



The World Bank



November 4, 2009

Honorable Jørgen Poulsen
Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee
Danish Parliament
DENMARK

***Re: Invitation to a joint World Bank - PNoWB parliamentary field visit to Burkina Faso,
November 30 - December 4, 2009***

Dear Honorable Poulsen,

On behalf of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB) and the World Bank, I would like to invite you to participate in the next 'Parliamentarians in the Field' visit, due to take place in Burkina Faso from November 30 to December 4, 2009.

Through the "Parliamentarians in the Field" program organized by the PNoWB and the World Bank, around 170 MPs from over 50 countries have been able to take part in 20 country visits since 2001 in Asia, Africa, the Balkans, Latin America and the Middle East. Funded by a grant from the government of Finland, the field visit program is one of the key joint activities of the World Bank and the PNoWB.

The World Bank Parliamentary Relations Unit and the PNoWB Board have selected Burkina Faso as the destination for the third field visit in 2009, based on the strong interest from the Parliament of Burkina Faso in exchanging experiences with MPs from other countries, and the importance the World Bank country office in Ouagadougou attaches to the role of parliamentarians in developing the country.

Based on consultations between the PNoWB Board, the World Bank and the Parliament in Ouagadougou, four themes have been identified for the field visit to Burkina Faso:

1. Handling the impact of the global financial crisis on Burkina Faso's economy/development;
2. Decentralization and social accountability ;
3. Mining/Extractive industries revenue management;
4. Impact of reforms on improving investment climate.

Visiting parliamentarians will meet with national MPs, government officials, the civil society, private sector and donor community, and visit World Bank projects on the ground. Through project visits and discussions, participants will get a better sense of the role of the World Bank and the international development community in assisting development progress in Burkina Faso.

Visiting MPs will be asked to share their national experiences, and to produce a set of observations and recommendations at the end of the visit, which will be shared with organizers and colleagues in Burkina Faso and with colleagues in respective national parliaments.

Ten to twelve MPs will be invited to join the field visit, with about half coming from developing or emerging countries with experiences that can be of value to Burkina Faso, and the other half from donor countries of special relevance to the country.

Economy class travel, accommodation and local transportation costs will be covered by the organizers. If you or a member of your parliament would be interested in participating, please confirm your availability soonest.

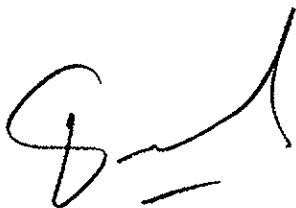
A draft visit program and more background information will be available once participation is confirmed.


For any further queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Nayé Bathily or Odilia Hebga from the World Bank or Jérôme Evrard of the PNoWB Secretariat

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Chair of the PNoWB Board
Member of the House of Commons (UK)

Yours sincerely,



Cyril Muller
Special Representative, Europe,
The World Bank