

DMD TAO ZHANG CONCLUDES HIS VISIT TO THE GAMBIA

DMD Tao Zhang just concluded his three-day visit to The Gambia. The visit was historic, as it was the first visit by a member of the IMF Management Team to The Gambia. It came on the heels of IMF Management's approval of a 12-month Staff Monitored Program (SMP) with The Gambia, and served to signal to the people of The Gambia the Fund's commitment to support the country's reform agenda, initially through the SMP and possibly through a successor arrangement under the Extended Credit Facility (ECF). During the visit, DMD Zhang met with His Excellency President Adama Barrow and members of his Cabinet and a wide group of stakeholders within the public and private sectors and international community. He also visited and made a charitable donation to the Gambia Organization for the Visually Impaired (GOVI) and delivered a public lecture entitled: *"The Gambia's Pathway to Prosperity"*, with over 300 people in attendance, including: Parliamentarians, Ministers and other Senior Government and Central Bank Officials, bankers, private sector representatives, trade unionists, civil society, development partners and diplomats, academicians and students, and media representatives.

Some photos of the event and articles about it are shown below.



Photo showing (from left to right): Mr. Alieu Secka, CEO of the Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Moderator for today's public lecture; Steven Barnett (Advisor to DMD Zhang); Finance Minister Honorable Mambury Njie; DMD Tao Zhang; IMF Mission Chief Jaroslaw Wieczorek; and AFR Deputy Director Annalisa Fedelino. The stage was custom-designed by our office and built to our specifications by a local design company.



Photo showing (respectively): Steven Barnett (Advisor to DMD Zhang), Finance Minister Honorable Mambury Njie, DMD Tao Zhang, IMF Mission Chief Jaroslaw Wieczorek, and AFR Deputy Director Annalisa Fedelino.



Photo of DMD Zhang delivering his speech.



Candid photo shot of guests during the Q&A.



Picture of DMD Zhang and the visiting delegation, other panelists, and student guests.