

SM/08/114  
Supplement 2

May 29, 2008

To: Members of the Executive Board

From: The Secretary

Subject: **Training as Part of Capacity Building—Recent Initiatives and Strategic Considerations—Draft Public Information Notice**

Attached for the **information** of Executive Directors is the background section of the draft Public Information Notice (PIN) relating to the paper on training as part of capacity building—recent initiatives and strategic considerations (SM/08/114, 4/18/08), which was discussed on Monday, May 12, 2008 and approved for publication on May 21, 2008. It is intended that the PIN summarizing the discussion will be posted on the Fund's external website with the related Board papers after Wednesday, June 4.

Questions may be referred to Mr. Isard (ext. 36640) and Mr. McDonald (ext. 38862) in INS.

This document will shortly be posted on the extranet, a secure website for Executive Directors and member country authorities.

Att: (1)

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Department Heads





INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

*Public Information Notice*

EXTERNAL  
RELATIONS  
DEPARTMENT

Public Information Notice (PIN) No. 08/xx  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May xx, 2008

International Monetary Fund  
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## **IMF Executive Board Discusses Training as Part of Capacity Building**

On May 12, 2008, the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) discussed recent initiatives and strategic issues in the IMF's training program for member country officials.

### **Background**

Training for member country officials is an integral part of the IMF's capacity building efforts. Courses and seminars are designed to share the expertise of the IMF staff on a wide array of topics that are critical to effective macroeconomic and financial analysis and policymaking, as well as more specialized topics relating to the compilation of macroeconomic statistics and various fiscal, monetary, and legal issues. Most of the training—nearly 63,000 person days during 2007—is provided through a program organized by the IMF Institute, which delivers and administers courses at its Headquarters in Washington, through a network of seven regional training centers around the world, in collaboration with various other regional and national training providers, and through distance learning. The specialized courses draw on the expertise of the IMF's Fiscal Affairs, Finance, Legal, Monetary and Capital Markets, and Statistics Departments.

Confronted with both an excess demand for training and a strong need to constrain expenditures, the IMF Institute has taken a number of steps in recent years to expand training volume and strengthen its curriculum while also raising productivity and taking advantage of external sources of funding to reduce the net costs to the IMF. In response to the recommendations of the Crockett Committee,<sup>1</sup> it proposes to introduce fees for its

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<sup>1</sup> *Final report of the Committee to Study Sustainable Long-Term Financing of the IMF*, January 2007, available at [www.imf.org/external/np/oth/2007/013107.pdf](http://www.imf.org/external/np/oth/2007/013107.pdf).

courses in Washington, beginning in January 2009.<sup>2</sup> The May 12 seminar, informed by two background papers,<sup>3</sup> provided an opportunity for the Executive Board to review recent initiatives in the training program and provide guidance for the period ahead.

## Executive Board Assessment

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**Public Information Notices (PINs)** form part of the IMF's efforts to promote transparency of the IMF's views and analysis of economic developments and policies. With the consent of the country (or countries) concerned, PINs are issued after Executive Board discussions of Article IV consultations with member countries, of its surveillance of developments at the regional level, of post-program monitoring, and of ex post assessments of member countries with longer-term program engagements. PINs are also issued after Executive Board discussions of general policy matters, unless otherwise decided by the Executive Board in a particular case.

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<sup>2</sup> This issue is still under discussion in the Fund.

<sup>3</sup> *Training as Part of Capacity Building—Recent Initiatives and Strategic Considerations; Training as Part of Capacity Building—Report on IMF Training During 2007*, both available at [www.imf.org/external/....](http://www.imf.org/external/....)