



## Press Release – Guinea-Bissau: Implementing a Blockchain Solution to Improve Wage Bill Management

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Bissau – May 8, 2023:** A technical assistance mission led by Concha Verdugo Yepes (IMF African Department) held meetings in Bissau during April 25–May 2, 2023, to discuss progress made in the implementation of a blockchain solution to improve the transparency of the wage bill management in Guinea-Bissau.

At the end of the mission, Ms. Concha Verdugo Yepes made the following statement:

“We had very fruitful exchanges during the mission that allowed to assess the good progress made and to agree on the next steps. These include the testing, the rolling out, and ultimately the scaling up of the solution to additional public administrations and agencies, based on lessons learnt from the pilot phase. The interest and likely involvement of the Ministries of the Interior, Health, and Education were confirmed. The project is supported by some other international development partners.

“We thank the authorities for their openness and very constructive discussions. It looks forward to the actual implementation of the project under continuous cooperation. The expected timeline for the finalization of the solution at the Ministries of Finance and Public Administration is end-September 2023.”

The project aims to create a single record for wage bill -related data, protect the integrity of the data, and monitor in real time the eligibility, budgeting, approval of payments, and the final disbursement of public wages. It also detects data inconsistencies and produces almost real time fiscal reports.

The project was designed in June 2020 after being chosen as one of the [winners of the IMF's Anti-Corruption Challenge](#). It was effectively launched in late 2021 when the authorities partnered with the IMF, Ernst and Young, and the UNDP. It currently mainly involves the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Public administration.