



## Minutes of the 11th Meeting of the Steering Committee of CAPTAC-DR April 10, 2019

1. Discussions focused on the following key issues: (i) the results on capacity building during fiscal year 2019 (FY19); (ii) the strategy of fundraising and the impact of limited funding on the work plan for FY20 (the first year of Phase III); and (iii) the effectiveness of the capacity development (CD) program for the new phase.
2. **The Committee welcomed the development of policy frameworks during FY19.** Participants saw the success of the regional strategies to manage risks in customs and harmonize government statistics as a legacy of the concluding 5-year phase. They noted the decline in assistance on central banking, due to uncertain funding, and to Nicaragua that impeded greater progress. Luxembourg shared key lessons to take advantage of regional achievements to further enhance the role of CAPTAC-DR and build greater capacity for policy making in the new phase.
3. **Members strongly supported the delivery of a balanced strategy for training.** They praised the mix of customized training and regional workshops to help adopt the Center's advice and strengthen policy analysis. The participation of hosting authorities and external partners in training events fostered the focus on results and the dissemination of knowledge within recipient institutions. They recognized the Center's collaboration with other CD providers, which enabled training outside the region (Mexico and Peru), broadened exposure to international experience, and restrained cost.
4. **The Committee noted the efforts to raise the visibility of the Center.** They welcomed the greater consultation with partners in the region to enhance reporting and coordination with the Center. The European Union said this interaction is relevant for its budget support operations and to monitor progress on public financial management and revenue mobilization in support of the SDGs. Members said interviews with authorities and partners in the Center's newsletter made the goals and challenges of CD more visible. They urged countries to disseminate TA reports as much as possible, as this action aligns providers to the CD goals, reduces duplicity in assistance, and spreads the Center's advice across the region more effectively. The European Union invited Fund surveillance missions to interact with its delegations in the region more frequently.
5. **Members were concerned over the funding gap in the new phase.** They commended member countries for raising contributions in Phase III and engaging actively potential partners. They thanked Luxembourg for the early commitment to the new phase and the Central American Bank of Economic Integration, the European Union, and Mexico for actively considering support. They encouraged potential partners to collaborate with the Center starting this year. The Committee reiterated that reaching the contribution target of US\$40 million was essential to attain the CD goals of the region in the new phase. Fund staff shared the members' concern and reaffirmed its commitment to raising the targeted funding, working jointly with countries and partners.



6. **The Committee endorsed the reduced set of CD priorities for FY20, in case liquidity risks were to materialize.** They regretted the large funding gap facing the Center for this year, which if unresolved, would make unfeasible the proposed budget (US\$8.2 million) and the desired work plan. While participants agreed with the proposed contingency actions to scale down of the work plan, they noted that the Center would be severely impaired under the available funding (US\$3.3 million). Participants agreed with the ranking of milestones priorities that will be addressed if more funding becomes available.

7. **Member countries proposed options to ameliorate the possible scale down of the work plan.** To ensure that Center covers a broader set of CD priorities this year under a liquidity crunch, country authorities asked if the Fund could bear some of the cost of backstopping and project management, and/or temporarily redirect some funding from the global thematic funds. They suggested Fund staff to report quarterly on funding developments. In response, Fund staff took note of these suggestions and added that efforts are under way to stage missions from Headquarters to partly cover CD needs, in the absence of the central banking advisor.

8. **There was agreement on the steps to enhance the effectiveness of CD in the new phase.** Participants noted that the *Quinquennial Review of the Fund's CD Strategy* offers good guidance to facilitate capacity building and sustain progress achieved. They observed that the experience shared by SPR provided useful advice to build capacity for emerging policies (gender balance and income equality), while the presentation by STA outlined new areas of priority for the national account statistics. Participants foresaw that a greater reliance on regional projects should facilitate the attainment of the strategic goals, boost coordination across countries, and raise the efficiency of the Center's assistance.

9. Finally, the Steering Committee expressed its deep appreciation to CAPTAC-DR and the IMF for supporting the development of capacity for policy making in the region. The material discussed during the meeting will be posted on the Center's new website ([www.captac-dr.org](http://www.captac-dr.org)) under the section of the Steering Committee for FY19.



Mario Garza  
Center Coordinator and Steering Committee Secretary





**XI Steering Committee Attendance List**  
**April 10, 2019**  
**IMF HQ - Washington, D.C.**



<b>Chair</b>			
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Country / Institution</b>
1	Oscar Cabrera Melgar	<i>President of the Central American Monetary Council, President of the Central Bank of El Salvador, Presidente of the Steering Committee</i>	El Salvador
<b>Member Countries' Representatives</b>			
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Country / Institution</b>
2	Nelson Fuentes	Minister of Finance	El Salvador
3	Jerson Posada	Director Public Credit, Ministry of Finance	El Salvador
4	Rosa Mixco de Fuentes	Advisor to the Minister of Finance	El Salvador
5	Rocio Aguilar	Minister of Finance	Costa Rica
6	Rodrigo Cubero	President of the Central Bank	Costa Rica
7	Alfredo Blanco	Vicepresident of the Central Bank	Guatemala
8	Victor Martínez	Minister of Finance	Guatemala
9	Wilfredo Cerrato	President of the Central Bank	Honduras
10	Carlos Fernando Avila	Economic Studies Manager, Central Bank	Honduras
11	Rocio Izabel Tabora Morales	Minister of Finance	Honduras
12	Ovidio Reyes	President of the Central Bank	Nicaragua
13	Carlos Sequeria	International Affairs Manager, Central Bank	Nicaragua
14	Iván Acosta Montalván	Minister of Finance	Nicaragua
15	Rafael Capellan	International Department Director, Central Bank	Dominican Republic
16	Erick Armando Vargas Sierra	President of the CCSBSO	CCSBSO
17	Pablo Antonio Marroquin	Superintendency of Banks	Guatemala
<b>Observers</b>			
18	Werner Ovalle	Customs Director, SAT Guatemala	Guatemala
19	Edwin Curtidor	SAT Guatemala	Guatemala
20	Jose Martin	Representative of donors in Customs	IADB
21	Jorge Madrigal	CMCA	CMCA
22	Jose Angel Recinos	COSEFIN	COSEFIN
<b>Partners Representatives</b>			
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Country / Institution</b>
23	Erica Gerretsen	Head of Unit A4 - Budget Support and Public Finance	European Union
24	Isabel Lozano	In representation of the Director for Latin America, International Fiscal Affairs Unit	Ministry of Finance of México
25	Miguel Marques	Deputy Director, Multilateral Affairs, Development Aid	Ministry of Finance Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
26	Alfonso Guerra	Alternate ED	Colombia, México and Spain
27	Armando Morales	Senior Advisor to ED	Peru
28	Dante Mossi	President	CABEI
29	Hernan Danery Alvarado	Chitef Financial Officer	CABEI
30	Horacio Leiva	Sector Manager	CABEI
31	Frank Fuentes	Senior Advisor, OEDBR	Brazil



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<b>IMF Representative</b>			
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Country / Institution</b>
32	Ravi Balakrishnan	Division Chief, Western Hemisphere Department	IMF
<b>27</b>			
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Country / Institution</b>
33	Mario Garza	Steering Committee Secretary and CAPTAC-DR Coordinator	CAPTAC-DR
<b>Permanent Observers: Executive Secretaries of Regional Councils</b>			
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Country / Institution</b>
34	Martin Portillo	Executive Secretary	COSEFIN
35	Domingo Gonzalez	Executive Secretary	SECMCA
36	Ana Margoth Arévalo	Executive Secretary	CCSBSO
<b>IMF / CAPTAC-DR Staff</b>			
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Country / Institution</b>
37	Alejandro Werner	Director Western Hemisphere Department	IMF
38	Antonieta Del Cid de Bonilla	Senior Advisor to Executive DI, FEDCE	IMF
39	Alejandro Santos	Division Chief (WHD)	IMF
40	Roger Nord	Deputy Director (FAD)	IMF
41	Eva Jenker	Deputy Division Chief (ICD)	IMF
42	Felix Fischer	Deputy Division Chief (ICD)	IMF
43	Rainer Koehler	Division Chief (STA), STAGO	IMF
44	Michael Stanger	Senior Economist (STA), STARE	IMF
45	Ramon Hurtado	Senior Economist (FAD)	IMF
46	Maria Oliva	Deputy Division Chief (MCM)	IMF
47	Katherine Baer	Division Chief (FAD)	IMF
48	Azael Perez	Senior Economist (FAD)	IMF
49	Antonio Anson	Senior Economist (FAD)	IMF
50	Umut Ozdemir Tsarouhas	Technical Assistance Officer (ICD)	IMF
51	Lidia Brito	Budget Assistant (ICDGP)	IMF
52	Selvin Lemus	Resident Advisor Customs Administration	CAPTAC-DR
53	Bruno Rocha	Resident Advisor Government Financial Statistics	CAPTAC-DR
54	Jose Roberto Effio	Resident Advisor Financial Supervision	CAPTAC-DR