

Cote d'Ivoire - Third Investment for Growth Development Policy Financing

Chair Summary*

December 5, 2024

Executive Directors approved the Third Investment for Growth Development Policy Financing (DPF) in the amount of an IDA Credit of EUR 285.9 million (equivalent to US\$310.6 million) and an IBRD Guarantee of EUR500.0 million (equivalent to US\$543.4 million) on the terms and conditions set out in the Memorandum of the President.

Directors commended Côte d'Ivoire for the good progress on the reforms and results supported by the DPF. They expressed support for the innovative use of the Policy-Based Guarantee (PBG) to enable the first Debt for Development (D4D) Swap of its kind supported under the new World Bank and IMF framework, which helps generate debt service savings, strengthens debt sustainability for Cote d'Ivoire, and allows the government to utilize the fiscal space to scale up the ambition of development outcomes in the education sector. Directors also appreciated that the PBG would enable the first sovereign Sustainability-Linked Loan (SLL) in sub-Saharan Africa, in line with Cote d'Ivoire's climate commitments.

Directors encouraged the authorities in Cote d'Ivoire to stay the course on the reform agenda, while delivering on the commitments to scale up education sector outcomes through the D4D Swap and develop ambitious climate-related key performance indicators (KPIs) through the SLL.

Directors inquired about the lessons learned from implementation of PBGs and encouraged closer monitoring. They also asked about the conditions under which such D4D swaps could be replicated in other countries. Given the nature of the reforms supported by the DPF, they called for efforts in enhancing citizen engagement for inclusive gains and collaboration with the private sector. They also stressed the importance of implementing the new Gender Strategy during implementation.

Directors appreciated the pivotal role of the World Bank Group Guarantee Platform in facilitating this innovative operation and in coordinating guarantee solutions across the World Bank Group. Finally, they encouraged continued coordination across multi-sectors, stakeholders, and development partners, notably the IMF, in delivering complimentary capacity development programs.

*This Summary is not an approved record.