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## **PM GAKHARIA DISCUSSES GEORGIAN ECONOMY, FUTURE GOALS WITH WORLD BANK OFFICIAL**

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Georgian Prime Minister Giorgi Gakharia and Regional Director of the World Bank for the South Caucasus Sebastian Molineus have discussed cooperation between Georgia and the World Bank along with an action plan for vaccination, the European integration of the country and structural reform agenda, announces the government of Georgia.

In his post on Twitter, Gakharia wrote that "we have a comprehensive plan and vision to move forward".

At the meeting held on January 18, Molineus confirmed the readiness of the World Bank to support the country in its European integration with the prime goal of the government of Georgia of making an official application for EU membership in 2024.

The World Bank stands ready to continue delivering its support towards developing the infrastructure connecting Georgia with the EU, including the implementation of regional projects of strategic importance. At the same time, the World Bank intends to enable the government effort towards Covid vaccination", reads the press-release published by the government of Georgia.

At the meeting Gakharia noted that recent programmes of the World Bank have led to reforms such as the pension system, deposit insurance, development of the capital market and public-private partnerships.

Discussions were also related to the upcoming phases of citizen and business support in relation to the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic.

The World Bank has one of the most diversified investment portfolios in Georgia, with over \$2.7 billion invested so far.

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