

**MINISTRY OF ECONOMY, FINANCE
AND DEVELOPMENT**



BURKINA FASO
Unity – Progress – Justice

**ANNUAL MEETING 2019 OF THE ISLAMIC
DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP**

Marrakech (Morocco), 5-6 April 2019

THEME:

**“Transformation in a fast changing world: the road to the
SDGs”**

**ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY,
FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT,
Mr. Lassané KABORE, IsDB Governor for Burkina
Faso**

In the name of God, the Most Clement, the Most Merciful

Excellency the Chairman of the Board of Governors,

Excellencies the Governors,

Excellency the President of the Islamic Development Bank Group,

Honorable Executive Directors,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is both an honor and a privilege for Burkina Faso to seize this opportunity to address you at the opening of the 44th Annual Meeting of our esteemed Institution, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB).

At the outset, I would like to pay tribute to the authorities of the Kingdom of Morocco for graciously hosting this 44th Annual Meeting.

I would also like to commend the efforts and sacrifices made by all the organizers to make this event a success. Thank you all.

Fellow Governors,

Distinguished delegates,

I take advantage of this opportunity to give due recognition to Dr. Bandar M. H. Hajjar, President of the IsDB Group, for his enlightened leadership of the Group, particularly through the far-reaching reforms he has undertaken to meet today's challenges, which are those of improving the living conditions of our people.

Our Bank is one of the most active multilateral development banks on the international scene and has continuously obtained AAA credit rating on the financial market. Indeed, the IsDB is an actor of development in more than 57 countries and its action affects at least one in five people around the world.

Fellow Governors,

As you know, the theme of this year's Annual Meeting is: "Transformation in a fast changing world: the road to the SDGs". I praise the richness of this theme which refers to the goals that the planet leaders have set for the post-2015 period in a universal program entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". The objectives set out there include the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development. Finding the ways and means for their realization remains our major common and individual challenge, speaking of our respective countries.

This is the fitting place in which to commend the relevant efforts of the IsDB to support its member countries in achieving the SDGs.

In this connection, Mr. President, the various reforms that you have undertaken since you took office as the head of this institution confirms that you have sized up the stakes of development in a continuously changing world involving the need for a structural transformation at all levels, both in our countries and in our institutions. Regarding the reforms and measures taken, I would like to welcome the Bank's decentralization process, the establishment of a fund for the SDGs and scientific refugees, the establishment of an innovation fund to stimulate economic growth in developing countries, and the implementation of the STI program. All these initiatives will undoubtedly enable the Bank to better support its member countries towards achieving the SDGs by 2030.

I am convinced that with such a proactive approach, we will be able to overcome the challenges ahead, numerous as they are.

Dear President,

Fellow Governors,

When adopting the SDGs in 2015 and in order to gauge their state of progress at the national and global levels, Member States agreed that a High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), would annually review progress reports to assess the status of implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Country progress reports must be voluntary; however, States are required to submit at least three progress reports during the SDGs implementation cycle.

To have a good chance to meet its commitments under the global agenda, Burkina Faso has contextualized the objectives of the 2030 Agenda in the various development policies and strategies, including the National Plan for Economic and Social Development 2016-2020 which provides a plan of structural transformation of the Burkinabe economy articulated in three main axes:

- (i) Reforming institutions and modernizing the administration;
- (ii) Developing human capital;
- (iii) Boosting growth sectors for the economy and job creation.

After three years of implementation where some achievements have been made, Burkina Faso has applied to present its first National Voluntary Report (NVR) on the SDGs to the 2019 HLPF.

Despite the difficult socio-political context of the period 2014-2015, followed by security concerns since 2016, Burkina Faso works to strengthen its resilience by pursuing and strengthening development actions centered on priority social sectors as well as political, judicial, institutional and economic reforms.

Our willingness to present our national report does not necessarily mean that we will be at the rendezvous of 2030, but we want to show everyone how determined we are to move forward, despite the adversities we face.

With the support of our development partners, whom we commend, we hope to see more results, especially with the IsDB, whose current portfolio of 22 projects totaling USD 821.74 million is performing quite well.

For all these efforts, the people of Burkina Faso, through me, express their gratitude to you and wish to benefit from new approvals of projects that will consolidate the long and fruitful cooperation that can only grow stronger over time.

Dear President,

Fellow Governors,

Ladies and gentlemen,

In conclusion, I would like, once again, to renew my heartfelt thanks to the Islamic Development Bank Group for its invaluable support for its member countries and more particularly for my country, Burkina Faso in its sustainable human development efforts.

As Chairman of the G5 Sahel Council of Ministers, I also take this opportunity to thank the IsDB for its presence and its announced commitment at the coordination conference of G5 Sahel partners and donors on December 6, 2018 in Nouakchott. I would like to express my satisfaction to its leader, Dr. Bandar Hajjar, and my support for him in the execution of the missions assigned to him.

I wish full success to the 44th Annual Meeting of the IsDB Board of Governors.

Long live cooperation!

Long live the IsDB Group!

Wassalamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh