

Globalisation must be 'inclusive' to help fight poverty: WB chief

AFP, Washington

World Bank president Robert Zoellick said Wednesday that globalisation must be "inclusive and sustainable" if it is to help combat crushing poverty around the world.

In a speech at the National Press Club, marking his first 100 days in office, Zoellick said the World Bank should seek to foster such goals while guarding environmental protections.

"It is the vision of the World Bank Group to contribute to an inclusive and sustainable globalization ... to overcome poverty, enhance growth with care for the environment, and create individual opportunity and hope," Zoellick, a former high-ranking US diplomat and trade negotiator, said.

The World Bank chief, who took over the helm of the Washington-based institution in July from Paul Wolfowitz who was ousted in a favoritism scandal related to his partner, said globalization offers "incredible" oppor-

tunities, but said it also faces tough challenges.

"Exclusion, grinding poverty, and environmental damage create dangers. The ones that suffer most are those who have the least to start with ... indigenous peoples, women in developing countries, the rural poor, Africans, and their children," Zoellick said.

Leading advocacy groups appeared to generally welcome Zoellick's remarks.

"President Zoellick understands that the Bank's raison d'être is to fight poverty and he has put out a comprehensive blue print to making it happen," said Bernice Romero, Oxfam's chief advocacy director.

"But starting tomorrow on day 101, we need to see this blueprint working to lift people out of poverty," Romero stressed.

While welcoming Zoellick's stance, Romero nonetheless said some of the bank's departments have yet to demonstrate that they are effectively alleviating conditions for the world's poor.

Underlining his aims, Zoellick

said the World Bank had also pledged 3.5 billion dollars to the International Development Association, which provides grants and interest free loans for the world's 81 poorest countries.

He said he was also vying to shake up the World Bank's ideas on policy, markets and "new possibilities."

The World Bank chief laid out six strategic themes in mapping out his plans for the multilateral lender.

His themes include combating poverty, addressing the challenges of states emerging from conflict, fostering "development solutions" for middle-income countries, becoming more involved in issues such as HIV/AIDS, malaria and trade, supporting development across the Arab world, and improving the bank's capabilities to tackle such aims.

Zoellick laid out his strategic ideas ahead of the autumn meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund which are due to occur October 20-22.

China has 106 billionaires compared with 15 last year

AFP, Shanghai

China now has 106 billionaires, seven times as many as last year, according to a list published Wednesday that underlined the rapidly growing economic muscle of the Asian giant.

Yang Huiyan, a 26-year-old female property developer, topped the list with a net worth, mostly inherited, of 130 billion yuan (17.3 billion dollars), according to the website of Hurun Report, a Shanghai-based magazine.

The figure was up from just 15 billionaires in the 2006 list, a surge attributed in the report to sizzling economic growth, and in particular a steep rise in stock and property prices.

"We all know that China is developing very rapidly. But the speed is so fast that it shocked all of us. It's much faster than the US and Europe," Rupert Hoogewerf, Hurun Report's publisher, said in a statement.

The average wealth of the 800 people on Hurun's list is now 562 million dollars, an increase of 104 percent from 2006, and it takes 105 million dollars to make the list, the statement said.

This compared with the first list, nine years ago, which could only rank 50 people who each had six million dollars or more.

Among the people singled out by Hurun was 32-year-old Peng Xiaofeng, whose 5.3-billion-dollar fortune is based on LDK Solar, a manufacturer of solar panels. While not even on last year's list, he was now number six.

"These success stories are encouraging a large number of young Chinese to entrepreneurship," said Hoogewerf.

Hurun's list was released just two days after US magazine Forbes published its list of China's richest, which also put Yang in the lead.

Yang, a graduate of Ohio State University, is the daughter of Yeung Kwok Keung, the co-founder of Country Garden Holdings, a property development firm.

Yeung transferred his shareholdings to his daughter in 2005, and she now sits on the company's board as an executive director, Forbes said. The US magazine put her wealth at 16 billion dollars.

Ironically, both lists were issued just days before the opening of the Communist Party's five-yearly Congress, which is expected this year to focus much attention on the growing wealth and income gaps in China.

Hoogewerf, a trained accountant whose Chinese name is Hu Run, previously compiled the Forbes rich list.



PHOTO: BASIC BANK

AH Ekbal Hossain, managing director of BASIC Bank Ltd, presents a key-note paper on 'Obstacles to Development of SMEs: Bangladesh Perspective' at the 2nd International Islamic Economic, Cultural and Tourism Conference recently in Bangkok. Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Thai government jointly organised the conference.



PHOTO: BTI

Real estate company Building Technology & Ideas (BTI) Ltd has recently organised a pre-handover meeting for its housing project 'The Royalty' at Uttara in Dhaka. Chief Operating Officer of the company Md Ahsanul Hoque presided over the meeting, while senior officials were present.

Weekly Currency Roundup

October 7-October 11, 2007

Local FX Market

The US dollar/BDT market was active. USD remained weak against the BDT throughout the week. Demand for dollar was stable in the local market and USD showed downward movement.

Money Market

Overnight money market tightened a little during the week. The call money rate increased a little most of the deals ranged between 7.50 and 12.00 percent near the end of the week.

In the Treasury bill auction held on Sunday, bid for BDT 7,000 mio was accepted. Weighted average yield rose slightly for the 28D category T-Bills, but remained almost unchanged for all other categories of T-Bills.

International Markets

The week began as the dollar gained on Monday against major currencies as last Friday's stronger than expected US jobs report eased worries about a recession in the world's biggest economy. Figures showed the US created 110,000 non agricultural jobs in September, the most since May. The yen in contrast fell to a two and half month lows versus both the dollar and the euro.

In the middle of the week, the dollar firmed further against the euro on Tuesday as it continued to draw support from a more positive US economic outlook and a growing view the Federal Reserve may not cut interest rates later this month. However, the dollar fell 0.2 percent against the yen because of selling by Japanese exporters returning from a three-day weekend. The euro slipped 0.15 percent against the dollar, about two and a half cents below last week's record peak. Tuesday brought a fresh round of comments on the euro's strength from European politicians, with French trade minister Herve Novelli saying the strong currency is undeniably causing problems for the economy and Irish prime minister Bertie Ahern saying that the exchange rate is hurting competitiveness.


By the end of the week however, the euro paired back most of its losses against the dollar and the yen on Thursday. The euro was on track for its largest one-day rise against the yen in nearly two weeks after the BOJ left its benchmark overnight call rate unchanged at 0.5 percent. BOJ Governor Toshihiko Fukui said upward price pressure was gradually rising, but Japanese wages were not rising as much as expected. The euro was up 0.43 percent against the yen, around its highest since late July. The euro also gained 0.4 percent against the dollar. The euro rose by about 1 percent against the dollar in the last three trading sessions as investors continue to price in at least one more US rate cut by the end of the year, even after last Friday's strong jobs data.

- Standard Chartered Bank



PHOTO: GRAMEENPHONE

Arifur Rahman Khan, executive director of Western Marine Services Ltd, and Sajjad Alam, head of Chittagong Division of Grameenphone Ltd, pose for photographs at a corporate agreement signing ceremony recently. As per the deal, the mobile phone operator will provide complete communication facilities under its 'Business Solutions' package for Western Marine.



Viqarunnisa Noon School & College


1/A, New Baily Road
Dhaka-1000
Telephone: 8350500, 9348266, 9333598
E-mail: vnsnc@aitbd.net
Date: 09-10-07

Ref: VNS/62/07

Invitation for Tenders

1.	Procuring entity/execution agency	Viqarunnisa Noon School & College 1/A, New Baily Road, Dhaka-1000.
2.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
3.	Invitation for	Group-1: Construction of vertical extension of existing two-storied building up three-storied (part) (re-tender). Group-2: Repair and renovation work for junior section. Group-3: Repair and renovation work for senior section. Group-4: Repair and renovation work for boundary wall.
4.	Procurement method	Open tendering method.
5.	Source of funds	Viqarunnisa Noon School & College's own fund.
6.	Tender last selling date	08-11-2007.
7.	Tender closing date and time	11-11-2007 at 11:00 am.
8.	Tender opening date and time	11-11-2007 at 11:30 am.
9.	Name & address of the office	- Selling tender document Principal, Viqarunnisa Noon School & College 1/A, New Baily Road, Dhaka-1000. - Receiving tender document - Do- - Opening tender document - Do-
10.	Eligibility of tenderer	This invitation for tenders is open to all eligible tenderers as mentioned below: Group-1: Reputed contractors/construction firms having experience in successful completion of at least 1(one) number of similar building work of value in excess of Tk. 100 (one hundred) lakh in a single tender in govt/semi-govt/autonomous/similar organisation during last 5(five) years. Group-2: Reputed contractors/construction firms having experience in successful completion of at least 1(one) number of similar nature of work of value in excess of Tk 6(six) lakh in a single tender in govt/semi-govt/autonomous/similar organisation during last 5(five) years. Group-3: Reputed contractors/construction firms having experience in successful completion of at least 1(one) number of similar nature of work of value in excess of Tk 6(six) lakh in a single tender in govt/semi-govt/autonomous/similar organisation during last 5(five) years. Group-4: Reputed contractors/construction firms having experience in successful completion of at least 1(one) number of similar nature of work of value in excess of Tk 5 (five) lakh in a single tender in govt/semi-govt/autonomous/similar organisation during last 5(five) years.
11.	Brief description of works	The works consist of civil, sanitary & water supply, electrical and other associated works for Group-1 and repair/renovation work for Group-2, 3 and 4.
12.	Price of tender document	Group-1: Tk 2,000.00 (two thousand only) in cash (non-refundable). Group-2: Tk. 500.00 (five hundred only) in cash (non-refundable). Group-3: Tk. 500.00 (five hundred only) in cash (non-refundable). Group-4: Tk 500.00 (five hundred only) in cash (non-refundable).
13.	Lot No.	Identification of lot
	Group-1	Construction of vertical extension of existing two-storied building up three-storied (part) (re-tender)
	Group-2	Repair and renovation work for junior section
	Group-3	Repair and renovation work for senior section
	Group-4	Repair and renovation work for boundary wall.
		Location
	Group-1	Basundhara, Dhaka
	Group-2	1/A, New Baily Road, Dhaka-1000.
	Group-3	1/A, New Baily Road, Dhaka-1000.
	Group-4	1/A, New Baily Road, Dhaka-1000.
		Tender security amount (Tk)
	Group-1	Tk. 3,00,000.00 (three lakh) only
	Group-2	Tk 18,000.00 (eighteen thousand) only
	Group-3	Tk 18,000.00 (eighteen thousand) only
	Group-4	Tk 13,000.00 (thirteen thousand) only
		Completion time in months
	Group-1	4(four)
	Group-2	2(two)
	Group-3	2(two)
	Group-4	2(two)
14.	Name of official inviting tender	Tahmina Khanam.
15.	Designation of official inviting tender	Principal.
16.	Address of official inviting tender	1/A, New Baily Road, Dhaka-1000.
17.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: No. 8350500, 9348266 Fax No. 9333598 e-mail: vnsnc@aitbd.net
18.	Special conditions	All concreting, fabrication and renovation work to be done after 5:00pm & holiday. Routine school function shall not be disturbed due to construction work for which special measures to be taken.
19.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.	

Tahmina Khanam
Principal
Viqarunnisa Noon School & College



Identify with us!

r-pac (Bangladesh) Limited, a leading supplier of packaging and trimmings to retailers, designers and merchant suppliers invites application for the following positions.

Operation Manager

Main Responsibilities:

- Conduct plant audit to select qualified suppliers for r-pac (Bangladesh) Ltd.
- Support sales teams to execute sales order from inquiry stage to timely delivery
- Oversee product development department to ensure timely sample development/approval, pre-QC for each delivery and proper archive of approved sample/updates
- Settle issues with customers and suppliers such as short qty/quality claim

Experience and Educational qualification

- Have experience in Supply chain management
- Preferably working in renowned packaging/retailing/ buying house at least 5 years as senior merchandiser
- Must have good product knowledge of Hang tag, woven label, Care/size label, printed label, heat transfer, etc and its sourcing.
- Must have good command in English and able to communicate through e-mail with local and international counter-parts
- Preferably MBA.

Product Development Manager - Graphics Printing

Responsibilities:

- Timely sample development and obtain approval from overseas as per sales priority
- Continuously update sales team and supplier for any update and/ or modifications received from overseas.
- Graphics review, cost estimation.
- Mandatory QC before each delivery.
- Proper archive of all approved sample and updates received from overseas time to time.


Experience and Educational qualification

- Must have at least 5 years experience in printing house having experience of Hang tag, printed label, heat transfer production.
- Must have good knowledge to operate graphics/ barcode software such as illustrator, Photoshop, Coral draw, etc. in both Apple/IBM platform.
- Ability to make print production from artwork / physical sample.
- Must have a very good colour sense to identify colour deviation between standard and production and able to rectify it.
- Must have good command in English and able to communicate through e-mail with local and international counter-parts
- Preferably Degree/diploma in Graphics and printing technology.

Position carries attractive compensation package and excellent career progression possibilities.

If you think you are the right person we are looking for, then please send your application along with Resume and a recent passport size colour photos within October 31, 2007 addressing to General Manager, r-pac Bangladesh Limited, The Daily Star, 19 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. Box No. : A-145 or E-mail to shafiqul.azim@r-pac.com.

Position applied for must be mentioned at the top of the envelope.



জনতা ব্যাংক


আমাদের সকল গ্রাহক পৃষ্ঠপোষক ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের জানাই
প ব ি ত্র ঐ দু ল ফি ত রে র শু ভে ছা

প্রবাসী বাংলাদেশীদের উপার্জিত অর্থ দেশে গ্রাহকদের কাছে নিরাপদে পৌঁছে দেয়া ও লাভজনক বিনিয়োগে জনতা ব্যাংক গ্রহণ করেছে আত্মাধুনিক এবং সমন্বিত পদক্ষেপ।

দেশে ও বিদেশে ব্যাংকের সুদায়ক বীজক এবং বাংলাদেশের মধ্যে একমাত্র জনতা ব্যাংক ২০০৩, ২০০৪, ২০০৫, ২০০৬ ও ২০০৭ সালে কৃতিত্বপূর্ণ অবদানের জন্য আন্তর্জাতিক পুরস্কার প্রাপ্ত।

সংযুক্ত আরব আমিরাতে চারটি শাখা এবং ইতালীর রোম ও মিলানে দুটি শাখাসহ অন্যান্য দেশে অবস্থিত ৩৮টি ব্যাংক ও এক্সচেঞ্জ কোম্পানীর মাধ্যমে জনতা ব্যাংকের যে কোন শাখায় দ্রুত অর্থ প্রেরণ করা যায়।

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জনতা ব্যাংক

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