

Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Challenges Facing Global Economic Development with the President of the World Bank, Robert Zoellick

From tensions over trade balances and currency valuations to the sharp economic disparities between rich and poor countries, global economic development continues to face enormous challenges. One of the country's most important figures in the global economy, [Robert Zoellick](http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTABOUTUS/ORGANIZATION/EXTPRESIDENT2007/0,,contentMDK%3A21394208~menuPK%3A64822289~pagePK%3A64821878~piPK%3A64821912~theSitePK%3A3916065,00.html) (<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTABOUTUS/ORGANIZATION/EXTPRESIDENT2007/0,,contentMDK%3A21394208~menuPK%3A64822289~pagePK%3A64821878~piPK%3A64821912~theSitePK%3A3916065,00.html>), president of the World Bank, discussed the current policy response to these challenges. Former Congressman [Vin Weber](/directory/vin-weber) (</directory/vin-weber>) moderated the discussion.



ROBERT ZOELICK

Robert Zoellick is the current president of the World Bank, a position he has held since July of 2007. Mr. Zoellick has served in various positions throughout his career, including Managing Director of Goldman Sachs, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, and U.S. Trade Representative. From 1985 to 1988, Zoellick served in various positions at the Department of Treasury, including Counselor to Secretary James Baker, Executive Secretary of the Department, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Financial Institutions Policy. In August 1992, Zoellick was appointed White House Deputy Chief of Staff and Assistant to the President. Mr. Zoellick was also appointed Bush's personal representative for the G7 Economic Summits in 1991 and 1992.

From 1993 to 1997, Zoellick served as an Executive Vice President of Fannie Mae. Afterwards, Zoellick was appointed as the John M. Olin Professor of National Security at the U.S. Naval Academy (1997 — 98), Research Scholar at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, and Senior International Advisor to

Goldman Sachs. From 2001 to 2005, Mr. Zoellick served as U.S. Trade Representative and from 2005-2006, he served as Deputy Secretary of State. He then took office as President of the World Bank on July 1, 2007. Mr. Zoellick graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Swarthmore College in 1975. He earned a J.D. magna cum laude from the Harvard Law School and a MPP (focusing on public management and international issues, especially economics) from the Kennedy School of Government in 1981. He lived in Hong Kong on a fellowship in 1980.



VIN WEBER

Vin Weber is a senior fellow at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs. He is also actively involved in the Humphrey School Policy Fellows program. He served in Congress from 1981 to 1993, representing Minnesota's Second Congressional District. He is a partner at Clark & Weinstock, a consulting firm that provides strategic advice to institutions with matters before the legislative and executive branches of the federal government. Prior to opening Clark & Weinstock's Washington office in 1994, Weber was president — and co-director with Jack Kemp, Jeane Kirkpatrick and Bill Bennett — of Empower America, a public policy advocacy group.

From 2001-2010, he served as chairman of the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), a private, nonprofit organization designed to strengthen democratic institutions around the world through nongovernmental efforts.

Weber is a regular commentator on National Public Radio and is often sought as a political analyst for network programs such as CNN's *Capital Gang*.

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December 1, 2010

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

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