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World Bank Country Director for Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, Mr. Qimiao Fan, presented today to Moldovan authorities the new World Bank Country Manager for Moldova, Mr. Alex Kremer. Mr. Kremer will take up his post in Chisinau on August 1, 2014. He has previously worked as the World Bank Country Manager in the Kyrgyz Republic (2010-2014) and Senior Sector Economist in the Middle East and North Africa region of the World Bank. During that time he published several works of research on agriculture, the impact of the 2006 war in Lebanon, energy efficiency and lagging regions. He was the lead author of the publication "Poor places, thriving people: how the Middle East and North Africa can overcome spatial disparities" (2010). Before joining the Bank, Mr. Kremer worked for the UK Department for International Development in India as National Program Manager. He has also served as an EU official, most recently as Economic and Political Counsellor in Harare, Zimbabwe. "The World Bank enjoys a fruitful and comprehensive partnership with the Republic of Moldova, said Qimiao Fan. "Mr. Kremer brings a wide range of development experience and expertise to this position and we look forward to strengthening and deepening this partnership with the country during Mr. Kremer's tenure as World Bank Country Manager for Moldova. Since Moldova joined the World Bank in 1992, over US\$1 billion has been allocated to 49 projects in the country. Currently, the World Bank portfolio includes 8 active projects with a total commitment of US\$189.9 million. Areas of support include regulatory reform and business development, education, social assistance, e-governance, healthcare, agriculture, environment and other. The International Finance Corporation has invested US\$233 million in 24 projects in various sectors, and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency has provided guarantees totaling US\$95 million. Both institutions are members of the World Bank Group. The World Bank is located at 1818 H Street, NW, DC 20433 Washington, USA. Telephone: (202) 473-1000. Telefax: (202) 477-6391. Email: investigations_hotline@worldbank.org. URL: <http://www.worldbank.org>. 

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