Executive Directors discussed the World Bank Group Country Partnership Framework (CPF) (R2017-0054[IDA/R2017-0040, IFC/R2017-0042, MIGA/R2017-0009]) for the Republic of Cameroon for FY17 to FY21. They expressed broad support for the WBG’s new framework of engagement in Cameroon, and its alignment with the Systematic Country Diagnostic (SCD) and the national priorities.

Directors appreciated the planned expansion of Bank-supported activities in the northern regions affected by conflict and fragility and emphasized the need to mitigate security risks, and to address limited absorptive capacity. They urged the WBG to engage more with beneficiaries, coordinate project activities with other development and humanitarian partners, and pursue flexible and innovative implementation and supervision mechanisms. Directors noted the need to promote higher domestic revenue mobilization, increased efficiency in public spending, governance reforms including in the State-owned enterprises, and further focus on sectors where reforms have shown results such as energy, health, and education. They stressed the importance of gender equality and that further work is needed in other areas, among them climate smart agriculture, and social safety nets. Directors also underscored the importance of private sector capacity building.

Directors noted the need of monitoring the macroeconomic situation in the Central Africa Economic and Monetary Union (CEMAC), and stressed the importance of regional synergies in the CPF. They welcomed the Bank’s support of fiscal consolidation programs and structural reforms through Bank instruments. Directors appreciated the existing synergies developed across WBG entities in Cameroon, as well as CPF plans to make an integrated use of all IDA18 new opportunities, particularly the Private Sector Window in fragile regions.