

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

**KEY COMMITMENTS AND ACTIONS AGREED AT THE FOURTH HIGH LEVEL FORUM ON AID  
EFFECTIVENESS  
(BUSAN, KOREA, 29 NOVEMBER - 1 DECEMBER 2011)**

**Room Document 7**

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*The document provides an overview of the commitments and actions agreed in Busan, drawing on the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (the outcome document of the Forum) and other related initiatives presented at HLF4.*

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## **KEY COMMITMENTS AND ACTIONS AGREED AT THE FOURTH HIGH LEVEL FORUM ON AID EFFECTIVENESS**

### **I. Background**

1. The Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF4 – Busan, Korea, 29 November – 1 December 2011) marked a major turning point for the international development community and, within it, the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC). Its outcome document – the *Busan Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation* – was negotiated among all key constituents participating in the Forum, and sets out a number of actions and commitments that have implications for all participating actors [DCD/DAC/EFF(2011)19]. Busan also saw leaders showing their support for additional commitments and actions set out in a range of voluntary initiatives and “building blocks”.

2. This note provides an overview of the main commitments and actions agreed at HLF4. It is intended to inform discussions within the DAC on future efforts in support of these actions and, more broadly, the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation, which will oversee implementation and support accountability.

### **II. Global commitments supplemented by voluntary initiatives and efforts**

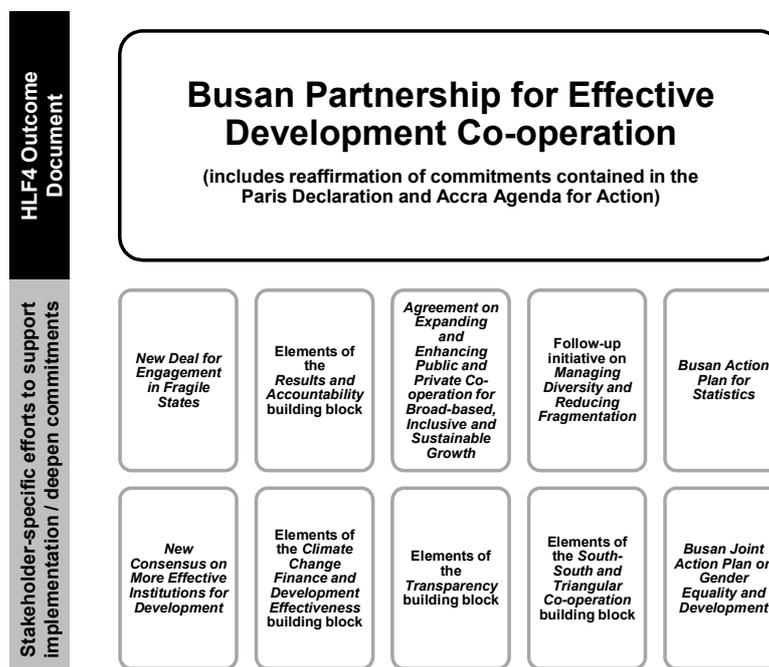
3. Preparations for HLF4 involved a wider set of stakeholders than previous high-level fora, including civil society organisations, representatives of private sector organisations, and countries that had until Busan played a less active role in international dialogue on aid effectiveness (e.g. a number of middle-income countries). HLF4 also presented participants with an unparalleled opportunity to deepen individual commitments or build consensus on specific issues such as conflict and fragility, climate finance and gender equality.

4. The outcome document – the *Busan Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation* – is the common, overarching agreement emerging from HLF4. Its content evolved through a broad consultative process followed by transparent, representative discussions within a group of sherpas nominated to ensure its finalisation. An overview of the process followed to finalise the outcome document is provided in DCD/DAC/EFF(2011)14.

5. The Busan Partnership document is complemented by a range of other agreements or action plans that bring together groups of like-minded stakeholders around common goals or initiatives. These efforts tend to focus on operationalising principles and commitments set out in the outcome document, allowing for a deepening of commitments and – in places – further innovation on a voluntary basis. These elements were presented as “building blocks” or similar initiatives at HLF4.

6. Figure 1 illustrates the relationship between the Busan Partnership document and other key agreements reached by important groups of stakeholders at the Forum.

Figure 1. HLF4 outcome document and relationship with building blocks and related initiatives



### III. Overview of key actions

7. All key stakeholders at HLF4 agreed to form a new, inclusive Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation to support implementation of the Busan agreement at the political level. Agreement on light working arrangements for this partnership will be an important deliverable for the first half of 2012, with the OECD and the DAC expected to play important roles in shaping future arrangements.

8. Once a global agreement is reached on the functioning of the Global Partnership and arrangements to support global-level monitoring and accountability, it is expected that this new governance structure would play its role in further detailing the means and fora through which some of the more specific actions and commitments agreed in Busan should be carried forward.

9. Table 1 overleaf provides a preliminary mapping of the actions agreed in the Busan Partnership document and the major building blocks and complementary initiatives presented at HLF4. The elements summarised in this table focus on concrete, time-bound actions that are likely to have implications for the DAC as it plays its role in implementing the agreements reached in Busan. For ease of review, the actions summarised in Table 1 are grouped in three main parts:

1. Actions needed to put in place the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation;
2. Key commitments and actions drawn from the Busan Partnership document endorsed by all major HLF4 stakeholders;
3. Key commitments and actions set out in “building blocks” and related initiatives to be implemented by groups of stakeholders on a voluntary basis.

Table 1. Overview of commitments and actions agreed at HLF4

<b>1. Design and agree arrangements for the global partnership on effective development co-operation</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Lead stakeholders</b>	<b>Notes / observations</b>
a. Agree on light working arrangements for the Global Partnership on Effective Development Co-operation (Busan Partnership document [BP] §36b)	By June 2012	WP-EFF and representatives of other key stakeholders (BRICS, representatives of the private sector etc.)	WP-EFF mandated to oversee this transition, with the WP-EFF itself phasing out in June 2012.
b. Agree on global-level indicators and process for monitoring Busan agreement (BP §35b)	By June 2012	WP-EFF and representatives of other key stakeholders (BRICS, representatives of the private sector etc.)	Global indicators and process to be grounded in and linked with country-level monitoring efforts.
c. Agree on and implement institutional arrangements for joint OECD-UNDP secretariat support to the Global Partnership (BP §36d)	By June 2012	OECD and UNDP	Outcome document calls on OECD and UNDP to provide secretariat support to the Partnership, building on their respective mandates and areas of comparative advantage.

*(Table 1 continued overleaf)*

<b>2. Implementation of <u>core</u> Busan Partnership commitments (substantive / thematic work)</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Lead stakeholders</b>	<b>Notes / observations</b>
<i>Note: further mapping and analysis needed to ascertain how Paris and Accra commitments not flagged explicitly in the BP should be supported / monitored through the new global structure. Other elements of global BP commitments and efforts may also require support, even though they do not feature as specific time-bound actions in the BP document.</i>			
a. Review plans to further untie aid (BP §18e)	In 2012	Applies primarily to OECD-DAC member countries	
b. Implement common, open standard for electronic publication of timely, comprehensive and forward-looking information (BP §23c)	Publish individual schedules for implementation by December 2012; Full implementation by December 2015.	All stakeholders (i.e. providers and users of aid information).	
c. Full implementation of AAA commitments on 3-5 year forward rolling plans (BP §24a)	By 2013.	OECD-DAC member countries.	Other providers of development co-operation encouraged to take steps to improve predictability.
d. Agree principles and guidelines to guide joint efforts in reducing the proliferation of multilateral / global fund and programme channels (BP §25b)	By end 2012.	All stakeholders (primarily governmental, with multilateral organisations and global programmes).	
e. Agree on principles to address issue of countries that receive insufficient assistance (BP §25c)	By end 2012.	All stakeholders (with emphasis on bilateral and multilateral donors).	
f. Review delegation of authority to the field (all providers of development co-operation) (BP §25d)		All providers of development co-operation.	DAC members are well placed to lead in this area, building on efforts to date.

*(Table 1 continued overleaf)*

**3. Support implementation of voluntary / stakeholder-specific initiatives and efforts (e.g. Busan “building blocks”)**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Lead stakeholders</b>	<b>Notes / observations</b>
<i>This note offers headline actions only, drawing on the “building blocks” and similar initiatives presented at Busan. The role of the Global Partnership in overseeing and supporting these efforts – undertaken by a more limited set of stakeholders than those endorsing the Busan Partnership document – has yet to be determined. Each initiative encompasses more detailed actions, many of which emphasise actions at the country level, and which do not feature in this initial overview.</i>			
<b>a. Implementation of the <u>New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States</u></b>			
- Agree indicators for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals (PSGs)	September 2012	Members of the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding, INCAF and g7+; countries and organisations endorsing the New Deal.	A more comprehensive overview of commitments and actions foreseen under the New Deal – including activities that will operationalise commitments at the country level – is available online ( <a href="#">link</a> ) and will be released as DCD/DAC/INCAF(2011)4.  A list of countries and organisations endorsing the New Deal is also maintained online ( <a href="#">link</a> ).
- Pilot implementation of the New Deal at country level	2012 - 2015		
- Further support work on definitions, methodological issues and guidance (e.g. fragility assessment; country compacts; standards for risk management)	Various		
- Work towards consideration of PSGs by 2012 UNGA and other fora in preparation for full consideration of PSGs in post-MDG development framework	2012 - 2015		
<b>b. Implementation of the <u>New Consensus on More Effective Institutions for Development</u></b>			
- Guidelines on sequencing of institutional and policy change. - Share information / support partner country-led assessments of institutions / joint monitoring of risks. - Peer exchange efforts on institutional performance.		World Bank, Republic of Korea, USAID, Philippines, Ghana, South Africa, Cambodia, Denmark, Canada, OECD and 30 other countries and organisations that have communicated their support for the New Consensus.	A concept note summarising elements of the New Consensus is available on the HLF4 web site ( <a href="#">link</a> ).
<b>c. Specific efforts relating to the <u>Results and accountability</u> building block</b>			
- Develop / improve country-level results and accountability agreements building on existing structures.	March 2012 onwards	Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Global Fund, Honduras, Iceland, IFAD, Ireland, Islamic Development Bank, Mozambique, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Rwanda, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Togo, United States.	A concept note summarising elements of the efforts foreseen in the context of this building block is available on the HLF4 web site ( <a href="#">link</a> ).

<p>d. Support implementation of the <u>Busan Action Plan for Statistics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Seek further endorsement of Action Plan at UN Statistical Commission. February 2012</li> <li>- Agreement of implementation arrangements by PARIS21 Board. March 2012</li> <li>- Begin implementation of Action Plan, which includes implementation of statistical strategies according to national priorities; facilitating public access to data through standards and new technologies; increasing knowledge and skills for the effective use of statistics; tracking outcomes of global summits, ensuring they recognise the need to develop statistical capacity; and ensuring robust financing and responsive funding mechanisms for statistics. From late 2012</li> </ul>	<p>National statistical offices in developing countries, PARIS21, World Bank, UNFPA and other bilateral and multilateral partners.</p>	<p>The Busan Action Plan for Statistics is available online via the PARIS21 web site (<a href="#">link</a>).</p>
<p>e. Support implementation of the <u>Busan Joint Action Plan on Gender Equality and Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of an Action Plan to build on BP commitments relating to gender equality and women's empowerment, emphasising (i) building the evidence base for action; (ii) strengthening accountability, and (iii) integrating gender equality goals in all aspects of development, including efforts made in the context of the "building blocks" agreed in Busan. Review progress by end June 2012</li> </ul>	<p>United States and Republic of Korea, with Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Togo, United Kingdom, OECD, UN and World Bank.</p>	<p>The United States and Republic of Korea are currently finalising the Action Plan and are in the process of seeking endorsement by more countries and organisations.</p>
<p>f. Support to efforts in the area of <u>Climate Change Finance and Development Effectiveness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support country-level initiatives to integrate external public climate finance into planning, budgeting and public financial management.</li> <li>- Support regional South-South networks to promote lesson-learning across countries and policy areas.</li> <li>- Provide evidence and promote dialogue internationally, across related but distinct international policy processes.</li> </ul>	<p>OECD, UNDP, African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank and Inter-American Development Bank with the support of Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, BetterAid, Bolivia, Cameroon, Denmark, EC, Fiji, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Korea, Lesotho, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Samoa, Switzerland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.</p>	<p>A concept note summarising elements of the efforts foreseen in the context of this building block is available on the HLF4 web site (<a href="#">link</a>).</p>

<p>g. Follow-up to the agreement on <u>Expanding and enhancing public and private co-operation for broad-based, inclusive and sustainable growth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agree priority actions to enhance co-operation between the public and private sectors at country and global levels.</li> <li>- Develop efforts to improve understanding of the role of the private sector in development and sharing of lessons learned.</li> <li>- Support co-operation between governments and private sectors entities in the context of the new global partnership for development co-operation.</li> </ul>	<p>June 2012</p> <p>December 2013</p> <p>By 2015</p>	<p>40 countries and organisations have endorsed the Joint Statement.</p>	<p>A concept note summarising elements of the efforts foreseen in the context of this building block, along with the full list of supporting countries and organisations, is available on the HLF4 web site (<a href="#">link</a>).</p>
<p>h. Support to building block efforts on <u>Transparency</u> (building on core BP commitments in this area), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensuring meaningful aid transparency, including through the implementation of BP commitments to publish aid information. Further develop the IATI standard through piloting of standards for all aid and development flows; further work on the country budget identifier.</li> <li>- Establish common fiscal transparency standards, including transparent PFM systems, improved fiscal transparency policies and practices, and strengthened capacities to make better use of information.</li> <li>- Support efforts to link aid and fiscal transparency frameworks.</li> </ul>	<p>Publish implementation schedules by December 2012; full implementation by December 2015.</p>	<p>A significant number of countries and organisations have expressed their support for initiatives captured within the transparency building block.</p>	<p>A list of supporters of these efforts, along with further details of the actions foreseen, is provided in a concept note available on the HLF4 web site (<a href="#">link</a>).</p>
<p>i. Support to building block initiatives on <u>Managing Diversity and reducing Fragmentation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthen country-led initiatives to reduce fragmentation and manage diversity.</li> <li>- Strengthen European Union joint programming (EU and member states, with developing countries).</li> <li>- Guidelines to reduce the proliferation by donors of global programmes.</li> <li>- Ongoing support to United Nations “Delivering as One”.</li> </ul>		<p>Austria, Bangladesh, Better Aid, Cameroon, Estonia, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Global Programs Learning Group, Honduras, Madagascar, Moldova, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Rwanda, Sweden, Tuvalu, Uganda. The United Nations Development Group is contributing the “Delivering as One” approach.</p>	<p>A concept note summarising elements of the efforts foreseen in the context of this building block is available on the HLF4 web site (<a href="#">link</a>).</p>

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j. Building block on South-South and Triangular Co-operation

- South-South and triangular co-operation guidelines for effective development.
- Plans to enable Southern partners to engage effectively in South-South and triangular co-operation.
- Efforts in support of knowledge-sharing; efforts that enhance complementarity among development partners.
- Design of an evaluation framework around the contribution of South-South and triangular co-operation to global development goals.

Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Germany, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Spain, EU, Asian Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Caribbean Community Secretariat, Francophonie, Organization of American States, NEPAD, Pacific Islands Forum, Pan-American Health Organization, UNDP, World Bank.

A concept note summarising elements of the efforts foreseen in the context of this building block is available on the HLF4 web site ([link](#)).