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## Governor Anca Dragu had a meeting with Francis Malige, the Managing Director of Financial Institutions for the EBRD

The Governor of the National Bank of Moldova, Anca Dragu, had a meeting with the delegation from the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) led by Francis Malige, the Managing Director of Financial Institutions. The discussions focused on the cooperation of EBRD with the banking sector and crediting stimulation for the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

Topics addressed have covered a broad spectrum of areas, from economic reforms and investment opportunities, to progress in the financial sector, in the context of the accession negotiations of the Republic of Moldova to the European Union.

Governor Anca Dragu characterized the banking sector as a solid and capitalized one, with a high degree of liquidity. At the same time, Mrs. Dragu mentioned that the NBM emphasizes the development of the local capital market, a pillar of the economic development of the Republic of Moldova.

"Investments and reforms are key elements in the EU accession process. That is why the partnership with the EBRD is crucial for supporting reforms and supporting the private sector. The EBRD's investments have the role of catalyzing other significant private investments while naturally complying with governance rules", stated the Governor of the National Bank.

During the meeting, the EBRD representatives presented projects and financial instruments launched to facilitate access to financing for Small and Medium Enterprises. The initiatives aim at reconfiguring crediting portfolios by extending maturity dates and reducing excessive liquidity, as well as achieving objectives to increase sector's competitiveness through a series of technical assistance activities offered in this regard.

The EBRD Board of Directors approved on February 23rd, 2023, the Country Strategy for the Republic of Moldova for the period 2023-2028. One of the strategic priorities is to support the development of a resilient financial infrastructure, by continuing the active political dialogue with other international partners, such as the International Monetary Fund and the European Union, in order to strengthen the financial sector by harmonizing national regulations with European Union standards.











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