



**SPRING  
MEETINGS**  
2020 | WASHINGTON DC  
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND  
WORLD BANK GROUP

# Frequently Asked Questions about the 2020 Spring Meetings (FAQs)

## **What will be the format for the 2020 Spring Meetings?**

- Given the evolving nature of the health crisis and restrictions to travel and mobility, the 2020 IMF-World Bank Spring Meetings will be held virtually, leveraging IT and web conferencing capabilities to the fullest. Our overriding priority is to facilitate global cooperation to save lives and jobs and help our members with every available tool to address the effects of the global pandemic health and economic crisis. All of this while ensuring the health and safety of Spring Meetings participants and staff.

## **Are any officials traveling to Washington to attend the 2020 Spring Meetings?**

- Delegates will not attend the Meetings in person. The IMF and the World Bank Group will instead conduct their official consultations and related flagship press briefings remotely.
- Both institutions remain fully committed to sharing their policy advice and analysis and will maintain a productive dialogue with all stakeholders by leveraging IT and web conferencing capabilities to the fullest.

## **What will happen to the meetings of the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) and the Development Committee (DC)?**

- The IMF and the World Bank Group will proceed with the meetings of the IMFC and DC. Both Committees will conduct their meetings virtually.
- Official delegates who will participate in the sessions of the IMFC and DC will receive further instructions from the Secretary and from the office of their Executive Director of their respective institutions.
- Delegates participating in the IMFC meeting can find more information on [IMF Connect](#).

## **What does a “virtual meeting” format imply?**

- This means we will leverage our IT and web conferencing capabilities to the fullest, complemented by our online platforms (such as the World Bank Group and IMF websites and social media accounts), online media briefing centers, and other means of digital communications. We remain fully committed to sharing the IMF and World Bank’s policy advice and analysis in real time and maintaining a productive dialogue with all our stakeholders through a new adaptive format for the Spring Meetings.



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## What about the release of IMF flagship publications such as the World Economic Outlook, the Global Financial Stability Report, and the Fiscal Monitor?

- The IMF's flagship publications will be released on time through virtual press conferences hosted by the Fund's [Online Media Briefing Center](#). The schedule for upcoming IMF press briefings is available on the [schedule page](#). To stay up-to-date on the digital schedule, report launches and other highlights, please sign up to the IMF's [special newsletter](#) running April 8-17.
- The World Bank Group media relations team will communicate the schedule for press briefings ahead of the virtual-only meetings.

## Is it necessary to register to participate in the virtual Spring Meetings?

- No. Registration for all categories of participants (Delegates, Observers, Guests, Press, and CSOs) is suspended. All previous confirmations have been cancelled.
- The Secretaries of the IMF and the World Bank Group will liaise with country authorities directly to make arrangements for participation in the official meetings of the International Monetary and Financial Committee and Development Committee.

## How can media participate in any of the events?

- Journalists will be able to access press conferences via the IMF's [Online Media Briefing Center](#) and the World Bank's [Online Media Briefing Center](#). For further information on media access to the various press conferences and to receive broadcast material please contact the media relations teams at the IMF ([media@imf.org](mailto:media@imf.org)) and World Bank Group ([press@worldbank.org](mailto:press@worldbank.org)).

## How can civil society ensure its voice is still heard if the Spring Meetings will no longer take place in person?

- The World Bank Group and IMF are committed to listening to civil society groups through information sharing, dialogue, and consultation at the global, regional and national levels. We will continue our engagement with civil society as usual outside the Meetings.

## What arrangements are you proposing for the Parliamentary Network?

- Parliamentarians and the Parliamentary Network are a core component of the World Bank Group and IMF engagement with the membership. Because we have adapted the 2020 Spring Meetings format, the planned physical meetings of the Parliamentary Network in Washington DC are postponed until the fall. The IMF and World Bank Group public affairs teams will continue their engagement with members of the Parliamentary Network through conference calls and other digital forms of communications as needed.

### **What happens to the IMF and World Bank Programs of Events/Seminars?**

- The IMF and World Bank Programs of Events/Seminars have been cancelled because of the decision to adapt the Meetings to a virtual format. The Programs will return to their regular format for the 2020 Annual Meetings.

### **Is this the first time that the two institutions are implementing contingency plans for the Spring and Annual Meetings?**

- The IMF and World Bank took similar extraordinary steps in the wake of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York and Washington by postponing and then shifting policy meetings to another location.