



DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
(Joint Ministerial Committee
of the
Boards of Governors of the Bank and the Fund
on the
Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries)

**ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH MEETING
MARRAKECH, MOROCCO – OCTOBER 12, 2023**

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October 12, 2023

Statement by

**H.E. Bruno Le Maire
Minister of the Economy, Finance and the
Industrial and Digital Sovereignty**

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108th Meeting of the Development Committee

**October 12, 2023
Marrakech, Morocco**

As major economic and financial policymakers gather in Marrakesh for the 2023 IMF and World Bank Annual Meetings, France reiterates its full solidarity with the Moroccan authorities and people following the dreadful earthquake of 8 September 2023.

France expresses its steadfast and united support to the State of Israel, and its unequivocal condemnation of Hamas and its appalling acts of terrorism.

The world economy goes through multiple uncertainties and major challenges. The Russian war of aggression against Ukraine continues to impose a terrible cost on the Ukrainian people and a destabilising economic impact. France will stand by Ukraine and will provide support as long as it takes. The war launched by Russia is a major impediment to energetic and food security, that puts a heavy weight on the global economy and in particular on developing countries. As the war continues, it is essential that the international financial institutions (IFIs), especially the IMF and the World Bank Group, remain fully mobilized.

As a time of multiple shocks and risk of diverging paths between advanced economies and developing countries, we need to build new solutions. During the Summit for a New Global Financing Pact last June, we explored common solutions to meet the challenge of a financing shock to fight poverty and protect the planet. Multilateral Development Banks have a major role to play. Our efforts must now focus on implementing the commitments we have crafted together, summarized in the Paris Pact for the people and the planet. These 2023 Annual Meetings represent a first step of implementation of this agenda, in the run-up to COP28.

France supports the World Bank evolution roadmap and calls for continued efforts to make it a better Bank, through two priorities. The first priority is to reform its operating model, ensuring that it is fit for the renewed vision and mission, but also optimizing existing resources and proposing new instruments. France welcomes the work on the new playbook, which will propose solutions for achieving the Bank's ambitions and increasing its impact. France also welcomes the World Bank's adoption of the measures recommended by the G20 report on the capital adequacy framework for MDBs. In particular, the World Bank is to present concrete proposals for increasing the group's financing leverage through private capital.

The second priority is to create a financing shock to keep fighting poverty while addressing global challenges such as climate change, biodiversity preservation and pandemics preparedness. The aim is to create incentives for the preservation of global public goods, without reducing our efforts to provide concessional financing to Low-Income Countries. To this end and in method, France expects the Bank to continue its ambitious work on developing a framework for allocating concessional resources and a definition of vulnerability.

France will play its full part in these efforts. As announced by the French President at the Paris Summit for a New Global Financial Pact in June, France is mobilizing 7.8 billion Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) for vulnerable countries, equivalent to 40% of the SDRs received in 2021. 4 billion of these SDRs have already been mobilized for the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT), in favor of Low-Income Countries, and the Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST), in support of climate action in developing countries. France is also a major contributor to the 20th replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA 20), and strongly supports an ambitious IDA 21 replenishment in 2024 to increase the association's financing capacity for the benefit of Low-Income Countries.

In the context of a sequencing ensuring the best leverage effect, we will have to work not only towards a better Bank, but also a bigger Bank. France welcomes the consideration of the various innovative options proposed by the World Bank for increased shareholder support to boost its financing capacity in the short term. **Ultimately**, once all the relevant operational and financial optimization levers are finalized, **France will consider a capital increase to boost the World Bank's financing capacity.**

France is committed to support the World Bank Group through this very crucial time of evolution and wants every solution to be considered to strengthen and reform the international financial architecture for the People and the Planet.