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**DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE
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DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD

**AID FOR TRADE: JOINT MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE AND
THE WORKING PARTY OF THE TRADE COMMITTEE**

7 June 2010, OECD Conference Centre

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DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE AND THE WORKING PARTY OF THE TRADE COMMITTEE ON AID FOR TRADE

7 June 2010

Item 1. Adoption of the Agenda

[COM/DCD/TAD/A(2010)4/PROV]

1. The agenda was adopted.

Item 2. Summary Record of the 10 November 2009 Joint DAC–WP/TC meeting

[COM/DCD/TAD/M(2009)3/PROV]

2. The summary record of the 10 November 2009 joint DAC-WPTC meeting was adopted.

Item 3.1 How to manage for results

[COM/DCD/TAD(2010)1]

3. The Secretariat presented a paper setting out the rationale and the benefit of a more harmonised approach towards monitoring results in aid for trade. In particular, the paper argued the case for establishing a menu of aid-for-trade indicators to quantify and measure results across all programmes that fall under the umbrella of the Aid for Trade Initiative.

4. Delegates, in general, were in favour of continuing the discussion on indicators. The need for clarity on what the indicators are intended for was underscored by several delegates. Expanding the coverage to include development objectives was suggested. However, some delegates also voiced their scepticisms about the merit of--or even the need for--establishing “common” aid-for-trade indicators. Rather, delegates were more inclined towards developing “a menu of indicators”. A discussion on what worked and what did not work would also usefully inform the work on identifying good indicators.

5. The Chair concluded that there was general support for the work and that the Secretariat should proceed to develop further the idea of developing aid-for-trade indicators. As a next step, the Secretariat proposed to organise an informal meeting after the summer to promote discussion among interested parties the methodology to arrive at such indicators. Several delegates expressed interest in taking part in the proposed informal meeting on indicators. A draft agenda together with a brief background note will be circulated via the Community Space. Lastly, delegates were requested to provide comments on the draft paper in writing within two weeks of the joint meeting.

Item 3.2 How to evaluate Aid for Trade

[COM/DCD/TAD(2010)2]

6. The secretariat provided an update on ongoing work on the evaluation of aid for trade with a focus on tools and methodologies at the project level and how these evaluations can be used to say something more general at the country and global levels.

7. Members welcomed the paper and the approach taken. DfID provided an overview of the Monitoring and Evaluation framework for their Aid-for-Trade Strategy which echoed many of the issues raised in the paper. Other members provided updates on current work to devise strategies for evaluating Trade Capacity Building. Others raised questions about the need to evaluate trade through the lens of aid, suggesting instead an examination of the determinants of trade performance. The Secretariat clarified that the current work programme was providing donor guidance to improve performance assessment of aid for trade and that the Trade Policy Review Mechanism of the WTO was more appropriate for investigating

these issues. There were also questions about the Community Space on aid for trade which was seen as an extremely useful platform for information sharing and exchange. The Secretariat noted that the resource has not yet reached a critical mass of content or contributors and that an attempt should be made to relaunch the site.

8. The final paper will provide a comprehensive overview on how to evaluate aid for trade. The paper will incorporate the findings of the Meta-evaluation on Aid for Trade being undertaken. This will provide insights for future work on country case stories and studies as well as providing key insights into what aid-for-trade related evaluations currently tell us and how they could better take account of the trade dimension.

Item 3.3 Aid for Trade Meta-Evaluation

[COM/DCD/TAD(2010)3]

9. As part of efforts to improve the effectiveness of aid-for-trade projects and programmes, and to develop good practices in the evaluation of aid for trade, the OECD has asked consultants to conduct a meta-evaluation on aid for trade (an evaluation of evaluations designed to aggregate findings from a series of evaluations of smaller interventions). The objective of this meta-evaluation is to gather evaluations on aid-for-trade areas, provide an overview of, and a perspective on, the projects and programmes DAC donors and international agencies have implemented. These findings will provide examples of what has worked and not worked in aid for trade.

10. Members welcomed the study and gave support for the Terms of Reference but also made a number of suggestions that could be added to the ToR. Members advised that the focus should not be solely on trade outcomes but also on inclusive growth and poverty reduction. Important issues which should be taken into account included mainstreaming, delivery of aid, policy linkages and informal trade; members wished to know whether these issues were mentioned in the preamble or seriously integrated into the evaluations. Others suggested that the study was too focused on 'Aid for Trade' which was merely a political label and an umbrella term for a series of interventions which don't necessarily have a trade objective, e.g. energy. Members also requested updates on the development of this project through the Community Space. The next version of the meta evaluation will be presented to the next meeting and will be published together with how to manage for results and how to evaluate aid for trade.

Item 4. Increasing the Impact of Trade Expansion on Growth: Lessons from Trade Reforms for the Design of Aid for Trade.

[COM/DCD/TAD(2010)4]

11. Members expressed their appreciation for the report which they found very useful. They valued the complementarities between the analysis and the work done in the context of the performance assessment framework, the implication of the analysis for the design of aid for trade projects and programmes as well as the macroeconomic analysis. In addition to a limited number of factual suggestions, members suggested to provide references on the relationship with poverty reduction, indicate more clearly the implication for business involvement and for the role of Aid for Trade in ensuring food security. The Secretariat indicated that the role of Aid for Trade in ensuring food security will be analyzed in detail in the future (it is part of the PWB 2011-12), and referred to previous papers on the role aid for trade and trade can play in poverty reduction. Nonetheless, these references will be clarified in the revised paper. Delegates agreed to declassify the paper under the written procedure, once revised to take account of these comments.

Item 5. Aid for Trade and the Green Growth Agenda

[COM/DCD/TAD(2010)5]

12. The OECD Ministerial Council Meeting recently noted that, “*in light of our shared interest in fostering sustainable and inclusive growth, we will pursue efforts to facilitate trade and investment in environmental goods and services and to promote effective Aid for Trade*”. This highlighted the importance of work on aid for trade and the green growth agenda. The paper, which was introduced by the Secretariat, discussed the role aid for trade can play in assisting partner countries to build their trade capacities and economic resilience in environmentally sustainable ways. It gave details of donor activities in three essential areas of aid for trade that are most relevant for green growth; energy, agriculture and forestry.

13. The paper was still in an awareness-raising phase but there was strong support for the work and suggestions for taking the work forward such as concrete recommendations on what to do in difficult cases, where there is a tension between growth and environmental objectives, incorporating energy efficiency issues and providing guidance on how green growth could be integrated into aid-for-trade programming. Furthermore, the paper should locate aid for trade in an investment context given that ODA flows are small relative to domestic and private investments in infrastructure and energy. Some members urged the Secretariat to take the theme further as it was an important issue to raise and essential for the long term success of the Aid-for-Trade Initiative. While others felt it was extending into areas beyond the scope of aid for trade.

14. In the light of time constraints caused by the change in the planning of the next Global Review, it was recommended that this work be taken forward for the time being by exploring how it could be taken up in other work in the DAC and OECD on development and green growth.

Item 6. Aid for Trade Flows: 2008

[COM/DCD/TAD/RD(2010)4/RD1]

15. Members welcomed the analysis and presentation of the 2008 aid-for-trade flows which were also presented on 27 May to the WTO Committee on Trade and Development. In addition to the disaggregation already provided, Members suggested, *inter alia*, to include data on the share of loans and grants in aid for trade, more information on aid for trade to small and vulnerable economies, regional economic groupings, the number of aid-for-trade projects, the concentration of aid for trade and the private sector financing by, for instance, IFC. Furthermore, Members are interested in forward-looking data and information about the concessional financing of donors who do not report to the CRS database. The note will be revised taking account of these suggestions and then posted on the OECD and the WTO aid-for-trade website.

Item 7. Extending the Aid for Trade Monitoring Framework: Reporting on Outcomes and Impacts

[COM/DCD/TAD(2010)6]

16. Members considered that the proposed case studies could provide an interesting approach to develop more in-depth reporting on a number of aid for trade related issues. However, a ‘beauty contest’ has to be avoided. This highlighted the need for an appropriate steering of the process including agreement on a clear set of criteria for the selection of case study topics. Furthermore, the case study template -needed for comparability- should not be a straight jacket. The note will be revised to take account of these and other comments. The revised document will be presented to the WTO Committee on Trade and Development to solicit the views of other partners.

Item 8. 2011-2012 Joint DAC-TC PWB on Aid for Trade

[COM/DCD/TAD(2009)8/REV1]

17. In general, Members agreed with the output areas for the 2011 – 2102 joint DAC-WPTC programme of work and budget on aid for trade. Some delegates argued against the elimination of the OECD Policy Dialogue on Aid for Trade from the programme and requested more time to consult with their capital for further instruction.

Item 9. Next steps

18. The next meeting is planned for November 2010.

Item 10. Any other business

19. The representative of the WTO reported on the May 2010 UNECA experts meeting to determine the methodology for measuring the effectiveness and efficiency of aid for trade to Africa.

20. The representative of UNIDO reported on the progress with its resource guide on trade-related capacity building which now also includes a volume on bilateral donors.

21. The representative of the ILO reported on its programme concerning trade and employment.

**Draft Participants List of the Joint Meeting of the Development Assistance Committee and the
Working Party of the Trade Committee
7 June 2010**

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