

**Democratic Republic of Congo: Western Growth Poles Project
and
Additional Financing to the Multi-Modal Transport Project**

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION*

Meeting of the Executive Directors

June 11, 2013

Executive Directors considered the President's Memoranda and Recommendations and approved the Grants to the Democratic Republic of Congo for (i) a Western Growth Poles project in the amount of SDR 72.9 million (USD 110 million equivalent) (IDA/R2013-0138) and (ii) an Additional Financing to the Multi-Modal Transport Project in the amount of SDR 119.30 million (USD 180 million equivalent) (IDA/R2013-0137) under the payment terms and conditions set out therein.

Directors agreed that the two projects are key pieces to implement the strategic objective of boosting competitiveness and accelerating private-sector growth and job creation as defined in the recently endorsed World Bank Group's Country Assistance Strategy for FY2013-2016. In this regard, they highlighted the need for the authorities to strengthen the governance framework and maintain an environment supportive of private sector-led growth. Directors also encouraged the Bank, IFC and MIGA to collaborate more effectively in supporting private sector participation in the economy.

Directors took note of the risk analysis and mitigating measures put in place for these complex projects, as well as the intentions to mainstream implementation within permanent government structures for the Growth Poles Project. In this respect, they emphasized the importance of the Bank's close monitoring of implementation. In particular, they highlighted the importance of strong governance and sound coordination between different Ministries and agencies for the success of the Growth Poles Project. Moreover, they stressed the importance of compliance with the Bank's environmental and social safeguard policies throughout the project's life.

With respect to the Additional Financing to the Multi-Modal Transport Project, Executive Directors welcomed the project design that links infrastructure development to strengthened governance in the transport sector, including restructuring of the National Railway. They stressed the need to vigorously pursue the sector governance agenda, as well as reforms in other State-owned enterprises besides the National Railway. Finally, they encouraged a candid and broad dialogue between the DRC and the Bank on critical cross-cutting reforms and looked forward to ongoing updates to the Board.

*This summary is not an approved record.