

Center for Global Development: Development Prospects Roundtable:

Sub-Saharan Africa, November 28, 2017

The Center for Global Development (CGD) is launching a roundtable discussion series focused on the economic prospects of low-income/developing countries (LICs). These roundtables would feature World Bank staff presenting their annual [development prospects] report with the view to keeping the Washington-based development community abreast of recent economic developments in and prospects for these countries. The targeted audience will be interested/concerned academics, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, think-tanks, U.S. government officials, the diplomatic community, and MDB/IFI staff members.

To facilitate more in-depth discussion of geographic groups of developing countries, the annual roundtable will be supplemented by four regional roundtables for Latin America and the Caribbean; Middle East and North Africa; Asia-Pacific; and sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The targeted audience of not more than 30 persons for the SSA roundtable will be a subset of the larger Washington-based development community engaged with SSA economic policy issues. The inaugural Africa roundtable will take place over lunch on Tuesday, November 28, 2017, piggy-backing on the October 2017 publication of the IMF's Regional Economic Outlook (REO). Against the backdrop of the first decline in per capita income growth in 20 years, the discussion will focus on the consensus on macroeconomic stability as a core underpinning of durable growth. The two-hour event is envisaged as follows:

- 12:30pm Participants serve themselves lunch and get settled
- 12:45pm Welcome (Antoinette M. Sayeh, Moderator and CGD Distinguished Visiting Fellow)
- 12:50 Opening Remarks/REO Overview (Abebe Selassie, Director, African Department, IMF)
- 1:10pm Discussant 1: Donald Kaberuka, CGD Distinguished Visiting Fellow/former AfDB President, AU Special Representative
- 1:20pm Discussant 2: Steve Radelet, Distinguished Professor/Director of Global Human Development, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University
- 1:30pm Open Discussion
- 2:20pm Wrap-up and Closing Remarks (Abebe Selassie, Antoinette M. Sayeh)

[Copies of the REO and an abridged version of slides for the opening remarks will be distributed at the roundtable and a summary of the discussions would be made available to participants thereafter.]