

**Unclassified**

**DCD/DAC/GEN/M(2007)1/PROV**



Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Economiques  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

**23-Jul-2007**

**English - Or. English**

**DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE  
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE**

**DCD/DAC/GEN/M(2007)1/PROV  
Unclassified**

## **DAC Network on Gender Equality**

### **SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE DAC NETWORK ON GENDER EQUALITY**

**27-29 June 2007**

Contact:

Patti O'Neill: tel: +33 1 45 24 18 87, (patti.oneill@oecd.org);

Jenny Hedman: tel: +33 1 45 24 98 61 (jenny.hedman@oecd.org)

**JT03230478**

Document complet disponible sur OLIS dans son format d'origine  
Complete document available on OLIS in its original format

**English - Or. English**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE DAC NETWORK ON GENDER EQUALITY 27-29 JUNE 2007 .....	3
1. Opening Session .....	3
2. Workshop on scaling up for women’s empowerment and rights from a donor perspective - why, how and where do we invest in gender equality and women’s empowerment? .....	3
Session 1: Setting the scene - overview .....	4
Session 2: Government to Government.....	5
Session 3: Non-state actors .....	6
Session 4: Panel discussion to wrap-up the Workshop .....	7
3. Information item: “Delivering as one”, UN reform.....	8
4. Work programme.....	8
Brief reports from members and observers on their current key priorities and activities .....	8
Updates on completing the 2005-06 programme of work.....	8
Progress reports on the 2007-08 work programme .....	9
5. Election of the Chair and Bureau.....	11
PARTICIPANTS LIST FOR DAC NETWORK ON GENDER EQUALITY	<b>ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.</b>

## SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE DAC NETWORK ON GENDER EQUALITY

27-29 JUNE 2007

### 1. Opening Session

1. **The Chair**, Ms. To Tjoelker (Netherlands) opened the meeting by reminding participants of the mandate of the DAC Network on Gender Equality. The Network contributes to improving the quality and effectiveness of development co-operation and provides members with a unique forum for sharing experience and stimulating fresh thinking on the integration of gender equality perspectives and women's empowerment into development co-operation.

2. **Mr. Richard Manning** (Chair of the OECD Development Assistance Committee) set out the broader context in which the DAC and its subsidiary bodies operate. He noted that most parts of the world are still off track in reaching the Millennium Development Goals and that aid flows are diversifying, with non-DAC donors and private foundations entering the scene. He emphasised the importance of incorporating gender equality and women's empowerment into aid programmes as a means of strengthening ownership and local accountability and ensuring more effective delivery on the ground.

3. **Mr. Jeroen Verheul** (DAC facilitator for the GENDERNET and the Netherlands' representative to the DAC) explained that the system of DAC facilitators has been set up to improve information flows, reinforce the links between the DAC and its subsidiary bodies and identify potential synergies between the subsidiary bodies.

4. Mr. Verheul encouraged Network members to reflect on how to approach those topics which are priorities for the DAC: (i) empowerment and mutual accountability. Links could be made to the work of the Network on Poverty Reduction (POVNET) and the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness's (WP-EFF) Joint Ventures on Managing for Development Results, Procurement and Public Financial Management, (ii) the aid effectiveness and scaling up agendas, (iii) dealing effectively with *all* "cross-cutting" issues in the changing aid environment, (iv) capacity development, and (v) disseminating and implementing DAC products.

### 2. Workshop on scaling up for women's empowerment and rights from a donor perspective - why, how and where do we invest in gender equality and women's empowerment?

5. **The Chair** outlined the overall objectives of the workshop as: learning from the research on both "scaling up for results" and on sources of funding, deepening knowledge on the application of public financial management tools and emerging aid modalities, and learning about and exploring new ways of funding gender equality, women's empowerment and rights.

*Session 1: Setting the scene - overview*

6. **Ms. Julia Benn** (Principal Administrator, Statistics and Monitoring Division, Development Co-operation Directorate) explained that the DAC Secretariat will undertake a survey of donors' forward spending plans to track progress and identify opportunities for scaling up for better results. Specific opportunities for members of the GENDERNET to become involved in the work on scaling up include collaboration with the informal group of DAC members, lead by DFID, which is examining the effectiveness of multilateral agencies, and with the Results, Resources and Partnerships (RRP) process in Ghana and Tanzania, led by the Netherlands and Sweden. The RRP process is identifying opportunities for scaling up.

7. Ms. Benn also reported on the discussion at the meeting of the Working Party on Statistics (11-12 June 2007) about applying the Gender Equality Policy Marker to budget support. It is impossible at this stage to ensure comparable international reporting due to the difficulties with assessing how a particular budget support contribution targets gender equality and women's empowerment. However, the United Kingdom has initiated a dialogue on the allocation of general budget support by sector and policy objective.

8. **Ms. Ineke van de Pol**, Chair of the task team on aid effectiveness (Netherlands) and **Ms. Lina Neeb** (Belgium) outlined the outcomes of the *Workshop on Development Effectiveness in Practice - Applying the Paris Declaration to Advancing Gender Equality, Environmental Sustainability and Human Rights* (Dublin 26-27 April 2007), organised by the DAC Networks on Environment and Development, Governance, and Gender Equality and the WP-EFF. Drawing from country case studies, the workshop concluded that gender equality, human rights and environmental sustainability:

- are fundamental cornerstones for achieving good development results
- can be advanced through implementing the principles and partnership commitments of the Paris Declaration and
- must be harnessed to advance the implementation of the *Declaration*.

(See DCD/DAC(2007)40 and [www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/inpractice](http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/inpractice) for the meeting report and workshop presentations)

9. **Ms. Rosalind Eyben** (Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex) reported on progress on the research consortium - *Pathways of Women's Empowerment*. The research is underpinned by the assumption that state and civil society are interconnected, rather than the state being perceived as an autonomous entity. Based on this thinking, Ms Eyben suggested ways for donors to work beyond supporting civil society exclusively as a "watchdog of the state", including: financing those working to change *societal relations*, supporting CSOs in improving *their own governance* in relation to gender equality, supporting groups working across the state/society boundaries by creating a neutral space to meet, and supporting women's representation and voice in *political parties*.

10. **Ms. Lydia Alpizar Duran** (Executive Director of the Association of Women's Rights in Development, AWID) presented AWID's Second Fundher Report - *Financial Sustainability for Women's Movements Worldwide* - which focuses on the growth of women's organisations, analyses the sources of funding for women's rights, and sets out strategies to mobilise new resources. The report provides key findings of a survey of organisations working for the rights of women, including that: most women's organisations are small - two-thirds of the survey sample have annual budgets of less than USD 50 000; in 2005, 729 women's organisations worldwide had a collective income of only USD 79 million; more than

half of the survey respondents feel that it has become more difficult in the last five years to raise funds; and, on average, organisations say they would need twice their budget to do all they would have wished to in 2006.

## ***Session 2: Government to Government***

***Session Chair:*** Ms. Katherine Blakeslee (United States).

11. **Ms. Katrin Schneider** (GTZ consultant) emphasised that gender responsive budgeting is not a sufficient strategy on its own but needs to be closely linked to public financial management (PFM) processes. She encouraged gender equality advisors to work closely with colleagues working on PFM and suggested a set of strategies for donors, including: earmarking money to gender equality and women's empowerment, treating gender equality as a sector, developing and applying gender equality indicators, and considering gender equality from the revenue side (i.e. taxation issues).

12. **Mr. Mark van den Boogaard** (Netherlands) provided reflections on the integration of gender equality and women's empowerment into country-owned performance assessment frameworks for general budget support and stressed the importance of indicators in this context. Effective strategies to ensure that gender perspectives are considered in such frameworks include policy dialogue, the identification of allies and "speaking the right language".

13. **Ms. Sarojini Ganju Thakur** (Commonwealth Secretariat) presented the outcomes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Women's Affairs Ministers Meeting on *Financing gender equality for development and democracy* (Kampala, June 2007). Key messages related to the need for significant scaling up of resources, increased accountability and the continuation of a twin-track approach of gender mainstreaming and specific interventions. Ministers concluded that gender equality is not only smart economics but also a human right.

14. **Mr. Gerard Howe** (United Kingdom) concluded that *we know too little* about the relations between general budget support and gender equality and women's empowerment. He encouraged members to rectify this by gathering evidence on how gender equality and women's empowerment shapes budget support, and vice versa.

15. **Ms. Patricia McCullagh** (Canada) led a question and answer session with **Ms. Virginia Seitz** (Millennium Challenge Corporation, United States), **Mr. Mark van den Boogaard** (Netherlands) and **Ms. Celeste Kinsey** (Canada) and. It was noted that donors' instruments need to be adjusted to encourage the integration of gender equality and women's empowerment dimensions, and that policy dialogue on these issues has to take place at a strategic level.

16. **Participants** emphasised the need to make greater use of emergent opportunities. Although Parliamentary processes provide entry points for gender equality and women's empowerment, donors need to be careful not to undermine the partner government. Mr. Verheul proposed a set of reasons why the evidence-policy gap still exists including: an overload of development priorities, lack of communication between donors' headquarters and field offices, and the lack of monitoring mechanisms for guidelines. He noted that indicators to measure change and peer pressure at field level are effective strategies to close the gap.

17. **The session rapporteur** (Ms. Dorthea Damkjaer, Denmark) concluded by suggesting entry points for different actors to take up gender equality considerations in the context of scaling up aid for better results, including:

- for gender equality advisors – to communicate with each other and form alliances with colleagues working on public financial management, and to learn “to speak the language”
- for donors at headquarters level – to carry out conceptual work on gender equality and gender responsive budgeting, and establish partnerships with other donors to facilitate the division of labour
- for donors at country level – to earmark money to gender equality and women’s empowerment; to treat gender equality as a sector; to develop and apply gender equality indicators; to use sex-disaggregated statistics, to take account of the dimensions of the revenue side; to promote capacity development; and engage in participatory dialogue
- for the DAC Network on Gender Equality – to monitor ongoing DAC work on public financial management through the task team on aid effectiveness.

### *Session 3: Non-state actors*

*Session Chair: Ms. Angela Langenkamp (Germany)*

18. **Ms. Carol Hannon** (Ireland) presented Irish Aid’s approach to funding non-governmental organisations. Ireland has established a Multi Annual Programme Scheme, which provides long-term funding to Irish-based NGOs which enables organisations to use programmatic approaches. In addition a Civil Society Fund, designed to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, has replaced a number of previously disparate funds.

19. **Ms. Ireen Dubel** (Alliance 2015 and HIVOS) explained that HIVOS is an international non-governmental organisation funded mainly by the Dutch government and working with locally-based civil society organisations. The organisation is a member of Alliance 2015, a group of six European international non-governmental organisations supporting the MDG agenda.

20. **Ms. Jessica Horn** (Sigrid Rausing Trust) described the work of the Sigrid Rausing Trust, one of an increasing number of private development actors. The Trust provides long-term core grants to not-for-profit organisations working on human rights to sustain the organisations and encourage innovation, as well as small grants to help build social movements.

21. Ms. Horn defined the niche roles of private philanthropy as contributing a civil society response which can reinforce accountability, encouraging innovation and new thinking, and piloting models that can be taken to scale. Challenges for private actors include the volume of funding requests from organisations and the harsh NGO laws in certain partner countries.

22. **Ms. Hanneke Kamphuis and Ms. Nicky McIntyre** (Mama Cash) outlined the role of women’s funds in supporting exclusively women’s organisations or women’s rights initiatives. These funds are often working with “grassroots” groups which are the most difficult to access but who need to be reached in order to deliver on democratic governance and domestic accountability. Mama Cash uses a set of indicators of likely social change as the basis for deciding on grants. Mama Cash (Netherlands) and the Global Fund for Women (USA) are the two largest women’s funds working globally.

23. **Participants** agreed that donors have an important role to play in creating an enabling in-country environment for non-governmental organisations and in facilitating dialogue between international and local organisations. It was noted that donors should strive to fund a broad range of NGOs as partner governments often pay particular attention to the organisations “chosen” by donors. Participants stressed that all actors are responsible and accountable for the development process, including NGOs. A few

participants warned that NGOs working in certain conflict-ridden regions or dictatorial regimes can be endangered by receiving funding from certain donors.

**24. The session rapporteur** (Ms. Lina Neeb, Belgium) concluded by:

- Emphasising the need for changes in donor practice to support NGOs in their “challenge” function as part of building a culture of domestic accountability; and,
- underscoring civil society’s access to stable, long-term funding.

***Session 4: panel discussion to wrap-up the Workshop***

**25. The Chair**, Ms. To Tjoelker, led a panel discussion with **Ambassador Guro Vikor** (Norway), **Ms. Angela Langenkamp** (Germany), **Ms. Mayra Buvinic** (World Bank), **Ms Carolyn Hannan** (UN Division for the Advancement of Women) and **Mr. Soe Lin** (Accra High Level Forum Steering Committee, World Bank). The discussion was designed to identify emerging opportunities and entry points for closing the policy to implementation gap through investment in gender equality and women’s empowerment. Ideas that came out of the panel discussion and subsequent discussion between participants included:

- The 2008 UN Commission on the Status of Women will be focusing on financing for gender equality and women’s empowerment. As the CSW meeting coincides with the with the UN Statistical Commission a joint panel discussion could be organised, along with a parallel event to present relevant GENDERNET work.
- GENDERNET should strive to shape the agenda of the Accra *High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness* through the task team on aid effectiveness. It was noted that partner countries will play a critical role in defining the agenda.
- DFID’s aid effectiveness evidence gathering project should have visibility at the Accra Forum.
- The various evidence-gathering initiatives, such as those of UNIFEM and DFID, on measuring the impacts of gender equality and women’s empowerment on aid effectiveness should be harmonised.
- Donors should engage with actors such as the African Union and the Africa Partnership Forum to create a more inclusive political dialogue.
- The Africa Partnership Forum will continue to pursue its political dialogue with the G8.
- Donors could request that progressing gender equality and women’s empowerment be considered in relation to the 15<sup>th</sup> replenishment of resources for the World Bank’s International Development Association (IDA).
- Relevant players should promote the G8 statement on supporting the World Bank’s Gender Action Plan in Africa and applying this at the global level.
- Members should pragmatically use the current interest in the multiplier or functional impacts of gender equality and women’s empowerment on development outcomes to influence political leaders and decision makers.
- Members should collaborate with the informal group of DAC donors examining the effectiveness of multilateral agencies and with the Results, Resources and Partnerships (RRP) process in Ghana and Tanzania (led by Sweden and the Netherlands) which is examining allocations and opportunities for scaling up, and

- GENDERNET could collaborate with other DAC subsidiary bodies working on empowerment and aid effectiveness with a view to organising a discussion at the DAC High Level Meeting in 2009. The powerful linkages between ownership, women's empowerment and aid effectiveness were noted.

### 3. Information item: "Delivering as one", UN reform

26. **Ambassador Guro Vikor** (Norway) reported on progress with the establishment of a "dynamic UN entity focussed on gender equality and women's empowerment" as recommended by the UN Secretary-General's High-level Panel on UN System-wide Coherence. The new gender equality entity would consolidate UNIFEM, the Office of the Special Advisor on Gender Issues and the UN Division for the Advancement of Women. Deputy Secretary General Migero and a large number of UN members are supporting this proposal, while some members are opposed.

### 4. Work programme

#### *Brief reports from members and observers on their current key priorities and activities*

**The Asian Development Bank** (Ms. Shireen Lateef) presented their policy-based programme which focuses on accelerating the MDGs through working with partner governments over a two-year period.

**BRIDGE** (Ms. Hazel Reeves and Ms. Emily Esplen) announced that the new BRIDGE Cutting Edge Pack on Gender and Indicators is available on-line at [www.siyanda.org](http://www.siyanda.org). The next Cutting Edge Pack will focus on gender and care and examine the issue of unpaid care work.

**UNIFEM** (Ms. Osnat Lubrani) informed participants about the new UN, European Commission and ILO partnership on Gender Equality for Development and Peace which deals with gender and aid effectiveness ([www.gendermatters.eu](http://www.gendermatters.eu)).

**UNESCO** (Ms. Saniye Gülser Corat) noted that the organisation is in the process of drafting its next six-year strategic plan, in which gender equality will be a key priority.

**The World Bank** (Mr. Malcolm Ehrenpreis) announced that the Development Committee Ministers had unanimously endorsed the World Bank Group's Gender Action Plan at their spring meeting.

For further information see Room Document 1 – Members' key priorities and activities.

#### *Updates on completing the 2005-06 programme of work*

27. *Gender equality and aid delivery – what has changed in development co-operation agencies since 1999?*, the report of the survey of DAC members which was undertaken in early 2006, has been published. Copies are available to members in English and will be available in French shortly.

28. An unedited draft of the report *Women's empowerment and HIV prevention – donor experience* is available for members' consideration. It will be professionally edited and published within the next few months.

***Progress reports on the 2007-08 work programme****Task team on aid effectiveness*

29. **The task team Chair, Ms. Ineke van de Pol** (Netherlands) informed members about the task team's progress with implementing their work programme and outlined the key outcomes of the Task Team's meeting on 26 June.

30. The task team on aid effectiveness has worked with Cathy Gaynor to develop a draft of an Issues Brief on *Gender equality and the implementation of the Paris Declaration* and is about to prepare an Issues Brief on innovative approaches to donor funding, as agreed at the 2006 GENDERNET meeting. The task team also contributed to the *Workshop on development effectiveness in practice* (Dublin 26-27 April) and members have been liaising closely with their agency colleagues to ensure that gender equality dimensions are integrated into the work of the WP-EFF and its joint ventures.

31. At its 26 June meeting the task team agreed to continue engaging with the preparatory process for the Accra High Level Forum (September 2008) by:

- monitoring and contributing to, as appropriate, the drafting of the communiqué and action plan
- providing input such as suggesting qualitative case studies for discussion at the proposed roundtable on development outcomes and "cross-cutting" issues, and providing suggestions for input to other roundtables
- tracking and contributing to the ongoing work on health as a tracer sector, and
- continuing the dialogue with civil society actors and other drivers of change.

32. The task team chair also encouraged members to engage in the evaluation of the implementation of the *Paris Declaration*, led by the DAC Evaluation Network. There is scope for incorporating a gender equality perspective into donor evaluations as well as into the country-led evaluations supported by donors. Members were also reminded to be aware of the need to address gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of aid effectiveness in fragile states.

33. Other areas identified for follow-up action included the possibility of a "Dublin plus 1" meeting focused on gender equality and women's empowerment; support for DFID's aid effectiveness evidence gathering project including a proposed international meeting; and alignment with the work of the GENDERNET task team on "new directions" on gender equality and women's empowerment.

34. A full record of the task team meeting is available for members.

35. *Members of the aid effectiveness task team:* Canada, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands (Chair) and United Kingdom. *New members:* UNIFEM, Sweden and Norway.

*Task team on "new directions" in gender equality and women's empowerment*

36. **Task team Chair, Ms. Dortehea Damkjaer** (Denmark) reported that the task team on "new directions" in gender equality and women's empowerment has over the past few months been sharing its thinking on the document which will be prepared for consideration at the 2008 DAC Senior Level Meeting and for endorsement by the 2009 High Level Meeting. An important input to the team's deliberations had been the *Consultation on gender equality and women's empowerment policies in development co-operation: lessons learned and innovative approaches for the future* which was hosted by the

GENDERNET in partnership with the World Bank's Gender and Development Group (Paris, 29 November 2006).

37. At the 26-27 June meeting of the task team, it was agreed that the product to be presented to the DAC would be a brief "statement of collective intent", designed to assist donors to be accountable for their actions. It will complement both the existing *DAC guidelines on gender equality and women's empowerment in development co-operation* and agencies' own established gender equality guidelines and policies. It will set out how to deliver and manage aid while respecting internationally agreed commitments on gender equality and women's empowerment, within the framework set out in the *Paris Declaration* and with the objective of making development effective. It will suggest ways of using the *Declaration* as a tool to empower women and men.

38. A full record of the task team meeting is available for members.

39. *Members of the "new directions" task team:* Australia, Denmark (Chair), Finland, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.

*Collaboration with other DAC subsidiary bodies, the wider OECD and development partners*

40. **Working Party on Statistics (WP-STAT):** The GENDERNET Secretariat has worked with the Statistics and Monitoring Division to generate *Aid in support of gender equality and women's empowerment – statistics based on DAC members' reporting on the Gender Equality Marker, 2004-2005*. Pie-charts illustrating sector-specific expenditure which is focused on gender equality are also available.

41. **POVNET:** For the 2007-08 biennium the POVNET has formed two task teams – one on employment and labour markets and the other on social protection and empowerment. Both are considering having gender equality as a focus area. Denmark is leading the preparation of a possible good practice paper on *women and youth employment*. GENDERNET and POVNET plan to liaise closely to bring together findings on empowerment as a topic for discussion at the 2009 DAC High Level Meeting.

42. **DAC Network on Conflict, Peace and Development Co-operation (CPDC) and the Fragile States Group (FSG):** In April 2007 the DAC HLM approved the *OECD/DAC Handbook on security system reform - supporting security and justice*, prepared by CPDC. The GENDERNET hired a consultant to support the CPDC's efforts to ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment was integrated into the *Handbook*. For the 2007-08 biennium the CPDC is developing operational guidance on armed violence reduction programming and would welcome a similar approach.

43. **The Africa Partnership Forum (APF):** Ms. Doreen Kibuka-Musoke (APF Secretariat) reported on the APF's work and its achievements promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. The Secretariat of the GENDERNET, Germany and Denmark have been contributing to their work over the past few months. Gender equality was one of four focus areas for the 8th meeting of the Africa Partnership Forum (22-23 May, Berlin). Gender equality perspectives will be included in the APF's ninth meeting on governance and development (Algiers, 2007); and, it will be important to ensure that this is carried into preparations for the next G8 to be led by Japan.

44. **UN Inter-agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE):** Every two years the DAC GENDERNET and the UN's IANWGE hold a workshop on a topic of mutual interest and relevance. The last workshop – *Aid modalities and the promotion of gender equality* – was hosted by IANWGE in Nairobi in January 2006.

45. Participants suggested that the next workshop, which will be hosted by the GENDERNET, focuses on:

- The role of multilateral agencies in delivering on commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment
- How bilateral agencies can best support the efforts of multilateral agencies
- Innovative practices in partnerships between bilateral and multilateral agencies, and
- Opportunities to enhance and scale up our mutual work to support partner country efforts.

For further information see Room Document 5 – Progress report on the implementation of the Network's work programme.

*Preliminary discussion on ideas for the 2009-10 work programme*

46. Ideas on topics for the 2009-10 work programme of the GENDERNET included capacity development and scaling up for results, both of which are priority areas for the DAC. Trade was also suggested. In the light of the emerging interest in women's empowerment in the context of the Accra HLF and a possible discussion on empowerment at the 2009 HLM, it may be timely to consider *women's empowerment* as the overarching theme for 2009-10.

47. It was noted that the GENDERNET should also capitalise on current thinking and interest in the multiplier (or functional) effect of gender equality and women's empowerment on development outcomes. The Network could also consider initiating a process for "reaching out" to certain emerging donors.

*Information: OECD DAC corporate processes*

48. **Ms. Alexandra Trzeciak-Duval** (Head of DCD's Policy Co-ordination Division) informed participants that there were early indications that the Network had scored well in the Programme Implementation Report (PIR) process for 2005-06. She also explained that the DAC is currently undergoing an internal OECD evaluation and that the Chairs of Subsidiary Bodies and DAC Bureau Members will meet with the OECD Evaluation Group on 21 September to discuss and validate the draft final evaluation report. Finally, Ms. Trzeciak-Duval noted that a pledging window will open up in September 2007, allowing DAC members to commit additional resources to the 2007-08 work programme of the GENDERNET in line with evolving work programme needs.

## 5. Election of the Chair and Bureau

49. **Mr. Richard Carey** (Director, DCD) chaired the elections. Ms. Dorthea Damkjaer (Denmark) was elected to replace Ms. To Tjoelker as Chair. Ms. Ineke van de Pol (the Netherlands) was elected as a new member of the Bureau. Ms. Katherine Blakeslee (United States) and Ms. Angela Langenkamp (Germany) were re-elected as Bureau members.

50. Ms. Patricia McCullagh (Canada) and Ms. Lina Neeb (Belgium) resigned from their functions on the Bureau. Ms. Andrea Cook (the United Kingdom) had previously resigned. Members thanked them for their contributions to the effective functioning of the GENDERNET.

51. Note relevant forthcoming meetings and key dates:

- Ownership in practice – informal experts' workshop, OECD Global Forum on Development (Paris, 27-28 September, 2007)
- Global Forum on Development – Country Level Scaling Up (11 December)

- Special Review of DAC Member Scaling Up Commitments and Performance (12 December, morning)
- DAC Senior Level Meeting (Paris, 12 (afternoon)-13 December (morning))
- Meeting on the Heiligendamm Process (13 December, afternoon)
- UN Commission on the Status of Women, 52nd session, will focus on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women (25 February – 7 March 2008)
- High level meeting on aid effectiveness (Accra, 2-4 September 2008)
- Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development (Doha, late 2008)