

Bringing Central Asian Perspectives to IMF Reform Debates

Sponsored by the Centre for International Governance and Innovation
CASE-Kyrgyzstan
New Rules for Global Finance Coalition

Wednesday and Thursday, May 20-21, 2008

Location: Golden Dragon Hotel
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Meeting Objectives:

To date, the debate about International Monetary Fund (IMF) Reform has been shaped largely by conversations within and among OECD countries and orthodox or mainstream economists. This project proposes to remedy this imbalance to the debate by sponsoring and/or encouraging a series of regional conferences that would enable developing countries to articulate their needs and priorities for future services from the IMF. In addition to four other meetings around the world, this meeting in Washington, DC would provide an opportunity to consider future global systemic needs that a reformed IMF should be prepared to address.

The purpose of these conferences is to influence the policy process. Therefore the regional outputs as well as outputs from a concluding conference will be designed so that the IMF Board of Governors and the Executive Board can understand and begin to implement. This implies that following the conclusion of the conferences, the work of implementation continues. A goal for the overall project should be a presentation to the Executive Board, and at least a written submission to all Governors. The Central Asia meeting will bring together senior officials and scholars from a number of countries of the region, along with a very select few other invitees, to analyze and discuss Central Asian perspectives on global monetary cooperation.

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Wednesday, May 20, 2008

Welcome Dinner, 7 p.m.

Thursday, May 21, 2008

Meeting Schedule

9:00 - 9:30 **Introductions and Welcome Address**

- **Djoomart Otorbaev**, Review of the Agenda:
- **Jo Marie Griesgraber**, Purpose of Regional Meetings
- **Roman Mogilevsky**, Logistics

9:30 - 12:30 **IMF and Central Asia**

- What kinds of monetary cooperation are preferred by states in Central Asia?
- Does membership of the IMF matter to countries in the region?
- How has the IMF's relationship with the region evolved and what are regional perceptions of the IMF today?

12:30 -1:30 Lunch

1:30-3:30 **IMF Functions**

- What role is there for multilateral lending and conditionality? How should existing lending facilities in the IMF be modified, and new ones created?
- What is the role for regional institutions? What links should they have with the IMF?
- Are there areas in which the IMF could be a provider of technical advice?

3:30 – 5:20 **What (if anything) would need to change in the governance or work of the IMF for it to be a trusted multilateral agency in the region?**

5:20 – 5:30 **Wrap up and Summary**