



ROOM DOCUMENT NO. 1

DAC WORKING PARTY ON AID EVALUATION

LESSONS LEARNED IN DONOR SUPPORT TO DECENTRALISATION AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Submitted by the German Ministry for Economic
Co-operation and Development (BMZ)

Agenda item 2 i

35th meeting
14-15 November 2001

Lessons Learned in Donor Support to Decentralisation and Local Governance

The work on lessons learned in supporting decentralisation and local governance which was approved by the Working Party on Aid Evaluation as part of its work programme 2001 - 2002, was launched with a meeting of the Steering Group at UNDP Headquarters in New York on 4 September, 2001.

Members of the Steering Group discussed the proposals for work which had been submitted by four consultants/institutes from Germany, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom in response to the call issued by the Secretariat on 6 July 2001. Based on a set of criteria agreed beforehand¹, the Steering Group unanimously decided to award the contract to the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR) in Oslo, particularly on the ground of their proposal's originality, critical reflection of the issues involved and innovative thinking in approaching the work required.

Since September, NIBR has been active in scoping the work and in developing its proposals further. It will present an inception/progress report for discussion to the Steering Group, which will meet in the afternoon of Thursday, 15 November, immediately following the end of the meeting of the Working Party on Aid Evaluation.

During the Steering Group meeting in New York in September, it was also underlined that close co-ordination should be ensured between this work and that of GOVNET so as to strive towards maximum synergies and to avoid duplication of effort. One of the proposals made to this end would be a joint workshop between the Working Party on Aid Evaluation and GOVNET in June 2002 to discuss the findings of the work carried out by NIBR and the lessons learned in supporting decentralisation and local governance.

It is envisaged, that NIBR will present the draft report on its work at the next meeting of the Working Party on Aid Evaluation in May 2002, with a view to finalising it in the light of comments received from the Working Party in May and the joint workshop with GOVNET in June in time for the 37th meeting of the Working Party on Aid Evaluation in early December, 2001.

¹ The criteria comprised eight categories: comprehension of task to be performed; clearness and completeness of proposal for work; proposed work plan; innovative approaches and ideas; qualification of consultant; proposed budget; timing; report.