

## Foreword

**T**his edition of the Development Cooperation Report marks 45 years of this publication. Those involved in the 1960 Report, notably my distinguished predecessor, James W. Riddleberger, might well be disappointed that such a publication remains necessary. However, while the challenge of ending extreme poverty remains a daunting one, 2005 has perhaps shown that world leaders are increasingly serious in making it a real political priority. As this report argues, we may as a result be seeing an increasingly purposive joint enterprise to accelerate progress in tackling levels of deprivation and inequality that the world can no longer accept.

Certainly, the Development Assistance Committee has been working at full throttle through the year on many aspects of the *problematique* of development. This report gives an insight into some of the big and intractable issues that members have been working together to address. These range from seeking to establish common ways of thinking about how to stimulate growth that really translates into better lives for poor people, to the concerted attempt to improve the way donors deliver their programmes. As always, this is complemented by a full treatment of the statistics of aid, reflecting the DAC's role in accounting transparently for the activities of its members.

The high profile of aid and development issues in 2005 makes it all the more necessary for the DAC collectively, as well as its members individually, to be open and responsive to the interest of the public. I hope that this report will help to deliver on this commitment.

The past year has imposed huge pressures on the Secretariat. I am once again very impressed by the dedication of staff at all levels to ensuring that the Committee and its subsidiary bodies are able to operate productively. And a special word of thanks to all the individuals, from DAC delegates to Chairs of Working Parties and Networks, Bureau members and those who put time and effort into Task Teams, who have been prepared to go the extra mile on top of busy regular jobs to enable the Committee to achieve results.

Richard Manning  
DAC Chair



### Acknowledgements

Main authors and contributors to this year's report were: Yasmin Ahmad, Hilary Balbuena, Julia Benn, Elena Bernaldo, Richard Carey, Jeanette Dargaville, Ben Dickinson, Ebba Dohlman, Valérie Gaveau, Brian Hammond, Jim Hradsky, Michael Laird, Caroline Lesser, Richard Manning, Hunter McGill, Carola Miras, Bathylle Missika, Simon Mizrahi, Aimée Nichols, Marjolaine Nicod, Bill Nicol, Josephine Pagani, Madeleine Paris, Rudolphe Petras, Michael Roeskau, Simon Scott, Jens Sedemund, Mikael Soderback, Elisabeth Thioleron, Chantal Verger, Michelle Weston, Ann Zimmerman.

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