

Financial Market Bridging Gap Between Capital Businesses



A call to build trust between available capital and investment opportunities

■ *The maiden edition of Diamond Capital Convention, organised by Almasi Capital & Advisory united banks and financial markets.*

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The financial market faces a major challenge which is connecting available capital with businesses that need funding to invest, grow, and create jobs. It was one of the central issues raised at the first Diamond Capital Convention, which brought together public authorities, financial institutions, businesses, investors, and young people. Despite its potential, the financial market remains difficult to access for many companies. During the event placed under the auspices of the Prime Minister Head of Government, the General Manager of Almasi Capital Advisory, Ingrid Obouh Fegue, underlined

that the complex financial mechanisms, limited knowledge of available instruments, and lack of trust can widen the distance between entrepreneurs and investors, and as a result, capital may be available while viable businesses struggle to secure financing. "Finance must serve the real economy, companies should be able to use the market not only for major transactions, but also to finance investment, support expansion, prepare ownership transfers and scale up their activities," she added. For finance to serve the real economy, financial professionals should improve communication, understand businesses' needs, and develop simpler, more accessible, and tailored financial solutions. On their part, companies need to learn more about the market, clarify their financing needs, and develop bankable projects.

In his opening speech, and on behalf of the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, Louis Paul Motaze, said the Diamond Capital Convention has opened with a strong call for deeper fi-

nancial-market reforms to channel more capital into productive investment across Central Africa. Addressing participants, he stressed that the CEMAC Region has significant economic potential, including entrepreneurs, investment opportunities, and domestic savings. However, financing gaps remain substantial in areas such as infrastructure, industrialisation, energy transition, digital development, raw-material processing, and job creation. He noted that while bank lending remains essential, it cannot meet all the region's long-term financing needs. "A deeper, more liquid and transparent capital market is therefore needed to connect available savings with viable businesses and development projects," he disclosed.

During the event, COSUMAF Boss, Jacqueline Adiaba-Nkembe, reaffirmed their commitment to a weighty, more transparent, and credible capital markets, including reforms to reduce issuance costs, strengthen financial education, and modernise the regulatory framework. ■