

SUMMARY OF THE HLF-3 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

30 JANUARY 2008

Held in the OECD Offices in La Muette, Paris

A meeting of the Steering Committee (SC) for the Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Accra HLF-3) took place in Paris on Wednesday, 30 January 2008. Video links were set up with Accra Ghana, Hanoi, Managua, Johannesburg, Washington (WB), Ottawa and NY (UNDP). The annex lists the meeting participants. Jan Cedergren chaired the meeting. Chris Hall, co-chair and Executive Director, participated by video from Washington. At the beginning of the SC, Mr. J.B. Siriboe of Ghana was officially announced as the other Vice Chair of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness (WP-EFF).

I-1 Budget and Logistics

The revised budget reflected additional resources required to cover the following items:

- Increased number of CSO invitees from 30 to 40;
- Live broadcast of the ministerial sessions to other participants;
- Hiring of an events coordinator to support on-the-ground logistics.

On logistics:

- A temporary Accra HLF website will be ready by the first week of February and it is expected to be finalized by the end of the month.
- The HLF logo will be finalized and shared with the SC members by the first week of February. To maintain consistency Mr. Siriboe requested that the Accra HLF logo be used in all regional preparatory events.

I-2 Reporting for Accra

The 2008 monitoring survey is on schedule. Launch workshops are being held in various parts of the world (Bangkok, Kigali, Dakar, Kiev and Managua). 54 countries have agreed to participate so far.

The outline and preparation process for donor self assessments and the Progress Report were agreed in general. The importance of focusing on evidence and of the report highlighting areas for further work was emphasised. The deadline for the initial inputs to the Progress Report is tight (8 February). However, the HLF Secretariat proposed not to change the deadline but to be flexible for those work streams which have just started. The first draft will be reviewed at the next WP-EFF meeting on 2-3 April 2008.

I-3 Communication Strategy

The WB is leading the preparation of the public information campaign. The draft communication strategy presented last November is to be developed further, bearing in mind the need to adequately engage partner countries, and its objectives sharpened and prioritized in view of the campaign's multiple stakeholders. The Communications Coordinating Committee (CCC) is to be set up in February and its first meeting convened soon after. Interested members of the Working Party are requested to designate their representatives to CCC at their earliest convenience. Ghana indicated it will join the CCC.

The SC stressed that the campaign should span beyond the HLF-3 and that its objectives be strongly aligned with supporting the implementation of the aid effectiveness agenda. In regard to the HLF-3 website that is currently in the design stage, it was agreed that the "interactivity" option of the website will be explored, among other instruments to strengthen internal and external communication around HLF-3. The first set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) as well as the communications tool kit, providing basic information on the Paris Declaration, Aid Effectiveness and Accra HLF-3, should be distributed as soon as possible.

In November, OECD/DCD established an internal Accra Communication Action Team (ACAT). The focus of this group is on developing communication tools for Secretariat staff to use in promoting awareness and dialogue around the Paris Declaration, aid effectiveness and the HLF-3. ACAT activities are coordinated closely with the overall HLF-3 communication strategy.

It was agreed that the final communication strategy be presented to the SC as soon as the CCC has had an opportunity to provide its input.

I-4 Reporting on the Accra process

The Accra HLF-3 and preparatory events will generate a huge amount of information. The SC discussed how best to capture and disseminate this to shape and support most effectively the post-HLF agenda. A technical and financial proposal covering basic reporting requirements and a multimedia-approach with graduated levels of ambition, including coverage of the regional preparatory events, will be prepared for the next SC meeting.

I-5 Marketplace

The WB is planning a Marketplace Implementation Team (MIT) with expectation that 4-5 donor agencies or partner countries will participate and contribute to meet the objectives set for the Marketplace. The preparation schedule suggests that the MIT should have its first meeting in February; however there have been no offers to join the team so far. Interested WP-EFF members are strongly encouraged to join the MIT.

The SC agreed to the suggestion by WB to pursue private sector funding for the Marketplace.

I-6 AG-CS and CSO Processes

The CSO international forum will be held in Ottawa 3-6 Feb with 200 participants. The discussion and results of the forum will be included in the first draft of the Progress Report. The parallel Civil Society Forum in Accra (scheduled: 31 Aug - 1 Sept) expects 400-500 participants. A CSO meeting with WP-EFF is also scheduled on 1 April.

II-1 Ghana's Preparatory Strategy

The government of Ghana will send out invitation letters in the first week of February. The government as host country is organizing a contact group of partner countries with 6 African, 3 Asian and 3 Latin American representatives to facilitate and strengthen partner countries' own efforts to participate and contribute substantively to the Accra agenda. Issues papers on partner country priorities will be drafted. Mr. KY Amoako is undertaking this role on behalf of the government and financial and non-financial support is needed from Working Party members. It is important that the SC be kept informed of progress being made in these efforts and close linkages be made with regional preparatory events. An estimation of costs of these activities will be presented shortly.

II-2 Regional Preparatory Events

The dates and venues of the regional events were presented by the AfDB and the WB.

- Africa: Regional event will be held in Kigali in the last week of April (dates are still to be confirmed). The AfDB will provide a concept note of by mid-February.
- Asia: There will be four sub-regional events in Asia stretching from the first week of April to the first week of May.
- Latin America: The regional event will be held on 22-23 April in Washington D.C.
- In addition to the above, the Islamic Development Bank is planning a regional meeting in late April.(tbc)

The HLF-3 secretariat was requested to prepare a calendar of preparatory events for Accra and related international conferences and gatherings, so that events can be better coordinated. Organizers of the various regional events should ensure their coherence and that there is a clear and common understanding of what is to be achieved in the regional events. To support this, organizers of the various regional events should coordinate with RT Co- chairs and Mr. KY Amaoko

II-3 Round Tables (RT)

On the donor side, there was more than one candidate for RT 1, RT 7 and RT 9. The candidates were expected to consult and agree among themselves on one co-chair and define support roles for other interested parties. On the partner country co-chairs, there were two candidates for RT 3 and although Thailand and Mexico were mentioned as having an interest in RT 9, no names had been proposed. It was agreed that partner country candidates would be contacted by Ghana to ascertain that they were ready to commit the necessary time and could provide the organisational back-up required of all co-chairs, as set out in the generic ToRs. The HLF secretariat was then to prepare and confirm the final list of co-chairs and inform the SC members. This initial proposal reflected a satisfactory balance among regions. The final co-chairing arrangements should also ensure acceptable gender balance.

The table of co-chairing arrangement for the roundtables as of 12 February is set out in the annex.

II-4 AAA: First Outline

There was a consensus that the AAA should be focused on a limited set of concrete actions. The SC members were asked to give written comments on the first outline by 8 February. A zero draft AAA will be prepared for the next SC meeting.

II-5 Ministerial Segment

There was an open discussion of how to manage the ministerial session of HLF-3. Ideas included assigning some roles to ministers and making effective use of the ministerial dinner.

II-6 Next Steps

The next HLF-3 SC meetings will take place at 13:00, Monday 3 March (changed from February 29) and Friday 4 April respectively in Paris.

ANNEX 1

Round Tables arrangements as of 12/02/2008

Round Table	Co-Chair Donor		Co-Chair Partner country		Supporting person/organization
	Country/ Institution	Name	Country	Name	
1. Country Ownership	Switzerland	Edita Vokral (Head of domaine, Coopération bilatérale au développement)	Colombia	Luis Alfonso Hoyos (High Presidential Counsellor for Social Action and International Cooperation)	- Adriana Mejía Hernández (Vice-Minister of Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Colombia) - UNDP
2. Alignment	European Commission	Louis Michel (Commissioner) (sous-reserve)	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	- Ramadhan Mlinga (CEO, Public Procurement Regulatory Authority, Tanzania) - Henry Malinga (National Treasury, South Africa)
3. Harmonisation	Germany	Ingrid Hoven (DG of BMZ)	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	
4. Managing for Results and Development Impact	JV-MfDR	J Boer (Dutch Ambassador to the OECD)	South Africa	To be confirmed	- Peter Ssentongo (Uganda) - UNDP
5. Mutual Accountability	Ireland	Ronan Murphy (DG of Irish Aid)	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	
6. Role of Civil Society	Canada	Steve Wallace (Chair of AG-CS)	Ghana (To be confirmed)	Yao Graham (Third World Network) (To be confirmed)	
7. Fragile States and Conflict Situations	France AfDB	JM Bockel (Secrétaire d'Etat) Z.El Bakri (Vice-President)	DRC	Olivier Kamitatu (Minister of Economic Affairs)	Netherlands
8. Sectoral Application of the Paris Declaration	Sweden	Anders Nordstrom (DG of SIDA)	Honduras	Ricardo Arias Brito (Vice Minister of the Presidency)	GTFAM, WHO, WB, Japan
9. Implication of New Aid Architecture	World Bank	Richard Manning	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	Global Programmes Learning Group Japan, UNDP