

PRESS RELEASE

FINACTU'S PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF THE INVESTMENT AND GUARANTEE BANK (BIG) IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO RECEIVES THE SUPPORT OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRIME MINISTER WHO AFFIRMED THE TOTAL COMMITMENT OF HIS GOVERNMENT

Casablanca, 22 February 2022

Following the strategic study carried out by the FINACTU Group recruited after a competitive process, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo commits itself to the effective creation of the Investment and Guarantee Bank during a restitution workshop organised by the Minister of Industry and presided over by His Excellency the Prime Minister in the presence of imminent Government personalities and the driving forces of the private sector

His Excellency the Prime Minister affirmed the commitment of his government, in view of the objectives assigned to the BIG, to support the effective creation of this new institution by following the roadmap defined by the FINACTU Group. He indicated that ***"the creation of this institution is a priority that is in line with the Government's action programme for the period 2021-2023 and is in line with the vision of His Excellency Mr. Félix Antoine TSHISEKEDI TSHILOMBO, President of the Republic, Head of State"***.

As a matter of fact, the BIG is an important reform that aims to guarantee public and private investments in order to foster economic and social development in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The strategic feasibility study was financed by the IPF with BCECO as the delegated project manager, which coordinated the public tendering process upstream.

The Ministry of Finance, on its part, welcomes the efforts made in the framework of the strategic study. With the strong conviction that the BIG will participate in the acceleration and diversification of the country's development, it will collaborate with all the ministries involved in the implementation of the roadmap.

For the Minister of Industry, ***"The Investment and Guarantee Bank is a vital tool for the economic and social development of the Democratic Republic of Congo, which suffers from a significant deficit in financing the economy, of which Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Small and Medium Industries (SMIs), the***

backbone of the economy, are the first victims. The BIG will make it possible to effectively address the growth challenges of SMEs by providing them with a complete range of guarantees, financing and technical assistance”.

Géraldine MERMOUX, Managing Director - Partner of the FINACTU Group, confides that ***“the FINACTU Group is particularly pleased with the interest shown by the Congolese authorities in this large-scale project, as we are firmly convinced that this bank of banks will be a key instrument for enabling SMEs to access financing and non-financial services to boost their development”.***

For further information, you can:

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