

The Executive Director in Gabon (January 28-30, 2024)

During a working visit to Libreville (Gabon) from January 28 to 30, 2024, the Executive Director held a series of meetings with national authorities on Tuesday, January 30.



He was received in audience by the Prime Minister of the Transition, His Excellency Raymond Ndong Sima. During their meeting, they discussed the World Bank Group's (WBG) re-engagement and the opportunity offered by the Transition to boost the economy, as well as the country's priorities, including country diagnostics, road infrastructure, the housing credit market, private sector development and the International Finance Corporation (IFC), and climate finance.

Executive Director's audience with the Prime Minister of the Transition, H.E. Mr. Raymond Ndong Sima. © Photo Prime Minister's Office in Gabon

The Executive Director also met with the Minister of Economy and Participations, WBG Governor for Gabon, Mr. Mays Mouissi, with whom he discussed issues of common interest, such as the National Development Plan aimed at ensuring a smooth Transition and inclusive, sustainable development. The meeting highlighted the need to identify sectoral needs, build up a larger project portfolio with social impact, and improve communication on available WBG financial instruments.



Executive Director's audience with the Minister of Economy and Participations, WBG Governor for Gabon, Mr. Mays Mouissi.



Meeting between the Minister of Public Accounts and WBG Alternate Governor, Mr. Charles Mba. © Photo Ministry of Public Accounts

In addition, Mr. Bello was received by the Minister of Public Accounts and Alternate Governor, Mr. Charles Mba. Issues discussed included the re-engagement and opportunities offered by the cooperation between the country and the WBG, priority actions relating to budget forecasting and execution, as well as governance and financial transparency.

Earlier in the morning, the Executive Director had a working breakfast with the President of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) Commission, Mr. Baltasar Engonga Edjo'o. Their discussions included issues related to opportunities for additional cooperation to strengthen the Commission's human and infrastructure capacities, with a view to boosting the implementation of regional projects in the CEMAC area.



Working breakfast between the Executive Director and the President of the CEMAC Commission, Mr. Baltasar Engonga Edjo'o.



The Executive Director with the WBG staff in Libreville, alongside the Resident Representative, Ms. Aissatou Diallo (on his left). © Photo WBG/Libreville

Concluding the visit, the Executive Director thanked the staff of the World Bank Group in Libreville for their welcome and the fruitful exchanges earlier on January 29. With the WBG team, Mr. Bello discussed the functioning of the Institution, the role of the Board of Executive Directors and lessons learned during the re-engagement and the ongoing Transition in Gabon. He also welcomed the presence of the IFC's new Country Officer for Gabon, Mr. Vsevolod Payevskiy (*in the photo on the left*).