



DAILY BRIEF
17 OCTOBER 2026



**THAILAND
2026**

**The 2026 Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group
and Related Meetings**

17 October 2026

Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok

The sixth day of the 2026 Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group, 17 October 2026, at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, featured the policy-level plenary of the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC Plenary) to strengthen global financial stability and resilience, as well as high-level dialogues at the Group of Thirty (G30) Annual International Banking Seminar. In its role as host country, Thailand underscored the imperative of responsible innovation and driving the “Bangkok Blueprint” guiding principles to combat cross-border digital financial fraud effectively. Thailand also presented its strategic host country summary, the “Bangkok Dialogue Notes,” reaffirming its proactive role as a “Trusted Connector.” The key highlights are summarized below:

1. International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) Plenary

The IMF pointed out that economic policymaking in the period ahead should prioritize three core areas: (1) Safeguarding macroeconomic and financial stability by reducing fiscal vulnerabilities and implementing fiscal consolidation amid high public debt levels, alongside monetary policy chiefly focused on price stability, central bank independence, clear communication, and exchange rate flexibility, as well as financial sector supervision covering non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs), digital finance, AI, and cyber threats; (2) Creating private-sector-led growth opportunities through structural economic reforms, promoting competition and access to finance, investing in human capital and workforce skills tailored for the AI era, and developing digital, energy, and climate-resilient infrastructure; and (3) Strengthening international cooperation to resolve global imbalances, ease trade tensions, and address cross-border risks, including highly concentrated AI investment flows. The Bangkok Blueprint was highlighted as a tangible outcome of international cooperation enhancing the effectiveness of combating cross-border digital fraud.

The IMF continues to refine its operational frameworks and policy toolkits to be more agile, targeted, and calibrated to member countries' specific risks and contexts. This encompasses



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macroeconomic surveillance, financial sector assessments, external stability and debt sustainability analyses, as well as capacity development and lending program design to help members navigate uncertainty and build long-term resilience.

A broad consensus among members concurred with the IMF that the global economy continues to face elevated uncertainty. Priority must therefore be given to maintaining macroeconomic stability, rebuilding policy buffers, pursuing productivity-enhancing structural reforms, and leveraging AI while managing its risks. Members supported the implementation of IMF policy reviews, strengthening its analytical work on global imbalances and cross-border spillovers, and advancing quota and governance reforms.

2. G30 41st Annual International Banking Seminar

Mr. Vitai Ratanakorn, Governor of the Bank of Thailand (BOT), delivered the opening address at the 41st Annual International Banking Seminar, co-hosted by the BOT and the Group of Thirty (G30)—a consultative group of international economic and financial leaders comprising central bank governors, policymakers, financial sector leaders, and academics. Convening under the theme “Balancing Financial Innovation and Stability in Modern Digital Finance,” the seminar gathered representatives from the public, private, and academic sectors worldwide to explore how to strike a balance between financial innovation and systemic stability in the digital era.

Mr. Vitai emphasized the vital importance of a responsible innovation framework, stating that promoting innovation to tailor financial services to diverse consumer needs must go hand in hand with secure, reliable technology and effective oversight. This ensures that digital financial systems remain safe, inclusive, while also instilling public trust. The principle served as the catalyst for the IMF, the World Bank Group, and the BOT to jointly launch the Bangkok Blueprint to tackle digital financial crimes, offering adaptable guiding principles for jurisdictions globally.

Participants agreed that while AI and financial innovation can enhance economic productivity and financial sector efficiency, they also introduce novel risks and may alter monetary policy transmission channels. Regulatory and supervisory frameworks must therefore adapt dynamically to emerging risks, supported by reinforced international cooperation to foster safe, resilient digital financial systems.

3. “Low Carbon Cities and Energy Security – Building System at Scale, Mobilizing Private Capital, Creating Jobs”

Dr. Ekniti Nitithanprapas, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, and Ajay Banga, President of the World Bank Group, exchanged perspectives on steering Thailand toward a low-carbon economy under the topic of “Low Carbon Cities and Energy Security – Building System at Scale, Mobilizing Private Capital, Creating Jobs.” The discussion underscored the central role of financial mechanisms and market-based solutions in mobilizing green investments, crowding in private capital, and enhancing national competitiveness.

The Thai government is committed to climate mitigation in alignment with its commitments under the UNFCCC, the Paris Agreement, and its targets for carbon neutrality and net-zero greenhouse gas emissions, placing high priority on public-private-philanthropic partnerships with the World Bank to mobilize capital and scale environmental investments broadly. The Ministry of Finance has championed carbon credit transactions through the Low Carbon Cities and Carbon Market Development (LCC) initiative to establish a transparent, verifiable carbon trading mechanism aligned with international standards.

The Export-Import Bank of Thailand (EXIM Thailand) secured a USD 200 million loan facility from the World Bank, guaranteed by the Ministry of Finance, to support Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) investing in clean energy and energy efficiency enhancements across public sector assets. This prepares both the public and private sectors to navigate the low-carbon transition today (Transition Now) and align with global trading standards and technologies. Krungthai Bank PCL will facilitate mechanisms to aggregate, verify, and monetize greenhouse gas reductions, channeling high-integrity carbon credits to the market, supporting international-standard price discovery, and connecting domestic and international buyers and sellers.

The event also showcased progress across three key partnerships bridging private sector readiness, carbon market development, and industrial decarbonization:

1. Cooperation between Krungthai Bank and the Department of Climate Change and Environment to study financing mechanisms and carbon markets, assisting businesses—especially SMEs—in adopting new standards and technologies while mitigating workforce and industrial impacts to ensure a just transition.

2. Development of carbon credits under the LCC initiative, with Krungthai Bank aggregating credits and facilitating buyer connections, while the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) develops a transparent auction and price discovery platform, with Grab, ACEIS Electric and Power Co., Ltd., and DriverAI expressing interest as prospective anchor buyers to stimulate demand and drive clean energy investments. Carbon credits must undergo rigorous third-party verification and formal issuance prior to transaction.
3. Collaboration between PTT Public Company Limited, Krungthai Bank, and the Department of Climate Change and Environment to structure Blended Finance mechanisms for the I-SPARK low-carbon industrial platform in Map Ta Phut, Rayong. This aims to attract private capital into low-carbon energy, shared infrastructure, and circular, bio-based specialty industries, while exploring integration with the LCC initiative to leverage carbon market instruments.

These initiatives align with the national policy of using financial instruments to drive economic structural transformation. The public sector and international financial institutions play a catalytic role in reducing market barriers and establishing necessary financial infrastructure, paving the way for the private sector and capital markets to scale up investments once standardized benchmarks, credible data, and clear risk-return profiles are in place.

These financial mechanisms will accelerate Thailand's transition to a low-carbon economy, generating economic value—lowering energy costs, creating quality jobs, and scaling new business ventures—all vital engines for national competitiveness and sustainable growth.

4. Bilateral Meetings

Dr. Ekniti Nitithanprapas, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, held bilateral meetings with ministerial counterparts and executives of international financial institutions as follows:

4.1 Paul Chan Mo-po, Financial Secretary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China, to promote economic, financial, and investment cooperation. The discussion focused on linking investments with capital markets to unlock opportunities in advanced technology industries and strengthen supply chain integration between China and ASEAN. They explored collaboration between the Board of Investment (BOI) and capital markets to facilitate

initial public offerings (IPOs) for BOI-promoted enterprises, particularly in healthcare and medical services, smart agriculture, and food sectors.

Both sides also discussed pathways for dual listings, enabling Thai firms to list on both the Stock Exchange of Thailand and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange to diversify funding channels and access international investor pools. Financial Secretary Paul Chan invited the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance to attend the 33rd APEC Finance Ministers' Meeting on 21–22 October 2026 in Hong Kong to continue regional economic and financial cooperation.

4.2 Capital Group, exchanging perspectives on retirement savings frameworks, particularly the development of long-term investment solutions and Target Date Funds commonly utilized in the United States, alongside exchanging views on ways to develop Thailand's retirement savings system. The dialogue supports Thailand's economic policies prioritizing long-term household savings and the development of Thailand Individual Savings Accounts (TISA) to broaden investment choices, bolster post-retirement financial security, and deepen the domestic capital market.

4.3 Ladislav Kamenický, Minister of Finance of the Slovak Republic, to advance bilateral economic, fiscal, trade, and investment ties. A central priority was exploring a Double Taxation Agreement (DTA) to remove fiscal hurdles for enterprises and investors, prevent tax evasion, and provide legal certainty for cross-border operations, thereby enhancing investor confidence and boosting bilateral trade—particularly in the automotive and high-tech sectors where both countries hold complementary manufacturing supply chains.

The ministers also reviewed the progress of Thailand–EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations to widen market access and exchanged experiences regarding economic and fiscal policy alignment with standards of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). As Thailand is currently undergoing technical accession reviews spanning public finance, financial markets, and corporate governance, Slovakia's experience as an OECD member will provide valuable insights for Thailand's preparations and strengthen long-term economic ties with the European Union.

The day additionally featured diverse multi-dimensional discussions and side events, including the press conference on “Bangkok Dialogue Notes: Host Country Reflection and Contributions to



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the Global Dialogue,” panel sessions on “Pension Fund Reforms and Investment Strategies for Domestic Investments,” and the IMFC Press Briefing. Official updates and recordings are available at www.am2026thailand.go.th and on Facebook: AM2026 Thailand.