DAC ENGAGEMENT WITH THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

DAC meeting, 2 October 2012

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1. **Update on the establishment of the Global Partnership**

1. The endorsement of the mandate of the Global Partnership and a global monitoring framework at the final meeting of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness on 28-29 June 2012 established the foundations for the Global Partnership. The nomination of high profile ministers as Co-Chairs of the Global Partnership will provide strong political backing to the new partnership. Co-chairs include: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Minister of Finance, Nigeria; and Armida Alisjahbana, Minister of State for National Development Planning, Indonesia. Providers of development co-operation have yet to confirm the nomination of the ministerial-level individual drawn from their constituency to fill the remaining seat following the resignation from the role of Andrew Mitchell, Secretary of State for International Development, United Kingdom. The DAC Chair has initiated a consultation within the Committee and the final nomination should be known before the DAC meeting of 2 October 2012. The nomination of each of the 15 members of the Steering Committee drawn from governments, international organisations, civil society, parliamentary organisations and the private sector has also been confirmed.

2. As part of its role as a joint secretariat for the Global Partnership, alongside the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the OECD/DCD will co-ordinate global efforts to monitor the effectiveness of development co-operation, building on existing efforts in this area. The joint UNDP-OECD support team has been tasked to finalise remaining technical work on the indicators by the end of the year. An update on progress in taking this work forward will be available for the Steering Committee shortly, identifying opportunities for interested stakeholders to contribute to the process.

3. The DAC has confirmed its intention to finance the OECD-executed activities within the support facility through its PWB 2013-2014. In doing so, it recognizes the need to ensure that those activities implemented by the UNDP side of the team are also resourced adequately in view of the complementarity of the two. UNDP is inviting commitments from interested donors to cover both a financing gap in 2012, and for its activities in support of the Global Partnership in 2013 and 2014.

4. Now that the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation has been established, it is timely for the DAC to consider how it wants to engage with the new partnership. The DAC’s direct representation in the Steering Committee provides an opportunity for continued DAC leadership as a committee in addressing existing and new development challenges. A ministerial level meeting of the Global Partnership is planned for 2013 and the Steering Committee is expected to meet for the first time before the end of 2012 to guide the work of the Global Partnership. The DAC High Level meeting offers an opportunity to showcase progress made by members on some of the most urgent Busan commitments and to have a strategic discussion on areas in which it would be desirable to work as a constituency within the Global Partnership in order to shape the agenda.

2. **Busan commitments requiring immediate action by DAC members**

5. The Global Partnership needs strong leadership from all stakeholders to work. DAC members have an important role to play both individually and collectively to ensure that the Global Partnership will be an effective accountability mechanism and deliver results. Continued DAC commitment to implement the changes where needed will be essential in ensuring trust and credibility, particularly in the early stages of the Global Partnership.

6. The DAC Chair has initiated a stock-take of members’ efforts to implement selected time-bound Busan commitments (see BA(2012)51). A substantive discussion based on feedback received will take place on 30 October 2012, focusing on: i) reviewing plans to further untie aid (Busan Partnership §18e); and ii) provision of 3-5 year indicative forward spending and/or implementation plans (Busan Partnership
A brief oral update will be provided on transparency and the state of implementation of the open common standard.

7. The meeting on 30 October 2012 will also provide an opportunity to reflect on progress in implementing Busan commitments. These include imminent deadlines that relate to collective processes in which the DAC as a whole is involved. A substantive discussion on principles to address the issue of countries that receive insufficient assistance (Busan Partnership §25c) will be based on a DCD paper entitled “Improved identification and monitoring of potentially under aided countries” (under preparation). A brief oral update will be provided on progress in shaping principles and guidelines to guide joint efforts in reducing the proliferation of multilateral / global fund and programme channels (Busan Partnership §25b), on the basis of on-going discussions on the 2012 DAC Report on Multilateral Aid (DCD/DAC(2012)33) and the workshop on multilateral aid scheduled on 4 October 2012.

8. The outcomes of these discussions will inform the preparation of the HLM discussion on the Global Partnership. Points for discussion or decisions at the HLM will be presented for review at the DAC meeting on 12 November 2012. This in turn will ensure that the DAC helps to shape the agenda of the Global Partnership in areas where it has a key role to play.

3. Shaping the substantive agenda of the Global Partnership

9. The Global Partnership provides a forum for sharing views on development co-operation challenges and goals, including on the best means of addressing them. This provides the DAC with an opportunity to strengthen its work in emerging substantive areas in anticipation of a post-2015 development framework. For the DAC, the Global Partnership also presents an opportunity to deepen and sustain its collaboration with non-members in the context of the DAC Global Relations Strategy and the OECD Development Strategy. In this context, the DAC can share its norms and standards while also learning from others.

10. At the same time, now that the DAC is one constituency among others within the Global Partnership, the Committee needs to consider how it wants to work as a Committee so as to optimise its influence on the agenda. Although it may not be desirable nor feasible to have a common approach on every aspect of the Busan agenda, the DAC may wish to identify areas in which it has a comparative advantage in playing a lead role in shaping the political debates of the Global Partnership.

11. During the SLM discussions on 3-4 April 2012, members indicated their broad support for the Busan action areas (see DCD/DAC(2012)9/REV1) including: i) the transparency agenda – leading by example on transparent development co-operation practices more broadly; ii) making fuller use of country systems and results frameworks; iii) improving transparency around aid allocation decisions as a step towards a more efficient international development architecture; and iv) paving the way for more transparent efforts to untie aid. Members agreed that the DAC needed to reassert its role as a hub for “transparency” in development co-operation. Several DAC members also mentioned support to work on triangular co-operation, which can be a good entry point for dialogue between the DAC and south-south co-operation partners. Triangular co-operation is seen as a way to build on the comparative advantages and complementarities between different development actors, creating opportunities for sharing knowledge and expertise among all partners involved. In this context, an established aid architecture workstream is also an important asset for the DAC, which it can use to inform multi-stakeholder efforts.

12. While the Busan “building blocks” are voluntary initiatives, there are obvious synergies between many of these building blocks, the core commitments set out in the Busan agreement, and ongoing DAC work. The DAC and DCD can engage selectively in supporting the activities of the building blocks where members deem these to be the best way to deliver the DAC’s priorities, and where there are opportunities
for mutual learning and reinforcement between the building blocks and the work-streams under the 2013-14 PWB.

13. DAC members may want to consider linkages with the post-2015 UN development framework and implications for the future of the Global Partnership. The Busan Partnership agreement represents a tangible contribution to the realisation of the MDGs by offering some parameters within which a truly inclusive partnership for development can be built to drive progress, supported by a new political platform, the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation. It provides a framework bringing the “what” to achieve closer to the “how” to do it. The Global Partnership could also promote further linkages by providing a complementary platform for discussions on the future of development financing, particularly in terms of how to use ODA and how to supplement it with other sources of development financing. In this context, it will be important for DAC members to consider, alongside other interested stakeholders, how lessons can be derived from the Paris/Accra/Busan processes and ensure that these feed into the design of the post-2015 UN framework. Such lessons could include, for example, how to reconcile common goals with differential responsibilities, or how to match global ambitions with context- and country-specific frameworks.

4. Issues for discussion

Substantive agenda

• Drawing on previous SLM discussions, on which issues does the DAC see itself converging towards common approaches or positions as it engages in political dialogue with developing countries, emerging economies and others through the Global Partnership?

• How does the DAC envisage collective engagement with the Global Partnership to ensure synergies with and contribute to the debates on the post-2015 development framework?

Working arrangements

• How does the DAC want to make strategic use of the forthcoming HLM and other senior and high-level meetings in the future to mobilise ministerial-level involvement in and commitment to the Global Partnership?

• How can DAC members work together as a constituency to shape the agenda of the Global Partnership through their representatives in the Steering Committee and in supporting the activities of selected building blocks more consistently (e.g. through DAC subsidiary bodies)?