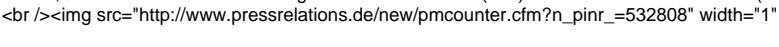




## World Bank Vice President for Africa to Visit Republic of Congo for Development Talks

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The World Bank Vice President for the Africa Region, Mr. Makhtar Diop, will arrive in Brazzaville on Monday, May 20, for a two day working visit. He will meet with the Congolese President, Denis Sassou Nguesso, senior government officials, civil society groups, and the media during his visit. Mr. Diop will discuss the development challenges facing the Republic of Congo and see first-hand how the World Bank can step up its development assistance to better help poor and vulnerable families in the country escape poverty and pursue lives with better health, education, and more opportunity. Congos economic growth rate is one of the strongest in Africa, yet poverty reduction has been slow over the last five years. Many Congolese live in poverty, and unemployment and inequality remain significantly high. The Bank is working with the Republic of Congo on how to use its large oil revenues to stimulate broad-based non-oil growth that would generate employment and reduce poverty. Since 1963, the World Bank has been one of the Republic of Congos leading development partners. The World Bank 1818 H Street, NW DC 20433 Washington  
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