



**Statement on Sixth Meeting of the Advisory Committee of the
IMF Capacity Development Office in Thailand (CDOT)
July 31, 2020**

The Sixth Advisory Committee Meeting of the IMF Capacity Development Office in Thailand (CDOT) highlighted recent results by participating countries and work priorities for the year ahead in support of their economic reform agendas, mainly in Cambodia, Lao P.D.R., Myanmar, and Vietnam (CLMV). The meeting, which was held by videoconference, was attended by representatives from central banks and ministries of finance in the CLMV countries, development partners (Government of Japan and Bank of Thailand), and the IMF. Selected observers also joined the meeting from other public agencies benefitting from CDOT's support.

Meeting discussions centered on the modalities and effectiveness of technical assistance (TA) and training being provided by CDOT in strengthening macroeconomic statistics, operational tools, and policy frameworks. Requests for new support in capacity development (CD) were also expressed by beneficiary countries through their advisory committee representatives, with a clear focus on crisis mitigation and recovery in light of the COVID-19 situation. Officials voiced an immediate need for CD on assessing the macroeconomic effects of the pandemic, strengthening cash and debt management, and improving statistical reporting, with CDOT and other CD providers at the IMF in a good position to meet these needs.

Under current circumstances, the advisory committee representatives welcomed the adaptability of CDOT in providing TA and training remotely through videoconferences, webinars, and email exchanges. They further encouraged more use of the IMF's online learning platform, while also highlighting the importance of ensuring the effectiveness of the CD through close monitoring of outcomes. The strong support of development partners was seen as especially important during these times, with representatives from both Japan and Thailand pledging to continue to work closely with CDOT to ensure that it met current and emerging demand for CD.

Background

CDOT, located in Bangkok, was established in 2012. It provides CD in several core areas of expertise at the IMF: public financial management, monetary and exchange rate operations, macro-financial management, and external sector and government finance statistics. CDOT's activities are supported by the Government of Japan and the Bank of Thailand.