Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Economiques
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DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

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DAC Network on Development Evaluation

DRAFT AGENDA OF THE FOURTH MEETING

This meeting is to be held in the Salle des Nations, Tour Europe, OECD, La Defense

30 - 31 March 2006

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Thursday 30 March, starting at 9.30	**Friday 31 March, starting at 9.30**
I. Opening Session i) Chair's introduction and brief presentations of new members ii) Adoption of Summary Record of 3rd meeting iii) Adoption of the Agenda for the meeting **II. Finalising work** i) General Budget Support – towards dissemination ii) Evaluation Systems and Use iii) Guidance on Joint Evaluations For approval for a trial period: iv) Evaluation Quality Standards *Coffee Break* **III. Results of the survey of members and the DAC work programme for 2007-08** i) Members' responses to the mini-questionnaire ii) DAC programme of work and budget 2007-08	. **V Evaluation methods and norms** i) Impact Evaluation ii) Peer assessment of multilateral institutions iii) Strengthening evaluation knowledge sharing - brief status report on DEReC **VI. Partnerships and forthcoming events** i) Joint meeting with UNEG and possible next steps ii) Update on work by ECG iii) 3rd Roundtable on Results iv) African Evaluation Association Conference, January 2007 v) Results of 5th ODA Tokyo Evaluation conference on capacity development **VII. Informal exchange** Further open exchange of experiences and ideas, continuing over a sandwich lunch with the meeting expected to close around 15h00.
13h00-14h30: Lunch	
Thursday 30 March, Afternoon **IV. Evaluating the effectiveness of aid** i) Evaluation follow-up to the Paris Declaration ii) Update on evaluating total ODA at the Country Level iii) Conflict Prevention and Peace Building	

GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

Please note that the meeting will be held at OECD offices, Tour Europe, 33 Place des Corolles, La Défense (not at the usual location at OECD Headquarters which is undergoing reconstruction).

Participants should confirm their participation with the Secretariat as soon as possible (michelle.weston@oecd.org and Nathalie.bienvenu@oecd.org) to ensure that security badges are prepared in advance.

ANNOTATIONS

Item I. Opening Session

Following introductory comments by the Chair, new members of the Network will be invited to briefly present themselves.

Item II. Finalising Work

i) General Budget Support – towards dissemination

The UK will update members on the current situation and on plans for the dissemination conference to be held at the OECD on 9-10 May 2006.

ii) Evaluation Systems and Use

The Secretariat will give a brief information update on the assessment tool which has been finalised and is now being used in DAC Peer Reviews.

iii) Guidance on Joint Evaluations

The review of "Joint Evaluations: Recent Experiences, Lessons Learned and Options for the Future" (Horst Breier's paper) has been completed and issued as an Evaluation Network working paper. Following a request from members at the previous meeting of the Network, the Secretariat has developed a briefer and complementary note "Guidance for Managing Effective Joint Evaluations". The practical guidance is based on the findings and recommendations in the working paper and has been developed with inputs and feedback from Network members and partners. Any further written comments can be provided by 14 April.

iv) Evaluation Quality Standards

The task team led by Australia and Denmark has consulted, over an extended period, with both members and non members on key elements for the DAC Evaluation Quality Standards. A final version is now submitted to the Network, intended for application during a three year "test period" by volunteer agencies.

Item III. Results of the survey of members and the DAC work programme for 2007-08

i) The Secretariat will make a brief presentation on members' responses to the recent mini-questionnaire to which 27 members responded.

ii) An update will be given on the ongoing process of prioritisation in the context of the development of the overall DAC programme of work and budget for 2007-08. This process is also likely to have implications for the future configuration of DAC Networks.

Item IV. Evaluating the Effectiveness of Aid

i) Evaluation follow-up to the Paris Declaration

The draft options paper will be presented by the consultant (ODI) and members will be invited to provide advice on its further development and to decide on an overall way forward. The current task team may need to be expanded to take forward joint work.

ii) Update on evaluating total ODA at the country level

Sweden will provide an update following the workshop held last autumn in Stockholm.

iii) Evaluating conflict prevention and peace building programmes

Update by Norway on this joint work with the DAC Network on Conflict, Peace and Development Co-operation.

Item V. Evaluation methods and norms

i) Impact evaluation

Following the discussions at the previous Network meeting the World Bank has prepared, in collaboration with the Secretariat, a paper which situates the impact evaluation debate and suggests some issues for discussion by the Network.

The Chair will also report on the work of the "Cedergren-group" which has been set up to take forward the international discussion on impact evaluation including the recent report by the Center for Global Development.

ii) Peer assessment of multilateral institutions

The peer assessment on the performance of UNDP's evaluation function has been completed and Denmark, as team leader, and UNDP will report on their experiences with the new approach. Canada is leading a similar exercise with UNICEF and will be invited to provide some highlights of this ongoing assessment.

Members are invited to consider appropriate next steps.

iii) Strengthening evaluation knowledge sharing with a brief status report on DEReC

At the last meeting, members welcomed the launch of the new open-access website and requested the Secretariat to also develop a complementary and searchable database containing members' evaluation reports. Accordingly, the DAC Evaluation Resource Centre (DEReC) was launched in November 2005. The Secretariat will make a brief presentation of DEReC and invite suggestions on how to further develop this service and to make it as useful as possible to members and the wider development community.

Item VI. Partnerships and Forthcoming Events

i) Joint meeting with UNEG and possible next steps

This agenda item is intended to take stock of the joint UNDG/ DAC Network meeting held on 29 March 2006 and to consider possible follow up action.

ii) Update on work by ECG

The Asian Development Bank, as Chair of the Evaluation Co-operation Group of the MDBs, will provide highlights of the ECG meeting which took place on 27-28 March 2006.

iii) 3rd Roundtable on Results

A third Roundtable for Results is under preparation by the DAC Joint Venture on Managing for Development Results (a sub-group of the DAC Working Party on Aid Effectiveness). The Secretariat will brief Network members on the latest developments. Members are invited to consider how evaluation, and a Network input, could contribute to make the event as useful as possible, including with possible Network representation in the preparatory task team for the roundtable.

iv) African Evaluation Association Conference in January 2007

The Chair of AfREA will be invited to brief members on the plans for the next AfREA conference which is scheduled for January 2007 in Niger.

v) 5th ODA Tokyo Evaluation Conference on Capacity Development

Japan hosted the 5th ODA Evaluation conference in January 2006 and will provide highlights of the results of the conference based on the Chair's summary.

A number of the above agenda items indicate the importance of evaluation capacity development. This is an integral part of the mandate of the Network and a key aspect of the future agenda for evaluation, in line with commitments set out in the Paris Declaration. Members may wish to discuss how the Network can contribute to the "change agenda" and to strengthening capacity development. One possible option is to set up a small informal task team of interested members to take forward work, and to consider how evaluation capacity dimensions can be integrated across the work streams of the Network.

Item VII. Informal exchange

This agenda item is to facilitate further open exchange of information and ideas. This will include a presentation/discussion on evaluation of global programmes by the World Bank, a presentation of an impact evaluation method by JBIC, ideas on possible new work on Voice and Accountability by the UK, and a brief on the Tsunami Evaluation coalition by Denmark. Members are invited to raise other issues and suggestions but not to plan for long presentations as to enable interaction among all participants. The discussion is planned to continue over an informal sandwich lunch and the meeting to close around 15h00.