

# AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP

## External Representation Office for Asia

African Development Bank  
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### Press Release

## **African Development Bank 8th President of the AfDB is Elected**

Akinwumi A. Adesina, 55, was elected as the 8th President of the African Development Bank Group on May 28, 2015. The election was held at the Bank's 50 Annual Meetings in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, and was voted by representative of each member country, the Bank's Board of Governors. A total of eight candidatures approved by the Steering Committee of the Board of Governors went through several voting processes, and in the final round, Adesina faced off against Kordje Bedoumra, Chadian Finance Minister, and Cristina Duarte, Cape Verdean Minister of Finance and Planning, and secured 58 percent of the votes. Adesina will succeed Donald Kaberuka as the current President of the Bank and assume office from 1 September 2015 for 5 years.



Adesina obtained his Bachelor's degree (1st Class Honors) in Agricultural Economics at Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria, in 1981. Then he continued his study to achieve Masters and PhD in Agricultural Economics at Purdue University, USA, in 1985 and 1988 respectively. He has been working in both the global society and the African continent, and has 25 years of professional experiences in the field of developmental economy. Between 1995 and 2011, he worked with international institutions addressing issues in agriculture and food security such as the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the West Africa Rice Development Association. He also had been involved in developmental finance in 15 African countries including Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Mozambique, Ghana and Nigeria. Especially in his home country Nigeria, he made significant contribution to Nigerian economy by serving as the Governor of Central Banks and the CEO of the private banks as well as by establishing an innovative private equity fund of USD 100 million to support SMEs in Nigeria in partnership with the German Development Bank (KfW). From 2011, he has been the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Akinwumi A. Adesina succeeds:

Mamoun Beheiry (Sudan), President, African Development Bank, 1964-1970  
Abdelwahab Labidi (Tunisia), President, African Development Bank, 1970-1976  
Kwame Donkor Fordwor (Ghana), African Development Bank, 1976-1980  
Willa Mung'Omba (Zambia), President, African Development Bank, 1980-1985  
Babacar N'diaye (Senegal), President, African Development Bank, 1985-1995  
Omar Kabbaj (Morocco), President, African Development Bank, 1995-2005  
Donald Kaberuka (Rwanda), President, African Development Bank, 2005-present

### More Information :

[AfDB Web-site](#) 

[Article of the President Elect](#) 

[Article of the AfDB's Annual Meeting](#) 

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