



PRESS RELEASE

Appointment of Ms. Frannie Léautier as New Executive Secretary of ACBF

The Executive Board of the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) announces the designation of Mr. Lare Sisay as Head of a Transition Team with effect from 7 June 2009, until **Ms. Frannie Léautier assumes the position of Executive Secretary on July 1, 2009**. Mr. Sisay, who is a Member of the Executive Board, leads a Transition Team which includes the Chair of the Executive Board and other members of the Board, as needed, in consultation with Ms. Léautier. This arrangement was necessitated by the decisions of the Executive Board to place four (4) senior managers on Administrative Leave, pending further consideration of the Human Resource and Forensic Audits commissioned by the Board which revealed several departures from declared policy and approved procedures within ACBF.

The Executive Board is a key element of oversight and governance of the ACBF and expects all staff to maintain the highest standards of efficiency, technical competence and integrity, as called for in the Foundation's Constitution. The Executive Board has taken a number of other important steps to rectify weaknesses in policies, systems and procedures highlighted by the audits, with a view to ensuring that resources made available for capacity building are used efficiently, for their intended purposes and with maximum impact.

The incoming Executive Secretary, Ms. Frannie Léautier, a Tanzanian national, brings a wealth of experience to the Foundation, having served as Vice President of the World Bank and Head of the World Bank Institute from December 2001 to March 2007. She also served as Chief of Staff for the former President of the World Bank from 2000-2001. Cumulatively, Ms. Léautier served in various capacities at the World Bank from 1992-2007. She joins the ACBF following a two year assignment as Managing Partner at The Fezembat Group, a company focused on risk management and leadership development.

Ms. Léautier holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Dar es Salaam (1984); a Master of Science in Transportation from MIT (1986); and a PhD in Infrastructure Systems from MIT (1990). She is also a graduate of the Harvard University Executive Development Program. Dr. Léautier has published a number of articles in top-tier economic journals and magazines; she has also edited three books, including a recent one on Cities in a Globalizing World. She is currently Founding Editor for the Journal of Infrastructure Systems, Advisory Board Member for the MIT Open Course Ware, and Secretary of the Board for the Nelson Mandela Institute for Science and Technology in Africa. Ms. Léautier is a charter member of the Advisory Board for EuropEFE and a founding Board member for the Africa Institute for Governing with Integrity.

The Board and staff of ACBF look forward to working very closely with Ms. Léautier in the coming years.