the G-24 Chairman, and the Development Committee Chairman). We have made no such plans as yet for Hong Kong. It is not essential to have an outside speaker, but it is an opportunity which you may wish to use to stimulate ministers' thinking on important issues. Given the strong private sector involvement in both the main agenda topics -- MIGA and the Infrastructure Action Plan -- would it make sense to invite a prominent [Asian] business leader to address the plenary for ten minutes? Perhaps one of the leading participants in the Seminar Program would be an apt choice (for example, Mr. Ratan Tata).

cc: Messrs. Sandstrom, Assaad
Mmes. Anstey, Montoliu Munoz