

**Closing remarks OCED PDNRBD Connex
Negotiation Support Forum,30.11.16
Günter Nooke**

Thank you very much for your active discussion that shows two things: First, your commitment to the CONNEX Negotiation Support Forum. We are all willing to learn from each other and it is crucial for all parties to better understand each other's positions and limitations. On that basis, we can define shared principles and guidance. Second, we have a lot and a wide range of expertise at the table that feeds into the discussions. More and more, the CONNEX Negotiation Support Forum is evolving towards a multi-actor partnership to set standards and provide recommendations for practitioners.

From today's debates we have seen that the discussion becomes relevant and controversial the more it touches on very specific issues like the question of how to assemble a multidisciplinary team for negotiations the terms of reference or the key attributes of long standing contracts. The policy guidance papers resulting from our discussion underline that there is

specific output for practitioners. I would like to see all stakeholders participating in this dialogue to take these outputs into account for their day to day work. Only transferring the results from our dialogue to practice will give life to them and thus make a difference.

I look forward to continue the Negotiation Support Forum in 2017. Since we are about to finalize our first policy guidance papers soon we invite all of you to come up with suggestions for new topics to be dealt with in our dialogue process. Lahra will welcome any recommendations you have.

I would like to thank all keynote speakers, panelists, moderators and also His Excellency, the Minister of Mines of the Republic of Guinea for co-chairing this session. Finally, most sincere thanks to the OECD, to Lahra Liberti and her team, for organizing this event and for hosting all of us. We are looking forward to coming again in six months!