



# Armenia: Achieving sustainable growth - a transformation challenge

**AIPRG Annual Conference, June 1-2, 2013**

***Saturday June 1, 2013***

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| <b>8:30 – 9:00</b> | <b>Registration</b>  |
| <b>9:00 – 9:30</b> | <b>Opening Remarks: AIPRG Executive Board</b><br><br>Welcoming: (Prime Minister's remarks on the state of the country's key issues and the conference agenda), representative of WB Dutch ED, Ambassador T. Margaryan<br><br>[Welcoming from the WB South Caucasus country unit, World Bank] |
| <b>9:35-10:30</b>  | WB presentation on growth study for Armenia - Bartsch, Ulrich, WB South Caucasus country unit, followed by Q&A   |
| <b>10:30-10:50</b> | Coffee Break   |

## **SESSION 1**

**Chair: Mark Horton, IMF mission chief for Armenia**

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| <b>10:50 – 12: 20</b> | <b>Making use of macroeconomic stability for inclusive and sustainable growth</b><br><br>Two presentations from the IMF team (fiscal sustainability in the medium-term perspective and, growth accounting and total factor productivity)<br>Inflation targeting framework in Armenia -Shahane Harutyunyan Central Bank of Armenia |
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Discussants–Bryan Roberts, Econometrica Inc

**12:20 – 1:30-LUNCH Speaker Paul Davis-Vice President Pragma Corporation**

"Enhancing Armenian Competitiveness: Successes and Challenges."

## **SESSION 2**

### **Inequality, Migration and Growth**

Chair: David Akopyan- Chief operations, Secretariat to the Post-015 development agenda, high level panel, UNDP

13:30 - 14:30            Education and human development- WB study  
Income distribution, human capital and economic growth in Armenia,  
Edgar Begrakyan, Central Bank of Armenia

Discussant-Heghine Manasyan. Chair Center for Caucasus Research Center, professor of economics Yerevan State University

## **SESSION 3**

### **Financial stability as an anchor for growth**

**Chair: Karen Grigoryan- WB**

14:30 – 15:30            Financial sector services/benchmarking, Central Bank of Armenia [Mher Abrahamyan]  
Financial sector stability report: new findings , Vahe Vardanyan, the WB-ECSPF

Q&A

15:30 – 16:30            *Coffee and refreshments*

***Sunday, June 2, 2013***

## **SESSION 4**

### **Roundtable: Armenia Debt Sustainability: Myths and fallacies**

9:30-10:30            Roundtable with representatives of the Armenian government, WB, IMF and Academia on key aspects of interrelation between debt sustainability and growth:

10:30-11:00            Coffee Break

## **SESSION 5**

### **Competitiveness, Export Promotions and Facilitation**

Chair: [Bernard Hoekman Sector Director, Trade Department, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, World Bank]

11:00 - 1:00            Presentation by ministry of economy on export promotion strategies

Deep Trade Policy Options for Armenia: The Importance of Trade Facilitation, Services and Standards Liberalization  
Former Lead Economist, WB David Tarr

Business Taxes and Armenia's Competitiveness

David Joulfaiian, Senior Economist, US Treasury Department

[Discussants-Tigran Kostanyan-WB Armenia country unit and Pedro Rodriguez, WB former lead economist South Caucasus country unit ]

1:00 – 14:00            Lunch

## **SESSION 6**

### **Roundtable: Armenia Road to prosperity: does ownership matter?**

14:00-15:00            Roundtable with representatives of the Armenian government, WB, IMF and Academia on the role of IFIs in shaping policies for growth in Armenia vs. government ownership of economic programs

Concluding remarks- wrap up of the conference

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