DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE

NOMINATIONS FROM DAC MEMBERS FOR THE CHINA-DAC STUDY GROUP

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Dear DAC Delegates

Nominations from DAC members for the China-DAC Study Group

On 1 October 2008, I wrote inviting nominations for the DAC members of the new China-DAC Study Group [see: DCD/DIR(2008)19]. I am pleased to advise that nominations have now been received from six DAC members of the following researchers/senior staff to participate in the Study Group in their personal capacities:

- Jennifer Adams (United States)
- Erich Buttenhauser (Austria)
- Jean-Raphael Chaponniere (France)
- Adrian Davis (United Kingdom)
- Robert Haas (Germany)
- Naohiro Kitano (Japan)

As I previously wrote, two broad themes are expected to form the basis of the Study Group’s work programme:

- A joint review of poverty reduction in China and the contribution of international development co-operation to those efforts. The review could look at the modalities, evolution and effectiveness of DAC members’ development co-operation with China.

- A joint review of selected aspects of China’s development co-operation in Africa and its impact on reducing poverty. The Study Group should identify some Chinese aid programmes and partner countries which could be the focus of a number of case studies.

A first task of the Study Group will therefore be to develop its terms of reference for the 2009-10 biennium around these two themes. This should be discussed at the first meeting of the Study Group, which the International Poverty Reduction Centre in China (IPRCC)\(^1\) offers to host at its offices in Beijing. Consultations are currently taking place to determine an appropriate date for a meeting in early 2009, with a meeting on 15 January presently under discussion. In such a case, we would suggest that DAC members of the study group meet together the day before to prepare for the discussion. We will advise Study Group members as soon as the dates are fixed. A draft agenda for the first meeting of the Study Group will be distributed shortly to its Members.

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1. The Study Group is supported by a joint Secretariat (for the Chinese, the International Poverty Reduction Centre in China - IPRCC and for the DAC, the OECD’s Development Co-operation Directorate). The joint Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day management and co-ordination of the work.
Another subject that will require early attention is financial support. The China-DAC Study Group will be self funded, on a cost-sharing basis, and it is expected that the members of the Study Group (China and DAC members) will mobilise the necessary resources and financing required to support its work programme. On the basis of present discussions at the Secretariat level, it appears that China may be in a position to provide resource persons and host meetings, whereas DAC members of the Study Group may have to provide the funding needed for case studies. Such funding issues will be raised on the agenda for the Study Group. Obviously, financing needs will be determined by the work to be undertaken.

It is expected that the Study Group will also oversee the work on specific components of its work programme. This work aims to strengthen dialogue between China and DAC donors on how, collectively, we can all contribute to sound and sustainable economic development. It will do this by drawing out policy and implementation implications for different stakeholders and strengthening the links between research, policy and practice. Outputs are expected to be reports/publications and workshops, involving a broader group of DAC members and Chinese representatives, on the above two themes.

The China-DAC Study Group should report to the DAC periodically on its activities and findings.

If you require any further information, please contact Mr Michael Laird in the Secretariat (phone: +33 (0)1 45 24 90 33 or e-mail: Michael.Laird@oecd.org).

Yours faithfully,

Richard Carey

CC: DAC Members of the China-DAC Study Group