Sub-Saharan Africa is currently witnessing a period of strong growth. While this is partly due to positive terms-of-trade developments, oil importers are also growing robustly. The key now is to sustain the recent growth momentum, something the region has been unable to do in the past. A more stable political climate should help sustain high growth rates.

Sources: Berg, Ostry, and Zettelmeyer (2006); and IMF staff calculations.

1AE: advanced economies; DA: developing Asia; LA: Latin America; SSA: sub-Saharan Africa; ODE: other developing economies.

2From Berg, Ostry, and Zettelmeyer (2006). A growth spell is defined as a statistically significant upbreak in growth followed by a period during which per capita growth averages at least 2 percent.