

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

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REPORT ON RECENT MEETINGS

DAC Meeting, 10 May 2007

This note is for INFORMATION. It provides the key outcomes from the following meetings:

- *Workshop on Development Effectiveness in Practice – Applying the Paris Declaration to Advancing Gender Equality, Environmental Sustainability and Human Rights, Dublin, 26-27 April 2007.*
- *Workshop on Accelerating Drug Discovery for Neglected Diseases, Paris, 2-3 May 2007; and the Workshop on Policy Options and Policy Coherence to Enhance the Availability of Medicines for Neglected and Emerging Infectious Diseases, Paris, 3-4 May 2007.*
- *DAC Network on Conflict, Peace and Development Co-operation, 3-4 May 2007.*

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REPORT ON RECENT MEETINGS

Workshop on Development Effectiveness in Practice – Applying the *Paris Declaration* to Advancing Gender Equality, Environmental Sustainability and Human Rights, Dublin, 26-27 April 2007

1. The Workshop on *Development Effectiveness in Practice*, hosted by Irish Aid brought together approximately 120 participants representing DAC members, partner countries, civil society and UN agencies. It was jointly organised by the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness (WP-EFF), the DAC Networks on Environment and Development Co-operation (ENVIRONET), on Governance (GOVNET) and on Gender Equality (GENDERNET), with funding provided by the Government of Denmark.

2. The workshop was primarily based on case studies focussing on human rights, environmental sustainability and gender equality which demonstrated emerging good practice in the implementation of the overarching principles of the *Paris Declaration* – ownership, alignment, harmonisation, managing for results and mutual accountability.

3. The keynote speech by Mary Robinson drew the threads together against the background of development approaches to the health sector, including HIV/AIDS. Richard Carey underlined how whilst achieving gender equality, human rights and environmental sustainability are worthy goals of development in their own right, each is at the same time functionally essential to achieving the overall goal of the *Paris Declaration* - the reduction of poverty. Richard Manning's video contribution outlined the partnership commitments of the *Paris Declaration*, emphasising the importance of donor support for supporting those individuals, organisations and institutions in partner countries who are the "drivers of change", striving to build a culture of domestic accountability.

4. Plenary and breakout panel discussions and lunchtime sessions shared emerging thinking and evidence from development practitioners representing civil society, partners, donors, researchers and multilateral agencies.

5. The closing workshop sessions drew from the case studies, presentations and discussions to identify:

- Emerging key principles to both advance and use key policy issues in the implementation of the *Paris Declaration*.
- Opportunities to enhance collaboration and contribute to the preparations for the Accra review and beyond.

6. Ambassador Jan Cedergren, WP-EFF Chair, closed the workshop by:

- Reiterating that environmental sustainability, human rights and gender equality are fundamental cornerstones for achieving good development results.
- Stressing that applying the *Paris Declaration* framework to these areas will move these key policy issues to the centre, increasing the effectiveness of aid.
- Emphasising the critical role of these issues in the implementation of the principles of ownership, managing for development results and mutual accountability.
- Encouraging participants to continue mutual learning by sharing practical experience and emerging principles across their specialised communities.

- Emphasising that the Accra conference is only one milestone in the implementation of the *Paris Declaration* – and the achievement of the overall objectives of development.

7. The GOVNET, GENDERNET and ENVIRONET will continue to collaborate together and share their experiences with the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness of applying the principles of the *Paris Declaration* in their respective domains as contributions to Accra review. They will also work to better define the appropriate role of donors with regard to the provision of support to non-state institutions in their role to promote participative, accountable and representative government.

Conference documents and case studies will progressively become available at: www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/inpractice.

Workshop on Accelerating Drug Discovery for Neglected Diseases, Paris, 2-3 May 2007; and the Workshop on Policy Options and Policy Coherence to Enhance the Availability of Medicines for Neglected and Emerging Infectious Diseases, Paris, 3-4 May 2007.

8. The two workshops were held back-to-back at the OECD as part of the preparatory process for the OECD High Level Forum (HLF) on Medicines for Neglected and Emerging Infectious Diseases.

9. The workshops stressed that the main goal for the HLF is to create sufficient political attention in OECD countries to put in place initiatives to fight infectious diseases that are one of the primary causes of mortality in the world. Infectious diseases are a global issue – as infectious diseases know no borders, no country can consider itself immune to their effects. The economic impact of infectious diseases is enormous. There is also a political and developmental commitment to act based on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs.)

10. There is a lack of R&D to develop preventions, therapies or cures for the infectious diseases that mainly affect developing countries. Low returns on investment combined with high developmental risks discourage business from engaging in this type of research. Only 10% of global health research is devoted to conditions that account for 90% of the global disease burden, an imbalance known as the 10/90 disequilibrium. *The Workshop on Accelerating Drug Discovery for Neglected Diseases* focused on the opportunities for increasing investments in drug development and for improving the effectiveness of the innovation cycle through the use of new and existing policy mechanisms such as public and private partnerships and advanced market commitments. Strong support was voiced for global networking among initiatives for the discovery and development of medicines for infectious diseases in order to increase innovation capacity worldwide and in developing countries.

11. *The Workshop on Policy Options and Policy Coherence to Enhance the Availability of Medicines for Neglected and Emerging Infectious Diseases* focused on the ways to improve the accessibility of drug delivery. Participants stressed the importance of a policy environment for health development. Whole-of-government approaches and harmonization and alignment policies are a key to a successful innovation cycle to deliver new and existing medicines.

12. Both Workshops discussed the draft ‘Noordwijk Medicines Agenda’ which should identify the best opportunities for further action to increase the availability of medicines for infectious diseases. Several suggestions were made to strengthen the agenda and to make it more forward looking. Participants called for joint action with developing countries in order to build sustained support to improve the availability of medicines for infectious diseases that primarily affect the developing world.

13. The Secretariat will prepare a synthesis paper of the workshops which will be circulated with the amended Noordwijk Medicines Agenda to Member states.

14. For more information: www.oecd.org/development/policycoherence/infectiousdiseases

Meeting of the DAC Network on Conflict, Peace and Development Co-operation, Paris , 3-4 May 2007

15. The CPDC Network meeting on 3-4 May 2007 allowed the group to shape forward plans for the 2007-08 work programme and to agree steps towards the CPDC/FSG merger.

16. Following endorsement by the HLM of the 'OECD-DAC Key Policy and Operational Commitments from the Implementation Framework for Security System Reform (IF-SSR)', the meeting discussed implementation and dissemination of the *OECD DAC Handbook on SSR: Supporting Security and Justice*. Members agreed the *Handbook* will guide their national strategies on SSR, their field level support to partner countries and their efforts to promote joint work and co-ordination. Several members agreed to lead country-level consultations. Dissemination on SSR efforts will build on existing plans of member countries, such as the recent briefing on the IF-SSR in Guatemala back-to-back with a previously planned consultation on armed violence. The meeting agreed the next steps will be launches of the IF-SSR at the UN and the EC in June, and France and Denmark will organise whole-of-government briefings focussing on SSR in the coming months.

17. Members discussed plans to hold a technical level whole-of-government meeting on SSR in 2007, as mandated by the HLM. This would be one of a series of thematic meetings which will be delivered in collaboration with the FSG, possibly leading to a senior officials meeting in 2008. The CPDC welcomed the offer from Switzerland to host such a senior level meeting. There is also a proposal to hold a technical level meeting on the roles played by different government actors in relation to conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The CPDC agreed to prepare a concept note setting out a plan for these meetings, anticipated outputs and leadership responsibilities. This will be presented to the DAC in June 2007.

18. The meeting noted excellent progress with the development of "Draft DAC Guidance on Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Assistance". Plans for field-level testing the draft guidance are advancing - with the leadership of Norway (for the Evaluation Network) and Switzerland (for CPDC) and a Joint Evaluation-CPDC Network Steering Group. Joint testing is being considered in Sri Lanka and Burundi (a focus country for the Peacebuilding Commission). The meeting agreed the Guidance should be presented to the DAC later in 2007. The meeting welcomed the proposed publication of an "Approach to DAC Guidance on Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities" by Mary B. Anderson and the Collaborative for Development Action (CDA) which has underpinned the Draft Guidance.

19. The meeting also reviewed progress on preparing "DAC Guidance on Armed Violence", noting the contracting of the Geneva-based Small Arms Survey to assist the Network in developing practical guidance on armed violence reduction. Following selected regional consultations, a framing paper on armed violence will be ready in June, and an early draft of the guidance will be available by end-2007, to be presented to the DAC in 2008.

20. The meeting agreed the dissemination and outreach of DAC work on conflict, peace and security is a top priority for the CPDC in the DAC PWB for 2007-08. The meeting noted that training modules on CPDC themes are near completion and will be tested at the European Commission on 12-14 June in Brussels. Some joint initiatives on SSR training are also being planned. "Train-the-trainer" courses will be hosted by Austria and UNDP. The DAC Peer Review: Content Guide [DCD/DAC(2007)6/REV3] now fully integrates conflict, peace and fragile states aspects, and members expressed their commitment to facilitate peer review processes around these topics.

21. The HLM task to the CPDC (and WP-STAT) to take on further work related to ODA eligibility for conflict, peace and security activities was seen by members as a central role of the Network. Members agreed to hold a workshop on how conflict prevention and peacebuilding objectives can be served by ODA/non-ODA funding and institutional mechanisms (possibly hosted by the Netherlands), followed by a survey on spending. The meeting discussed other work planned for 2007-08, and agreed on ways of progressing on early warning and action (with FSG) and human rights, peace and security (with GOVNET).

22. Finally, the CPDC discussed and approved a note outlining the creation of a small CPDC-FSG focus group, consisting of members from both Networks to advance the merger of these bodies. The focus group will be tasked to look at the main challenges facing development actors in the coming 5-10 years with the aim of making development co-operation more effective in the area of peace, security and fragile states. It will be composed of the Chairs and Bureau members of the Networks, the DAC Facilitators, and volunteers from Germany, the Netherlands and United States.