

**COUNCIL**

**Council**

**PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ON SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT IN THE POST-2015 ERA**

**(Note by the Secretary-General)**

*This revision has been prepared in the light of the discussions of the Executive Committee meeting on 5 November 2014, and concerns more particularly the content of paragraph 8.*

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## Introduction

1. The OECD Strategy on Development, endorsed in 2012 [[C/MIN\(2012\)6](#)], indicated that the OECD would “enhance its engagement at three complementary levels: (i) with Member countries to support them in their efforts to promote development; (ii) with international efforts to seek effective solutions to emerging global issues and development challenges; and (iii) with developing countries”. The Strategy will allow for a more comprehensive OECD contribution and increased relevance, value added and impact in major international processes. At the 2014 MCM, Ministers further recognised the important role of OECD in supporting international efforts in shaping a strong sustainable development agenda post-2015 [[C/MIN\(2014\)15](#), paragraph 13]. They noted the contribution made to date by the OECD to global preparations for a post-2015 development framework, and the role the Organisation can play in supporting its design and implementation [[C/MIN\(2014\)16](#), paragraph 16]. Furthermore, Ministers called for a whole-of-OECD contribution to support the UN-led process of designing goals, targets, and indicators across all dimensions of sustainable development; to identify, in collaboration with other international organisations, new ways and instruments to measure and monitor financing for sustainable development beyond ODA; and support the processes and efforts under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to secure a new global climate deal in 2015 [[C/MIN\(2014\)13](#), paragraph 24].

2. The UN inter-governmental negotiation process is now underway with an expected agreement on a Post-2015 Agenda at the UN General Assembly meeting in September 2015. The UN Open Working Group (OWG) proposed in July 2014 an ambitious set of seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (see Annex) and 169 Targets with a view to achieve a universal, integrated and transformative Post-2015 Agenda cutting across all three dimensions of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental. This proposal was explained by Ambassador Csaba Kőrösi of Hungary, formerly co-chair of the OWG, at the 7 October 2014 meeting of the Informal Working Group (IWG) on the implementation of the Strategy on Development.

3. At the 2014 UN General Assembly, it was agreed that the OWG proposal “shall be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda” [Resolution adopted in an OWG plenary meeting on 10 September 2014 (A/68/L.61), as orally revised, and issued officially as A/RES/68/309]. Next steps will include a *Synthesis Report* to be issued in November by the UN Secretary-General, drawing on the proposal by the OWG as well as the *Report by the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development (ICESD)*. This will be the basis for the inter-governmental negotiations starting early in 2015. Also important will be the *Third Financing for Development Conference* to take place in Addis Ababa in July 2015<sup>1</sup>, which will: 1) assess the progress made in the implementation of the *Monterrey Consensus*, i.e. the outcome of the 2002 United Nations International Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey, Mexico, and the Doha Declaration adopted in December 2008; 2) address new and emerging issues, including in the context of the recent multilateral efforts to promote international development cooperation; and 3) reinvigorate and strengthen the financing for development follow-up process. The Conference will result in an inter-governmentally negotiated and agreed outcome, which should constitute an important contribution to and support the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda.

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<sup>1</sup> The scope of the Conference is set out in UNGA resolutions 68/204 and 68/279.

### **Proposal for a meeting of the Members of the Council on Development in January**

4. Against this background, the meeting of the Members of the Council in January 2015 is an opportunity to build on informative discussions at the IWG meetings of 7 October and 18 December; and further engage with Key Partners, Accession countries, and non-OECD Members of the Development Centre on the Post-2015 Agenda and its implications for OECD work.

5. The following paragraphs suggest a possible date, purpose, format and agenda for the meeting of the Members of the Council on Development, to be held on 20 January, preceded by a regular Council meeting at which development issues would also be discussed.

### **Purpose**

6. As the UN inter-governmental negotiation process for adopting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Targets is still in its initial phase, the main purpose of this session is to:

- a) Discuss the current status of intergovernmental discussions on the post-2015 Agenda;
- b) Start reflections on the potential implications of a universal, integrated and transformative Post-2015 Agenda which cuts across all three dimensions of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental;
- c) Take stock of discussions on new ways to maximise resource mobilisation efforts and measure financing for development, in view of the OECD's contribution to the *Third Financing for Development Conference* to take place in Addis Ababa in July 2015;
- d) Take stock of OECD contributions to the post-2015 Agenda and ways in which the Organisation can contribute to follow-up action.

### **Expected outcomes**

7. The following outcomes are expected:

- a) Inform the inter-governmental deliberations in the run-up to the Post-2015 Summit;
- b) Improve understanding of the emerging global priorities for sustainable development and requirements, taking into account the overlaps and synergies among the finance, climate and sustainable development agendas and the need for coherent, integrated and holistic responses;
- c) Identify additional ways in which the OECD could mobilise its expertise and policy networks to support the post-2015 Agenda and framework.

### **Proposed Agenda**

8. The following agenda is proposed, for a half-day meeting on 20 January 2015 (afternoon):

- 1) Opening remarks by the Chair (the OECD Secretary-General);

- 2) Status of implementation of the Strategy on Development since the 2014 Ministerial Council Meeting and progress in supporting the Post-2015 framework, by Deputy Secretary-General Tamaki (10 minutes);
- 3) Update of IWG discussions on SDGs and policy coherence for the post-2015 framework at its meetings of October and December 2014, by Ambassador Dühr (Luxembourg), Co-Chair of the IWG (10 minutes);
- 4) The Post-2015 Development Agenda.

2015 is a critical year for global development. As the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) approach their expiry date, the international community must renew its efforts to tackle the unfinished business of the MDGs, and ensure a more sustainable future for all. The world is facing unprecedented challenges shaped by growing population; unsustainable production and consumption patterns; growing inequalities; natural resource scarcity; and climate change. In this complex context, the UN Open Working Group (OWG) has proposed seventeen ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 169 associated targets that reflect a shared and integrated set of global priorities. The SDGs represent a paradigm shift from traditional development assistance to a transformative agenda. They will be universally applicable, integrating social, economic and environmental aspects, and require coherent approaches recognising the policy inter-linkages, trade-offs and spill-overs in achieving sustainable development. Actions will be driven by plans and strategies developed on local, national, regional and global levels, and by robust mechanisms of monitoring and implementation review. This session will also inform on the status and next steps of the Post-2015 process, consider implications for OECD work and ways in which the Organisation can contribute to follow-up actions.

*Update of the UN process - presentation by an external participant/thinker/official, e.g. from the UN (10 minutes)*

Key questions:

- How can synergies and overlaps be managed between diverse 2015 agendas on sustainable development, development financing, and climate change?
- What are the potential implications of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals for country policies and practices beyond 2015?
- Are national systems fit for purpose to support policy coherence and sustainable development?
- What kind of national and international supporting systems will be required to implement a Post-2015 universal, integrated, and transformative agenda?
- How can the OECD best contribute to support the Post-2015 Agenda?

#### 5) Mobilisation of Resources for Sustainable Development

The Sustainable Development Goals will require adequate financing to match the current level of ambitions. Analysis carried out for the [\*Development Co-operation Report 2014: Mobilising Resources for Sustainable Development\*](#) (DCR) highlights the different resources that could be tapped into and channelled to finance sustainable development. Among the most important today are foreign direct investment and domestic resources raised through more effective tax

collection and by combatting corruption and illicit financial outflows. Official Development Assistance (ODA) also remains an important source of finance. To stay relevant in the years to come, ODA needs to be used in a “smart” way, meaning targeting those countries where it is most needed and effective in mobilising other resources.

The DAC is modernising its development finance framework to better reflect the new global development landscape. At the December 2014 DAC High Level Meeting, development ministers will consider a new, more comprehensive measure — Total Official Support for Development (TOSD) — which aims to capture the fuller picture of mobilisation efforts in view of the post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda. Another opportunity to discuss these issues will be at the Global Forum on Development in April 2015, which will focus on “The financing challenge: investment and taxation in a post-2015 context”. The Forum will also help prepare the Addis Ababa conference in July 2015.

The successful implementation of the SDG agenda will need more than financial resources. As the new framework is universal in nature, its success will require the development of new partnerships that go beyond the traditional “donor-recipient paradigm”. The Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation, an international multi-stakeholder process, which aims to maximise the effectiveness of development co-operation, will also support the implementation of SDG 17 in the post-2015 agenda (see Annex below). The OECD’s work in supporting the Global Partnership currently includes tracking progress in implementing development commitments and evaluating the quality of development co-operation, drawing on a broad range of quantitative and qualitative evidence, including developing a global monitoring framework.

*Update on relevant DAC work by Erik Solheim, DAC Chair (10 minutes)*

Key questions:

- How can countries better tap into and leverage private sector funding aimed at supporting sustainable development? How can ODA be used in a smart way to facilitate private investments and other contributions to finance SDGs?
- How can domestic foundations be further engaged in discussions around financing for development, for instance through bodies such as the OECD Network of Foundations (netFWD)?
- What role can the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation play in ensuring predictable, stable and transparent finance for the SDGs?
- How can the OECD best contribute to discussions on financing for development in the lead-up to the Addis Ababa conference (July 2015), including through key deliverables like the 2014 DCR; new measures of financing for sustainable development; the LDC Action Plan; tax policy initiatives, such as *Base Erosion and Profit Shifting* and *Tax Inspectors Without Borders*; work on reducing illicit financial flows out of developing countries including improving asset recovery efforts; and climate financing tracking?

### **Proposed invitees**

9. It is proposed to invite Key Partners and Accession countries, as well as non-OECD Members of the Development Centre (currently Argentina, Brazil, Cape Verde, Colombia, Costa Rica,

Dominican Republic, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mauritius, Morocco, Panama, Peru, Romania, Senegal, South Africa, Thailand and Vietnam).\*

### **Proposed Action**

10. In the light of the preceding, the Secretary-General invites the Council to adopt the following draft conclusions:

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- a) noted document [C\(2014\)129/REV1](#);
- b) noted that the proposed agenda for the meeting of the Members of the Council on Development on 20 January 2015, as set out in paragraph 8, will be finalised in light of discussions;
- c) agreed to invite Colombia, Latvia, the Russian Federation, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa to participate in the meeting of the Members of the Council on Development on 20 January 2015;
- d) agreed to invite the non-OECD Members of the Development Centre to participate in the meeting;
- e) noted that a development expert could also be invited to support the discussion, under Rule 10 b) of the Rules of Procedures.

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The Development Centre's Governing Board supported, at its 18 September 2014 session, the request of Côte d'Ivoire to become a Member of the Development Centre [[DEV/GB/M\(2014\)6](#), forthcoming]. If the membership procedure is completed prior to the meeting of the Members of the Council in January 2015, Côte d'Ivoire will also be invited, subject to Council's adoption of the draft conclusions set out in paragraph 10.

## ANNEX

**17 Sustainable Development Goals proposed in the Report of the UN Open Working Group,  
19 July 2014**

- Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms and everywhere
- Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture
- Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all
- Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries
- Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development