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[Home](#) > Liberia Represented at International Monetary Fund Spring Meeting

Liberia Represented at International Monetary Fund Spring Meeting

***Embassy of the Republic of
Liberia in the United States***,
Mon, Apr 29, 2024

by Al-Jerome Anastas Chede Sr.

Washington, DC. April 22, 2024:

The 2024 Annual World Bank Spring Meetings successfully ended on April 21. The crux of the Spring Meetings began from April 15th to the 21st and featured the participation of Finance Ministers from the Africa Group 1 member countries. This meeting was held at the WBG headquarters in Washington, D.C. and provided a forum for discussions on key economic and development issues affecting the region.

Several top Liberian government officials led by Finance Minister Boima Kamara along with Public Works Minister Roland L. Giddings among other officials as well as private and civil society stake holders attended the meetings. The Executive

Governor of the Central Bank of Liberia. Aloysius Tarlue could not attend due to a request from President Joseph Nyumah Boakai Sr. that he remained in Liberia to assist with an IMF-approved forensic audit of the Bank.

The Africa Group 1 Constituency comprises a diverse range of countries, including Botswana, Eritrea, Burundi, Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Eswatini, The Gambia, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The collective participation of these nations in the Spring Meeting highlights their commitment to advancing sustainable growth and development in the region.

The Spring Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group (WBG) bring together central bank Governors, ministers of finance and development, parliamentarians,



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Liberian Finance Minister Boima Kamara

private sector executives, representatives from civil society organizations and academics to discuss issues of global concern.

In a related development, a prelude to the Spring Meetings was held on April 3rd with the prestigious Africa Group 1 Ambassadors' Lunch at the headquarters of the World Bank Group (WBG) in Washington, D.C. This annual gathering serves as a platform for informing ambassadors about the latest policies and operational developments within the World Bank Group.

The lunch was sponsored by the WBG and graced by the presence of distinguished ambassadors representing various countries. In his opening address, Dr. Floribert Ngaruko, the Executive Director for Africa Group 1, emphasized the crucial role of ambassadors in advocating for the interests of their respective nations. Dr. Ngaruko specifically highlighted the importance of fostering increased private sector investments in the economies of sub-Saharan African countries.

Among attendees at the Ambassadors' Lunch, was Liberia's Chief of Mission accredited near Washington DC, His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Jeff Gongoer Dowana Sr.. The presence of such high-ranking officials underscored the significance of the Ambassadors' Lunch in fostering dialogue and cooperation between the World Bank Group and member countries.

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